

Nuggets of Fun and Nostalgia for Treasure Valley Golden-Agers

If I Were the Devil—Paul Harvey



In one of his daily broadcasts in 1965 - 58 years ago - beloved broadcaster Paul Harvey shared what he would do if he were “the devil,” to destroy our culture and undermine our future. His message not only has proven to be prophetic but continues to serve as a warning to all of us today of where our society continues headed. His prophetic warning went like this:

“If I were the devil ... If I were the Prince of Darkness, I’d want to engulf the whole world in darkness. And I’d have a third of its real estate, and four-fifths of its population, but I wouldn’t be happy until I had seized the ripest apple on the tree — America. So, I’d set about however necessary to take over the United States. I’d subvert the churches first — I’d begin with a campaign of whispers. With the wisdom of a serpent, I would whisper to you as I whispered to Eve: ‘Do as you please.’

To the young, I would whisper that ‘The Bible is a myth.’ I would convince them that man created God instead of the other way around. I would confide that what’s bad is good, and what’s good is ‘square.’ And the old, I would teach to pray, after me, ‘Our Father, which art in Washington...’

And then I’d get organized. I’d educate authors in how to make lurid literature exciting, so that anything else would appear dull and uninteresting. I’d bombard TV with dirtier movies. I’d pedal narcotics to whom I could. I’d sell alcohol to ladies and gentlemen of distinction. I’d tranquilize the rest with pills.

(Continued on page 2)

Fear

By Khalil Gibran



It is said that before entering the sea a river trembles with fear.

She looks back at the path she has traveled, from the peaks of the mountains, the long winding road crossing forests and villages.

And in front of her she sees an ocean so vast, that to enter there seems nothing more than to disappear forever.

But there is no other way. The river cannot go back.

Nobody can go back. To go back is impossible in existence.

The river needs to take the risk of entering the ocean because only then will fear disappear, because that’s what the river will know - it’s not about disappearing into the ocean, but of becoming the ocean.



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GRANDMOTHERS

by an 8-year-old

A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own, so she likes other people's little girls.



A grandfather is a man grandmother. He goes on walks with the boys and they talk about fishing, tractors and things.

Grandmothers don't have to do anything but be there. They are old, so they shouldn't play hard or run. It is enough if they drive us to the store where the pretend horse is and has lots of quarters ready.

They are often fat, but not too fat to tie kid's shoes. They wear funny glasses and funny underwear and they can take their teeth out.

Everyone should try to have one, because grandmothers are the only grownups who have got time.



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WHEN EACH MOMENT COUNTS

(If I Were the Devil— Continued from Page 1)

If I were the devil, I'd soon have families at war with themselves, churches at war with themselves, and nations at war with themselves; until each in its turn was consumed. And with promises of higher ratings, I'd have mesmerizing media fanning the flames.

If I were the devil, I would encourage schools to refine young intellects, but neglect to discipline emotions — just let those run wild, until before you knew it, you'd have to have drug sniffing dogs and metal detectors at every schoolhouse door.

Within a decade I'd have prisons overflowing, I'd have judges allowing pornography — soon I could evict God from the courthouse, then from the schoolhouse, and then from the houses of Congress. And in His own churches I would substitute psychology for religion and deify science. I would lure priests and pastors into misusing boys and girls, and church money. If I were the devil, I'd make the symbols of Easter an egg and the symbol of Christmas a dollar sign.

If I were the devil, I'd take from those who have and give to those who want until I had killed the incentive of the ambitious.

And what do you bet I could get whole states to promote gambling as the way to get rich?

I would convince the young that marriage is old-fashioned, that swinging is more fun, that what you see on the TV is the way to be.

I would caution against extremes and hard work in Patriotism, and in moral conduct.

In other words, if I were the devil, I'd just keep right on doing what he's doing."



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My first job was in an orange juice factory, but I got canned. I couldn't concentrate.

Feeling Just Fine

A farmer named Clyde had a tractor accident. In court, the trucking company's big city lawyer, was questioning Clyde. "Didn't you say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine,'?" asked the lawyer.



Clyde responded, "Well, I'll tell you what happened. I had just loaded my favorite cow, Bessie, into the..."

"I didn't ask for any details," the lawyer interrupted. "Just answer the question, please. Did you, or did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine!'?"

Clyde said, "Well, I had just got Bessie into the trailer behind the tractor and I was driving down the road..."

The lawyer interrupted again and said, "Your Honor, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the Highway Patrolman on the scene that he was just fine. Now several weeks after the accident he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question."

By this time, the Judge was fairly interested in Clyde's answer and said to the lawyer, "I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favorite cow, Bessie".

Clyde thanked the Judge and proceeded. "Well, as I was saying, I had just loaded Bessie, my favorite cow, into the trailer and was driving her down the highway when this huge semi-truck ran the stop sign and smacked my John Deere tractor right in the side. I was thrown into one ditch and Bessie was thrown into the other. I was hurting real bad and didn't want to move. However, I could hear old Bessie moaning and groaning. I knew she was in terrible shape just by her groans."

"Shortly after the accident a Highway Patrolman came on the scene. He could hear Bessie moaning and groaning, so he went over to her. After he looked at her, and saw her fatal condition, he took out his gun and shot her between the eyes. Then the Patrolman came across the road, gun still in hand, looked at me, and said, "How are you feeling?"

Two-Door Sedan

When my wife and I arrived at a car dealership to pick up our car after a service, we were told the keys had been locked in it.

We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door.

As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked.

"Hey," I announced to the technician, "it's open!"

His reply, "I know. I already did that side."



We recently had a new neighbor call the local city council office to request the removal of the DEER CROSSING sign on our road.

The reason: "Too many deers are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing anymore. Can we move the sign to a safer place?"

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Second-Hand Thoughts



Tommy wanted to sell his old car, so his friend Abe told him to wind the odometer back a bit so he could get a better price for it.

Abe saw Tommy a few days later and asked if he had sold it yet.

Tommy told him that by the time he finished winding back the odometer the car only had 5000 miles on it, so he decided to keep it.

Milestones



Tom Pierce
July 27, 1924—99 years
Ontario



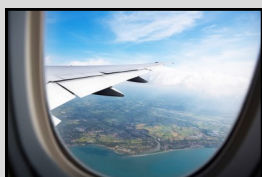
Ruth Harada
May 31, 1928—95 years
Ontario



Carol Spears
July 17, 1928—95 years
Vale

The Height of Anxiety

Passengers traveling First Class on a redesigned British Airways 747 were worried that some of the lavatories have windows.



A woman travelling to New York complained that the windows have no blinds.

A stewardess told her, “Ma’am, I don’t think you need to be worried about some pervert clinging to the side of this aircraft at 35,000 feet!”



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