

**TIME TO RECHARGE THE BATTERIES**

This is the last, PSA article for awhile. I hope you have enjoyed reading this column as much as I have enjoyed writing it. Communicating to a lost, arid dying world, as well as to people striving to live godly lives in this present age, an attitude of positive, up-building encouragement is part of what preaching the gospel is all about. The gospel is good news.

Too many preachers spend too much time pounding the pulpit with "hell fire and damnation" sermons, while the pews are filled with people who are tired and worn out because of the wickedness in the world. The worship of God should be a celebration of the victory over sin, and a celebration of good over evil, while praising God in spirit and in truth (Jn. 4:24). Coming to worship should rekindle the soul, clear the mind, fill the spirit, cleanse the conscience, and give hope for fighting against the devil.

Religion is not the opiate of the society, it, is the medicine for those who are sick. Those sick with sin, problems, guilt, depression, and loneliness need a sense of belonging. Christianity in its purest form has the power to cure the ills of man, and that is something more than positive. If PSA has helped you see that, life is worth living, people worth loving, and sin worth leaving, then I have accomplished my goal. If PSA has given you a deeper understanding of the Scriptures, an attitude of love for God's word while giving it the utmost respect, my task has not failed. If PSA has been there to help in times of crisis, cheered a broken heart, lifted a downcast, spirit, and was the final push needed to begin a happy life as a child of God, my labor has not been in vain.

Nothing can replace the Bible. It is truly the greatest book in the history of mankind. Only by going back and doing what it says can we see that life has purpose, meaning, and direction. The Bible tells us where we came from, who we are, and where we are going. That is a foundation to build on like no other. PSA has tried to put the Bible in its best light, to silence the critics, illuminate its truths, and to fuel its fire as man's only hope of knowing the truth. Some will use the Bible for their own good, distort its message, twist its ideas, and bend its scholarship. But the word of God will survive (Mt. 24:35), and for those who are of simple and humble mind, it will shape lives that are indestructible, championed for good, and dedicated to service. A PSA doesn't replace Bible teaching, nor has this column been intended as a substitute for Bible study. Rather PSA has tried to do what its title suggests; to develop a real yearning for what is right in the midst of trouble and falsehood.

This time away from "the typewriter" will allow me to "recharge the batteries" so that I can devote time to other things and be effective in those areas, Maybe, Lord willing, I will be able in the future to write again, but until that time may you learn what the Bible says, live what the teaches, and love the Bible for what, it is: the word of God.