

Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

<https://www.foi.org/zvikalisher/>

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Recently I have been working near the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and sometimes I have contact with the students there. They try to act very intelligent because they are studying at such a fine school. One day I told them, "You think you know everything, but you still have much to learn." They responded, "We know about great people, such as Shakespeare, Tolstoi, Einstein, Mozart, Brezniev, Kennedy, and others like them." I replied, "To you, these people may have been very great, but not to God—and not to me either. They were simply gifted men. If you were in a very desperate situation in life, perhaps close to death, would you call on Shakespeare and say, 'Shakespeare, save me'? Or would you say, 'Mozart, help me'? No! In times of trouble, people call on God. He is the one who gave Himself for us, and anyone who comes to Him in simple faith will be saved. He alone can give you everything you need in this life, and He alone can save your eternal soul."

"If this is so," they said, "and if God has given you so much, what can He give to us?" I replied, "God will give you peace in your hearts, happiness, hope, and, most important of all, He will give you everlasting forgiveness of your sins." "How do you know all of this?" they questioned. "Have you graduated from a school of theology?" "No," I answered, "but I know in my heart that the Lord has done these things for me, and He has given me the Holy Spirit, who keeps me and gives me the power to talk to you in this manner."

Then they said, "Of course, you must have read some books on this

subject.” “Oh, yes,” I replied. “I have read a great deal, but mostly one book. This book is more important than the thousands of books you can read in your school. It is the Holy Bible, and it is greater than any of the books written by your great men because the Bible was written by men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit of God.”

They wanted to know why I was telling them all of this, and I said, “Because I want you to be as I am, free from your sins. Then you won’t think only of the things of this life, things that are without hope and that can cause you to hate your family, your friends, even yourselves—things that cause you to make many mistakes.” “Don’t you ever make mistakes?” they asked. “Yes, I do,” I replied, “because I am no more perfect than you are. But when I make mistakes, I go to my heavenly Father and pray for His forgiveness. Then I go on from there, trying to do the best I can. Because I fear God, He protects me and keeps me from ways that are not pleasing to Him. I have the Holy Spirit within me, and He keeps me from deep sin, but you are not kept from sin, even though you are students at the great Hebrew University.”

They told me that I would make a good lecturer and that I had given them much food for thought. They then asked how I had come to know so much about God. I told them, “There is only one way to know about God and His Son Jesus, and that is through the Bible.” At this, one of them said, “I have read the Bible several times. Why don’t I believe as you do?” “Because you have read it as a natural man,” I told him. “If you all will read the Bible, asking God to speak to your hearts, you will receive what I now have—peace from Him and with Him.”

I pray that these young people will have their eyes and hearts opened to God through the truths of His Word.