

# THE SOWER

## ARTHUR (IL) CHURCH OF CHRIST

Ron Bartanen, Evangelist

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Have you visited our web site lately? ([www.Arthurcoc.com](http://www.Arthurcoc.com))

### A PRICELESS PURCHASE

Among the words of wisdom a father passed on to his son are these of Solomon: “Buy the truth, and sell it not” (Proverbs 33:23). Surely no advice could be more practical than this. What lessons may we derive from these few words?

First, we are reminded that **truth is priceless**. Obtain it at whatever the cost. Scientists have given their lives in pursuit of scientific truth. Governments ideally have sought to establish a peaceful society upon the basis of truth. Patriots have shed their blood to defend the truth. Martyrs have perished rather than renounce the truth. Truth is among our most valuable assets.

We are also reminded of the fact that **truth is priceless**—“Sell it not.” May we not be as Esau who devalued his birthright to the point of selling it to his brother, Jacob, for a bowl of bean soup. Some sell truth through willful sin, ignoring the laws of God. Others do so by substituting human traditions and doctrines for divinely revealed truth. The apostle Paul prophesied of those who would “not endure sound doctrine,” but would “turn away their ears from the truth,” and would be “turned unto fables” (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

Truth does not originate within ourselves. The truth of God is not inherent in our nature. It must be sought from God, whose “word is truth,” (John 17:18), as Jesus declared in His prayer the night of His betrayal. The word of God, as revealed in Scripture is inspired of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). For the embodiment of truth, we must seek it in God’s Son, Jesus Christ, who affirmed, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father but by me” (John 14:6). What greater treasure could you find in life than this?  
--Ron

## THOUGHTS TO PONDER—

- **A friend** is one who can put a finger on your faults without rubbing it in.
- **“The happiest people do not have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything.”**
- **What if** you woke up today with only the things you thanked God for yesterday? **“Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important.”** (C.S. Lewis)

## A SOBERING QUOTE—

The following quote reminds us of the dark ideology that is active in much of our nation’s public educational system that would seek to undermine the reality of God and adherence to Biblical Judeo-Christian doctrine and values, while imposing a secular, humanistic world-view upon the nation’s children and youth. A systematically imbedded ideology corrupts and enslaves its victims. The following quote exposes this satanic conspiracy. -Ron

**“IT IS EXPECTED** that advances in psychology will give government much more control over individual mentality than they now have. Education should aim at destroying the will, so that after pupils have left school they will all be incapable, throughout the rest of their lives, of thinking or acting otherwise than as their schoolmaster would have wished.”

(*Bertrand Russell, The Impact of Science on Society, 1953, via Trib-Bits, Decatur (IL) Tribune*)

## THOUGHTFUL QUOTES—

**“We can eat** all the healthy foods in the world, and walk five miles a day, but unless we have a positive outlook and hope in our heart we cannot be truly healthy.”

(*The McAlvany Intelligence Advisor*)

**“Probably** the last completely accurate weather forecast was when God told Noah there was a 100 percent chance of precipitation.”

SMILE A WHILE—

## WITHOUT GLASSES

Soon after our last child left home for college, my husband was resting next to me on the couch with his head in my lap. I carefully removed his glasses. (Continue next column)

“You know, honey,” I said sweetly, “Without your glasses you look like the same handsome young man I married.”

“Honey,” he replied with a grin, “Without my glasses you still look pretty good too!”

--Cybersalt Digest

## THE BETTER WAY

Life offers us many choices, some more important than others. The most important choice you can make in life is to follow Christ rather than to live life without Him. There is a “way” that seems right, but ends in eternal death (Prov. 14:12), but the

better way is Christ, who said, “I am the way... No man cometh to the Father but by me (John 14:6).

Christ is the better way because His way is the way to salvation. He said, “I am the door: by me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved” (John 10:9).

He is the better way because He can work within the Christians to “do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us” (Eph. 3:20).

He is the better way for both time and eternity. We urge all to put their trust in the Savior who died for you and rose again, repenting of sins, confessing Him and being baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Mark 16:15-16; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 2:38). You will never regret it, for **Christ is the better way.** --Ron

“**EXODUS—MESSAGE OF DELIVERANCE—The Trial of Hunger**” will be today’s message in our Exodus series. The reading will be Exodus 16:1-8.

**UPDATE:** I had mistakenly thought I would have the cataract removed from my eye last Monday, but my left eye was only tested for pressure, and the pressure is still too high. I am now taking an additional eye drop to lower it. Dates have been set for the surgeries however: October 1 for the left eye, and Oct. 8 for the right one. Thank you to the many that have had us in your prayers.