

THOUGHTS

BY DOUGLAS W. SCHROEDER
SPEAKER ON THE WORD TODAY

A

BIRDS CHIRPING, SNOW FLYING

In Wisconsin, one can have Winter and Spring at the same time! As I walked through the corridor adjoining the church to The Word Today's building, I heard birds singing even as the snowflakes of the (hopefully) last snowstorm swirled! It is an overlap transition time in Wisconsin. Our lives are like that, sometimes in between with no clearly marked transition. But progress is being made!

P

P(DOOM)

There was a video game of a similar title, "Doom", wherein one fought like crazy against monsters to stay alive. According to p(doom), we're toast. The contraction indicates a measure of the probability of AI dooming us all.

R

Supposedly, there is a 99.999999% chance that AI will kill us all. That's great news because it means we will win! If we follow the irrationality of Darwinists, who believe far smaller odds of random genetic mutations (mistakes) building up living creatures, it seems like a sure victory for humans to win against AI! As our scientific and techy types demonstrate, all it takes is fantasy for your hopes to come true!

I

This points out the absurdity that swirls in the scientific and tech communities. The ridiculous speculation ranges from assurance that genetically, accidental processes are sure to elevate humanity to the assurance that computers will become sentient and dispose of us! These are the people who laugh at sincere Christians, yet their own beliefs are astonishingly obtuse.

L

AI safety researcher warns there's a 99.999999% probability AI will end humanity, but Elon Musk "conservatively" dwindles it down to 20% and says it should be explored more despite inevitable doom (yahoo.com)

DOWNSIZING AND ORGANIZING SEMINAR

According to the flier for this event, "space is limited." They could downsize or reorganize!

2024

CONTENTMENT UNDERRATED

An underrated Bible passage on the topic of contentment is, "Two things I ask of you before I die: Keep falsehood and deceitful words far from me. Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the bread that is my portion. Otherwise, I may have too much and deny you, saying, 'Who is the Lord?' or I may become poor and steal, profaning the name of my God" (Proverbs 30:7-9).

The Word
Today
Box 77
Greendale, WI
53129



*The Bible is God's Word...Jesus is God's "Word" made flesh...
His death and resurrection, the message needed Today.*

Those are the words of Agur, a mysterious man whose wisdom is collected alongside such personages as Solomon! Though Solomon gets credit for the book of Proverbs, others contributed to it and their words are pithy. Charlie Munger, the longtime business partner of Warren Buffet, has much common sense to dispense, including the following:

April

“[Buffet and I] are both smart enough to have watched our friends who got rich build these really fancy houses. And I would say in practically every case, they make the person less happy, not happier... It's a very expensive thing to do, and it doesn't do you that much good.”

“I had a huge number of children, so it was justifiable even. And I still decided not to live a life where I look like the Duke of Westchester or something. And I was going to avoid it. I did it on purpose... I didn't think it would be good for the children.”

“Don't have a lot of envy,” “Don't overspend your income,” and “Avoid crazy at all costs. Crazy is way more common than you think. It's easy to slip into crazy. Just avoid it, avoid it, avoid it.”

Seen from the Christian worldview, glomming onto material things such as houses, retirement portfolios, vacations, vehicles, and the like is crazy! It anchors a person to the world when we are to be anchored to Heaven! There is an insanity associated with Christians who chase after worldly things. Jesus warned us to not be like Pagans rushing about in pursuit of earthly, material things (see Christ's pointed instruction in Matthew 5:19-34). So, what do most Christians in the West do? Rush about like Pagans, attempting to get as much of the material world as they can! It's crazy and it does not bring happiness! Contentment brings happiness!

The big lie regarding money is that we don't need contentment, just more assets! That plan typically results in horribly overspending, under-saving, and investing too little such that a chasm is opened between needs and resources due to discontent!

Contentment is also a driver of generosity. Malcontents are SO greedy! They are so obsessed with money and getting ahead that they don't care much at all for the poor. They say they care, but the numbers do not lie. They give away precious little out of generosity. A disciple of Jesus has the joy of experiencing what He taught, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (see Paul's comment on the exhortation of Jesus in Acts 20:32-35).

The World scoffs at conservative Christians and biblical principles for living. Yet these are among the secrets of the Kingdom that bring joy in this life and spiritual preparation for eternal life!

Charlie Munger lived in the same home for 70 years: Rich people who build 'really fancy houses' become 'less happy' (msn.com).

Blessings,
Douglas W. Schroeder