

# THOUGHTS

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SPEAKER ON THE WORD TODAY

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## SO MANY PEOPLE

Countless people are blessed through The Word Today! Here are some recent responses:

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- How rich is the name of Jesus. Forgiveness of sins and many other blessings... as this program of The Word Today revealed to me.
- The day I heard The Word Today radio program was one of the pivotal movements in my spiritual development... It has bolstered my faith and drawn me nearer to God.
- I am a Christian, but I am fallen. The radio has helped me to find my way again.
- I am a married woman for almost 30 years. We have had many problems in our marriage. You have helped a lot.
- I face ongoing discrimination and harassment because I am a Christian living in a community where most follow the majority religion. The Word Today broadcasts give me the strength and inspiration I sorely need.

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Isn't it wonderful to see how many lives are being touched, changed by the Good News of Christ? All over the world, the Word of God broadcast by The Word Today is drawing people to Jesus! Praise God! Thank you to all the faithful supporters of TWT! You are doing a wonderful work in faith by ensuring that those who through no fault of their own have not heard of Jesus are reached with the life-saving Gospel!

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## PLEASE, GOD, SAVE US

The video clip shows the fire encroaching upon the hill, then the home of the videographer. Some segments show them frantically running in and out of the house with personal items. At one point, the vain prayer is uttered, "Please, God, save us! Save our house!" It is a classic selfish prayer.

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Evacuation orders had been given to Californians who elected to stay, perhaps to ward off looters. They chose to wait until the last second, until they saw the fire coming and the expected take place, their house burned up in flames. But they are praying, "God, save us..." There are few things more ingenuine than defying the order to evacuate, defying the commonsense God gave you to leave the material things behind, then praying, "save us". These people put themselves into the danger moment, risked their lives, then prayed to God to deliver them. That's stupid, and it's stupid faith.

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Did I just say stupid faith? Yes, I did. It's stupid to tempt God. That is precisely what the people did, they tempted God's patience by disobedience to the government and foolishness like trying to quickly hose down the roof of the house when the fire was minutes away! The Lord is often gracious even to the foolish and vain, who pray prayers of deliverance from danger they tempted!



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

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It is also vain prayer when a person prays for God to suspend the laws of nature for a house. There is no impetus for a prayer like that except too much attachment to stuff. God is supposed to pull off a miracle for them, not to save their child or roll back disease, and not for the sake of others, but so that they don't have to go through the crucible of having to rebuild.

I do not feel much pity when people are so arrogant that they have to film the fire and give commentary, creating their own crisis. The video should go down as a prime example of immature faith coupled with lack of wisdom. Christians are called by the Gospel to exhibit a far higher level of maturity!

**OH, HOW CUTE!**

While I was doing my stretches on the floor after a cardio workout at the health club, a couple of younger girls walked past me. I wish everyone blessings, so I called out after them, "Blessings!" Often, people do not expect to hear that word and do not process it. One of the girls turned around and asked, "What?" I said, "Blessings!" Her reaction was unexpected; she blurted out, "Oh, how cute!"

The last time I heard that I was cute was about 40 years ago. No one thinks I'm cute, and they shouldn't! I'm over sixty, slightly overweight, and long past my youthful cuteness stage. It was odd that this girl called me cute. It was even more strange when, trying to process her response, I said, "We all can use blessings." This time, turning toward her friend, she reinforced, "Oh, how cute!" I said nothing else.

As I rolled the incident around in my mind, I think I know why she reacted as she did. I believe she was considering me to be like a baby or a little dog that when one sees them, they say, "How cute!" She evidently thought that the old man who uttered blessings was cute, a curiosity. She seemed unable to process the intent of the greeting. I wonder if she has so little spiritual background that the novelty of a Christian blessing is a rarity, and coming from an older man it's a cause for surprise.

I am hopeful that next time I can greet them with a blessing, I can explain a bit more and give a more direct witness for Christ. Maybe with time, she will find Jesus to be adorable!

**KEEP PLUGGING AWAY**

As the Winter days creep by, we are moving closer to Spring! As our year unfolds, we are moving closer to Heaven! Each day is one day closer to eternal life with God!

Blessings,  
Douglas W. Schroeder

**THE WORD TODAY reaching the world with GOD'S WORD**