

# Daily View

*“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’” Hebrews 3:13*

May 5, 2020

## Word Blessings

*“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.” Proverbs 25:11*

My fifth grade teacher, Mr. Lucas, managed, with a few words, to transform my life. He said, “Dave, you’re captain of the football team.” That day, and for many days after, I walked a little above the ground. I was captain of the football team! My 5th grade heart swelled with joy and I have to admit, my head swelled a bit, too.

You can probably guess that Mr. Lucas is one of my all-time favorite teachers but not because he made me captain. His words had little to do with football, as it turns out. I have no recollection of how our flag football season went or if I was a success or a failure that year as “captain.” The value of his words were in the words themselves. They were fitly spoken and, at that time in my life, “apples of gold in a setting of silver.”

I love that Proverb. I try to practice it, but I have received many more of those “apples” than I have given. I can’t keep up, and I could never catch up. So many times someone has “made my day” with a word “fitly spoken.” I might as well try to count the stars than try to count the times I have been blessed by the words of the people in my life.

That motivates me to try harder. Words “fitly spoken” can brighten someone’s day as nothing else can. It’s way better than a humorous meme or gif. There’s an old song I heard often when I was young, entitled “Home on the Range.” One line stands out: *“Where seldom is heard, a discouraging word and the skies are not cloudy all day...”*

In this cloudy, divided world where people look for fault as if there’s a reward for it, a world full of critics and backbiters and haters... it makes you long for that “home on the range,” doesn’t it?

Jesus’ words can lead us to a much better place. One of my favorite texts in the Bible is John 6:60-69. Many were offended by a sermon Jesus preached and “no longer walked with him” (6:66). Jesus didn’t alter his message or try to talk them into staying. Instead, he asks the twelve if they want to leave, too. Peter pipes up and says, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life” (John 6:68). Jesus’ words lead us to a cloudless world, where we’ll *never* hear a discouraging word.

I was asked to use a larger font so I changed it, starting today. I aim to please. Is this better, Ray?



### THE GREAT PRINTER OF WORDS

We take printed books for granted but we are indebted to Johannes Gutenberg, who introduced printing to Europe with the printing press. His introduction of mechanical movable type printing to Europe started the Printing Revolution.

In 2018, we visited his birthplace, Mainz, Germany, where he produced his masterpiece, the “Gutenberg Bible” in 1455. We saw his original printing press in the museum there and two original copies of the Bible.

