



County Corrections Gospel Mission

P.O. Box 1136 • Coatesville, PA 19320 • (215) 383-9378

October 16, 1987

Dear Warden Frame:

"Keep my commandments, and live, and my law as the apple of thine eye."

-- Proverbs 7:2

The day in which we live is probably no more corrupt than any prior generation. The media, of course, has matured into a sadistic and left-wing machine creating the fascination of perverted politicians, preachers and justices, and it thereby largely influences our general understanding of "things as they really are". Recently, the media opted to ignore our President's speech on the Bork hearings and voted unanimously to stick to the more important "soaps".

On one hand we read of the spectacular and bizarre crimes of our neighborhoods, entertain ourselves in the bloodiest violence of the day in evening programming and then watch the 11:00 p.m. news to catch one last daily glimpse of our fallen society. The paradox of the whole matter is that few are willing to really ache over the whole mess and all the more fail to commit themselves to any personal conviction to care!

In one day I will read the tragic stories of drunk drivers and then find myself bombarded with commercials (usually featuring athletic "role models") who convincingly sell the thought that beer drinking makes life a whole lot better. Then I'll read gruesome descriptions of teen-age violence and thereafter be challenged by someone's insightful concerns of teen-age suicide.

Recently, Mr. Robert Miller, a 36-year old Corrections Officer at Lewisburg Federal Prison, was gunned down, unarmed in an almost successful escape attempt. His widow has been tragically left with two children. No sooner do I pick up another article and Capital Punishment is on the front burners of the Supreme Court agendas.

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What am I saying? We are living in an extremely complex environment. The word, 'rights', has been totally redefined, and quite truthfully the slide of men's thinking is critically void of once held sacred truths.

The Scripture verse quoted above speaks of keeping the law of God as "the apple of one's eye". This beautiful concept is seldom understood, although often stated in many contexts. One might say, "You're the apple of my eye!" What does this phrase mean?

Within the understanding of this simple little phrase is the pivotal issue of maintaining clarity of thought and values worth defending. When one looks with the physical eye, the image of the object viewed is reflected in the eye itself. If I were to look to you, your very image would be reflected in my eye. You might say with total confidence that my focus is on you. This focal point, the image reflected, is the "apple of one's eye".

When I allow God's Word, the Holy Scriptures, to be my focus, then and only then can I really make personal sense of the many conflicting agendas and values of my day.

Let the media keep bringing the distortion of values. The question is, can we see for ourselves the very issues that really concern our God and His spoken opinion?

What is in our eye today? What is our focal point? I am convinced that herein lies the pivotal point of all we do.

God's promise is, "Keep my commandments and live, and my law as the apple of thine eye." Proverbs 7:2

In closing, know that I will look forward to seeing many of you at the Symposium.

I write,

Respectfully,


JACK CRANS
Director

JC/lisi