

Scott's Thoughts

March 9, 2025



“But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.” (Psalm 5:11, ESV)

I saw a post on Facebook this morning that really took me back in time. In 1990, Garth Brooks released the song titled “The Dance.” It is a song of loss and love—two emotions that often go hand in hand. In this song, the artist tells a story of a love that has ended, but the good memories made by loving that one are worth all the pain he feels today. We all know what that empty space is like.

Can anything in life be of greater pain than losing a wife, husband, father, mother, brother, sister, cousin, or a very close friend? We mourn because they left a hole in our hearts. No longer will we be able to spend time with them, at least physically. But oh, those memories—some of which go back to childhood. So, for a moment, a single memory brings another and comforts us.

We are but frail humans trying to avoid pain, but can we? Would it be possible to go through life avoiding emotional pain? No! To live a life without love would be the most horrible way to live. Just think about it—living with no special relationship. I thank God that He gave me the capacity to love, even though it has brought great pain at times. I miss my family that has left this life—Mom, Dad, two brothers, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Every day, I look forward to seeing people I know who have added value (joy) to my life. At my age, I enjoy telling others how important they are to me. I spent entirely too many of my younger years trying to be tough and not let anything bother me. However, today I would rather be perceived as someone who cares and is willing to show it. I try to tell Ava every day how much I love her. After 54 years of marriage, we do get on each other’s nerves once in a while. But looking back, she has been my rock. She has been there for all the good and bad times. My daughters have been a challenge for me from the day they were born, and honestly, there have been those days when I didn’t appreciate them at all. But today, just a few moments with them is a treasure! When I see one of my grandchildren throwing a fit, I have to remember that I was once that age but grew out of it. Love and pain—where you find one, you will find the other.

My closing verse emphasizes this thought. Jesus left Heaven willingly to give His life for sinners. That brought Him physical and mental pain, yet in the end, a soul saved for eternity made the pain joy.

“Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2, ESV)
“Let us choose what is right; let us know among ourselves what is good.” (Job 34:4, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining

—Scott