

Scott's Thoughts

September 21, 2025



“But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,” (Titus 3:4–5, ESV)

I read with sadness about the death of Cecil May Jr. I never met him, but he is a man who I have great respect for. I came to know him through his writings, mostly in the “The Magnolia Messenger.” He had a column in it every month and people would write to him to ask questions about the Bible. His wisdom always shone through. Many times he could have answered just yes or no but he would break the subject down and show maybe three different possible answers. Then he would follow all three answers to their end and finally end up at what he believed the passage was teaching. The reader would get the answer, but more than that the reader would see the thought process, which may have been more valuable than the answer itself. It’s kind of like taking a math test where the teacher would say the answer is correct, but you need to go back and show your work. I have also read several of his sermons over the years and again his scholarship showed through along with his love for God, the Church and humanity. Cecil was in every way a humble servant of God. I would love to have had the chance to sit down with him, pick his brain, and learn from him. I might have had the chance but was always too busy, now the chance is gone.

It is unfair for me to pick just one person who has affected the direction of my Christian walk because there have been so many. I’m sure there will be more if the Good Lord lets me live long enough. I have a whole list of Saints who have made me look deeper into His word and thereby causing me to reorder my life because of their gentle kindness. I hope I am doing a little of the same for someone else.

I have loved learning all my life and have studied a number of different subjects but none of them have been as challenging as the study of scripture. I honestly do not feel like a great scholar of the Bible, but I do know some things that I am positive of. 1. God is real. To think otherwise is foolishness. 2. Jesus came to earth in human form and died on a cross so that everyone could have the chance for salvation. 3. Satan is just as real as Jesus, and he wants more than anything to destroy our faith in God. 4. Any Bible study is time well spent.

“Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.” (1 Peter 3:8–9, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining

—Scott