

August 29, 2021

Scott's Thoughts



Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

Mark 7:26–27 (ESV)

There is an old story told by Napoleon Hill about a man named Darby. During the gold rush, he went to Colorado and spent several months mining for Gold. He fared better than most because he struck gold but lacked the resources to mine it effectively. He covered up his discovery and went to his family back East and a family member helped with the capital to purchase all the needed equipment. Their first load of ore was some of the highest grades ever discovered. As they continued mining, the vein ran out and they found less and less gold. Finally discouraged, they sold their claim and equipment to a junk dealer for very little more than they had invested.

The Darby story has one of those fairy tale endings, not for Darby but for the junk man who bought the claim and equipment from Darby. The junk man called in a mine engineer to check the mine who told the new owner to mine in a different direction which he did. Three Feet later he hit a vein worth Millions. Can you imagine? What would you feel like if you quit, threw in the towel, went to the house, and watched someone else reap all the rewards from your efforts?

I wonder how many things would be different in this world if we had just preserved. Don't we all become discouraged from time to time? We are all tempted to quit. But hopefully perseverance keeps us going. I can look in my shop and find several projects that have been started but never finished. From time to time, I'll pick one of them up and have another go at it because what I find most satisfying is completing a job, but it takes perseverance.

Like Darby, the average American would like to discover Gold. We dream and daydream about riches yet, we are still sitting in our chairs. Even when we get up and go to work, we tire easily. But persistence will pay off. Many have found gold, not in a mine but, by hard work. It is most certain that every business owner wonders if it is time to give it all up and go sit in the rocking chair. However, by perseverance, these business owners take an idea and pour their lives into making it work. They build it a little at a time and may even go without a paycheck sometimes, but they persevere. Let's look around town and see a successful business, not to be jealous, but for inspiration to persevere in our own efforts.

Isn't it also time to persevere in our efforts to have a relationship with God?

But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." Mark 7:28–29 (ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott