

# Time To Take A Breather

“Few of us are as good as we think we are; none of us are as good as we can be.”

-- **Tom Selleck**

We may know the story of the fictional Don Quixote who was always tilting at windmills. The classing meaning is a person who furiously chases down something despite the world's efforts to stop him. Many urge us to stop tilting at windmills. Today the call is to tilt away, for God has too few that tilt.

The word tilt comes from the days of knights and kings, and described two men on horseback riding straight at each other with a long spear-like weapon called a lance pointed at the other. The object was to knock the opponent off his horse while remaining on your own. Then there was celebration and the knight was congratulated on his feat.

Some people would say that Jesus was tilting at windmills. Perhaps he was, but somebody needed to. There was so much sin, so much corruption in government, and worship was a faint remembrance of what it was supposed to be. The difference was that he was addressing something real, when dear knight Quixote was tilting at imaginary foes.

We must step back from furious jousting at things which have no eternal significance and joust at eternal things. Be in church. Pray. Do good to others. Help those who are in need.

We must stand up for the principles Jesus made clear, and not let the world tell us they are not true. We are called to tell people the unbelievable. We are charged to do the impossible.

In entering this tournament of faith, we have consulted actor Tom Selleck, who at the present time tilts at windmills on his television show Bluebloods. When he was asked to do the Hawaii based TV series, Magnum P.I., he had some reservations about the plot and character. He stood up for his principles, knowing they may not hire him, but miraculously they agreed to his demands, and it turned out to be a show he could feel good about.

Now there are some things we should just not do. There are some battles we should not fight. Selleck put it well when he said, “Son, never throw a punch at a redwood.”

Don't fight the battles which do not need to be fought and will not be won. Don't do stupid things in the name of Christ. Don't fuss about the minors, and do not hesitate to weigh in on spiritual matters which will dwarf even the giant redwood tree.

We must always have perspective. Along with that perspective must come a sense of humor. As Ecclesiastes says, there is a time for everything. "There was a time," Selleck says, "I could have been mistaken for Burt Reynolds. I had a moustache and so did he. But he was the number one star in the world, so there wasn't really much confusion."

We must step back and take a breather. We may be famous or we may not, but we are all equal disciples of Jesus. We can do and see miracles. We must realize that the small things mean just as much as the big. The key is to be able to know who we are, and to realize that we are all God's children.

Not everybody has to agree on all things. There are many different ways to apply our faith. There is more than one field of political belief. We can all be Christians, and know we are to help others. We just go about it in different ways and must find common ground. Selleck said it this way. "I've learned by hanging out in Hollywood, where I disagree politically with most people, that most people's hearts are in the right place, and the only thing we have to argue about is the way to solve the problems."

One of the great discoveries over the years is to be able to enjoy the journey. Some say it is as important as the destination. Tom Selleck puts it this way in reflecting on his life at age 71. "Enjoy the process. The process is irreplaceable. The highlights, the celebrations."

We must take a breather from the worldly traps which Satan sets. Things like pride, anger, superiority, self-importance, and criticism. Gossip. And when we take that break from sin, we can sit with God and learn of Him of the more important things like salvation, love, joy, hope, humility, peace, and forgiveness.

Heaven and earth are connected through the grace of God. Jesus came to show us how to walk on this earth like we would in heaven. So we must take every day to give thanks to God, and to do good things which can help people find true life.