

Stuff

Seeing Christ In Consumerism

Owning not being owned by things on earth

Various Passages from Proverbs 12, 15 & 16

*²⁴Gracious words are a honeycomb,
sweet to the soul and healing to the bones*

Four observations about holiday “stuff”

1. We stuff TURKEY We are EVENT driven

Events are another sign of how extrinsically motivated we can be.

Many are like a good ole yard dog – we “cruise” around life until an “event” gets our attention 😊.

2. We stuff our BELLIES We are GLUTTONY driven

Gluttony : the excessive consumption that deprives another being of a life-giving necessity. Gluttons devour more, leaving others with less. *Ryan Andrews **

Christian philosopher Thomas Aquinas equated gluttons to children, since they are governed by pleasure from appetite and their behavior is ruled by it. Gluttony transcends eating and relates to material goods and other physical pleasures.

3. We go BUY MORE stuff We are CONSUMER driven

EVENTS want to attract me

GLUTTONY wants to “stuff” me

CONSUMERISM wants “stuff” to OWN me & world

IRONY?

We celebrate and share *Blessings on Thursday* and then go consume on *Black Friday*

The “Grateful Pilgrims” morph into “Greedy People”!

BUT

4. We still have Thanksgiving “stuff” IN US!

We have the CAPACITY (and need) for GRATITUDE

- To OTHERS for many things!
- To GOD for ALL things!