

Thought for the Day, Friday 31st July 2020.

Funny thing about the British, of the various things we're renowned (or infamous) for the world over is an apparent fixation about the weather ! Personally I don't understand it since we do have a keen interest because our climate is predictably unpredictable and so we accept that:

- *The weather will change*
- *Forecasters will never be 100% accurate – we're happy if they are 50%*
- *The weather will never be totally as we'd like it :*
 - *It's too hot*
 - *Too cold*
 - *Too dry*
 - *Too wet*
 - *Too humid*
 - *Too much/little snow*
 - *Too much/little wind*
 - *Too much/little cloud*
 - *Too much/little Sun (= UV = sun tan/burn)*

Etc. Etc. You recognise the above? What holiday makers want, the farmers and construction industry probably don't want so much, what adults want is not often the same as what children want, what the old prefer the younger generations don't (yet). Thus for every group in the population there are always at least one or more others for whom an opposite view about the prevailing or forecast weather holds true.

It's not that we're fickle or ungrateful, it's just our way of coping with something that is utterly outside of our physical control. People from other countries with different , perhaps less changeable, climate don't get our subconscious fascination with weather. But we know how it changes our mood and can move us from happy, calm, and relaxed to generally miserable or plain downright "annoyed" in only a few minutes. We analyse the weather patterns in infinite detail and fool ourselves that we can accurately predict such an infinitely complex system of the movement of our atmosphere.. what hubris is that! Thus the British have understood that a simpler approach is better, creates

less disappointment and anxiety, and guarantees something always to talk about which is wonderfully subject neutral and always PC !.

Perhaps Adam and Eve were Brits? There is certainly nothing in the Bible or Jewish folklore that suggests in the Garden of Eden where it was watered by an overnight mist and dew, that Adam or Eve ever go so hacked off with it that they complained to the almighty about “the weather”.

So when you are next of a mind to rail at the world at large because the weather is not exactly what you as an individual want, stop for a moment and consider that there will always be someone(s) else in the country for who it is “ideal for the moment”. That for all of us the current conditions will change sooner or later and we will have a new topic to discuss in conversation.

One thing I can tell you as a constant is while the Sun may not always shine on us (leaving aside nighttime of course), the Son of Man is always shining on us and warming our souls and spirit to help us through life and deal with the ups and downs of everything – including the actual weather. Our faith is not a changing climate that varies from place to place and it’s open to us to get the best result from our exposure to it – our “tan of belief” if you will and one which does not need any form of sun cream to protect us from over-exposure. Quite the reverse as our belief is what protects and guards us from the rest of the world.

So put on a smile, enjoy basking in the light of God, use it to grow yourself and others as that is wholly under your control, and leave the physical weather to be just something that happens and that we British will forever talk about to the puzzlement of others.

<https://youtu.be/KQetm7IsUc>

