

# The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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~ All articles written by Terry Carter unless otherwise stated ~

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## Dandelions



During the last week or two, I have noticed two things that are sure signs of spring. The first is dandelions popping up in yards everywhere. The second is commercials advertising products to kill dandelions in your yard.

Most people do not like dandelions in their yard. Some people spend hours trying to get rid of them. Others will spend a great deal of money each year to kill them and prevent more from growing. They spray them, cut them, dig them up, etc.

It may not come as a surprise to some of my readers that I am kind of an oddball when it comes to dandelions. I have always liked them. When they are in full bloom, I love their yellow color. When I see them in the yard, I know that spring has sprung. When I was very young, my sister and I used to pick them for our mother. She never complained about this

although I doubt that she thought much of the dandelions themselves. When I see them as an adult, it brings back happy memories of my childhood to me.

But dandelions mean more to me than just springtime and childhood memories. For me, they are a metaphor for life. They spring up quickly and are pleasant to the eye. But before you know it, their heads turn white and begin to blow away. Not long after that, they more or less disappear. But when springtime comes again, they raise up once again.

You can probably see already where I am going with this. Our lives are short. We grow up quickly and our physical appearance is pleasant in our youth. But all too soon, our heads turn white and our hair seems to blow away with the passing wind. Before we know it, our bodies wither and disappear under the earth. But the good news for the Christian is that someday we will be raised again to meet the Lord in the air.

When I see the dandelions, I do not think about useless and troublesome weeds. I do not think

about how much it will cost me to get rid of them or prevent them in the first place. I do not think about how much time it will take me to eliminate them. Instead, I think about how short our years on this earth are. I think about how quickly we pass through the seasons of our lives. I am reminded that after we are hidden in the ground, we will live again with the Lord. I think about the words of Peter and James.

"24...All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, 25 But the word of the LORD endures forever..." **I Peter 1:24-25**

"...For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away..." **James 4:14**

You may not fall in love with dandelions after reading this short article. But I do hope that the next time you see one, you see more than just an unwanted weed. I hope you take a moment to reflect on your life and eternity.

**Note:** The previous article was written in April 2017 and was published in the local church newsletter.