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The Sweatpants of Justice

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2007

The Jesus Guy

One thing that every one of us has in common is that each morning we must get up and decide what it is to us that constitutes meaningfulness. Then, ideally, we live out the day in a way that illustrates the conclusion we have drawn. Sometimes this is easier than others. It's a challenge that meets with obstacles from without and from within. Sometimes we choose not to make decisions that illustrate what it is that we deem to represent meaningfulness, and other times we want to make decisions that are consistent with that determination, but we fail, for various reasons, to accomplish that goal.

Last night I did some thinking about where it is that I will primarily look to see meaningfulness. By last night, I mean the last year or so. Now, I realize this should be an elemental question in some regards. Perhaps I should clarify that I've been thinking about where it is that I expect to find lower level, or day-to-day pragmatic, even mundane meaningfulness, as opposed to ultimate, highest meaningfulness. Yes, I've been seeing this as a question on two stratum, and perhaps that is my a priori error.

But I was specifically thinking about this last night, and I was thinking about it again this morning. Then, on my way to work, before I had been in the car a full minute, I saw the Jesus guy. For those of you who don't know, the Jesus guy is a man named James Joseph who chose to take the following words, spoken by Jesus to his disciples, very personally, and very literally: "Do not take along any gold or silver or copper in your belts; take no bag for the journey, or extra tunic, or sandals or a staff; for the worker is worth his keep." Joseph then set out walking, barefoot across the country, with no job, no money, no extra clothing, relying completely on others for every need, including shelter, with his only mission being to spread the message of the Gospel. He has been doing this now for 16 years. I first heard about him a few months ago when I saw a story on the news about an independent film made recently to document him called The Jesus Guy.

So this morning I saw him, walking barefoot down the sidewalk (it was about 40 degrees) in his distinctive robe, carrying only his Bible. When you're having thoughts about the locus of meaningfulness, seeing the Jesus guy first thing in the morning seems to make everything pretty clear.

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Posted by Josh at [6:27 PM](#) 

Labels: [meaningfulness](#), [The Jesus Guy](#)

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I LOVE JESUS!

[November 29, 2007 3:43 PM](#)

[Mike and Ariane](#) said...

There is a film about The Jesus Guy. Check it out at: www.thejesusguy.com or www.thejesusguymovie.blogspot.com. You can see the trailer and sign up for the newsletter so you know when the film will be screening in your area.

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