

"Smart Recommendations"

by Wayne Goff

If you do much online shopping, or even browsing, then you are familiar with the "smart recommendations" which your computer will begin to make because of the "cookies" (markers) that are placed on your computer based upon your personal interests. Some people despise the fact that they are being monitored and they will go to great lengths to prevent this. They believe "Big Brother" (government) is spying on them. Others will appreciate the fact that they might get a great "bargain" because of the information which is conveniently(?) placed at their fingertips!

A "Jews for Jesus" newsletter which came across my desk this past week made a list of hypothetical "suggestions" for people based upon their imagined "searches." Here they are:

- ★ "Continue searching for 'peace' ... find out more about Jesus, also known as the Prince of Peace."
- ★ "Some people who viewed 'prophecies' you've seen in the Jewish Bible have also read the Gospels and discovered Jesus to be their fulfillment."
- ★ "Because you believe Moses, we think you might like the greater prophet he spoke of..."
- ★ "When you trust Jesus as your Messiah, you get free, same-day delivery of eternal life."

The last "suggestion" sadly shows the evangelical slant of this newsletter. They are former Jews who have been converted to the Calvinistic idea of "accepting Jesus as your personal Savior" and "once saved always saved." I once wrote to the editor of this paper to engage him on the subject of baptism for the remission of sins. His response was to send me two copies of their monthly newsletter!

What Are You Looking For?

Now let's stop and think for a minute. If your "cookies" were to **reveal** what you spend your time looking for on your computer, what would they tell about you? What are you truly interested in?

Jesus said that **material things** were what the world seeks after, Matthew 6:32.

Jesus admonished Christians to "**seek first**" the kingdom of God and His righteousness, Matthew 6:33.

If we turn our "search engines" to God, then we will be fulfilled and satisfied, Matthew 7:7. "Ask, and it will be given to you; **seek, and you will find**; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Some will "**seek**" the wrong way to enter into the "narrow gate" of eternal life and will fail, Luke 13:24.

If you want true happiness in life, then do what Jesus did — seek to please the Heavenly Father! John 5:30 "...because **I do not seek My own will** but the will of the Father who sent Me."

The death of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary was accomplished according to God's eternal purpose so that those who **do want to seek God** may find Him! Acts 15:17 — "**So that the rest of mankind may seek the LORD**, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, says the LORD who does all these things" (predicted in Amos 9:11-12).

So how do you "**seek**" the Lord and eternal life? The apostle Paul said that God will give "eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good **seek** for glory, honor and immortality" (Romans 2:7).

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

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