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"He delights in mercy" (Micah 7:18)

Winter Coats on a Summer Day

by Steve Higginbotham

I believe it was at the end of fourth or fifth grade. It was the last day of school and we had to clean out our lockers. Tom Desmond, a friend of mine, found buried in the bottom of his locker a C.P.O (Remember those? A Winter jacket for those of you who don't). However, carrying a heavy jacket home on a warm day was more than Tom wanted to do, so about half way home, he wadded up his perfectly good jacket and threw it in a trash can. Problem solved.

Well, maybe so for a child, but that's not how we, as adults, should handle inconveniences of life. But this is exactly what so many are doing in our society today. Marriage troubles? Trash your marriage and walk away. Employment troubles? Trash your job and walk away. Spiritual troubles? Trash your church and/or your God and walk away.

Folks, trashing a heavy Winter jacket on a hot Summer day may be an adequate solution for a fourth grader, but it's totally inappropriate for an adult. When you're faced with troubles, problems, or inconveniences don't simply jettison everything and walk away. Deal with it. It will make you stronger. It will help you to better appreciate the untroubled moments in life. And who knows, it just may keep you warm next Winter!

"Knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience." (James 1:3)