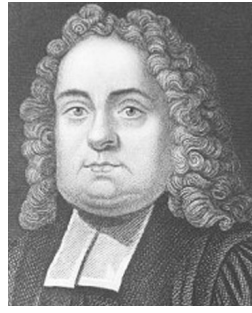




Two Godly Men Robbed

Ephesians 4:22-32



Luke Tyerman relates this incident in the life of George Whitefield. Whitefield, whose purse was never large, but whose sympathy was great, generously gave five guineas to a needy and helpless widow. The friend who was traveling with him hinted that the sum was more than Whitefield could reasonably afford; to which the reply was, “When God brings a case of distress before us, it is that we may relieve it.” The two travelers proceeded on their journey, and before long they encountered a highwayman, who demanded their money, which they gave. Whitefield turned the tables on his friend, and reminded him how much better it was for the poor widow to have the five guineas than the thief. They had not long resumed their travel before the highwayman returned and demanded Whitefield’s coat, which he surrendered, and ended up with the robber’s ragged habiliment. Not long after this, they perceived the marauder again galloping towards them most furiously; and now, fearing that their lives were threatened, they spurred their horses and arrived at some cottages before the highwayman could stop them. The thief was baulked, and immensely mortified; for when Whitefield took off the man’s tattered coat, he found in one of its pockets a carefully wrapped parcel containing 100 guineas! We may be sure other needy souls, orphans as well as widows, shared in the relief made possible by this monetary windfall.

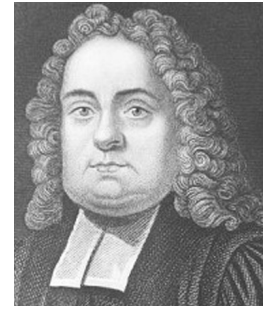
There was also a time when the great Bible commentator Matthew Henry was robbed. That very night he prayed: “I thank Thee, **first**, because I was never robbed before; **second**, because although they took my purse, they did not take my life; **third**, because although they took my all, it was not much; and **fourth**, because it was I who was robbed, and not I who robbed.”

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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