

What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; it is dearness only that gives everything its' value Thomas Paine

Suffice it to say, September 11, 2001 was a benchmark in the history of our country and our lives. Everything changed in so many ways. In one day thousands of lives were ended; a financial center in the world was toppled. When the Bible talks about the shortness and brevity of life, we had a very graphic and unfortunate example before us.

Before this attack , it seems to me we saw possessions as important, what sports teams or sports figures did as important, how well our economy was doing as important, how our careers were advancing as important, how the media entertained us as important. So many “Things” fit into that list of “most important”.

Sadly, since I originally wrote this thought 10 years ago, it seems that much of what we obsessed about before that day seems to carry the day today.

All the things are not in and of themselves bad things. They have their place in our lives and in society. But *really*...are they the most important things in our lives?

One of the most powerful things many people did on that fateful day was to make contact with family and friends. People suddenly became important, how we could help someone else besides ourselves became important, prayer became important, not taking our nation for granted became important.

Jesus said once that “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”(Matthew 6.21). , May we take this 10th anniversary of 9/11 go to our Lord pour out our hearts and souls before him for true wisdom to ask “What *is* important?”

Pr. John Van Haneghan