

Letter to the Editor

I am responding to the October 4, 1991 editorial about Phyllis Tribble's use of Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 on October 2, 1991.

A sentence in the last paragraph of the editorial reads: "The scripture was entirely inappropriate for an audience which included children and those struggling to form identities and answers to why the world is currently suffering terrible evil and tragedies."

It is true that better scripture passages could have been found and used, if that audience was truly seeking out the why's of evil and suffering. For example, Romans 3:23 says, "For all human beings sin, and sin results in sufferings like 'war,' 'hate,' and killing." If there is sin, there is evil and suffering, which are not only "current" but have existed since the first sin was committed. Thus, suffering exists, because human-kind is sinful.

But, the second quote of emphasis here is in the first paragraph of the editorial, "...hearing these words justifying the existence of war, hate, crimes, and human cruelty..." Although these heinous sins exist, God does not excuse any of them, and neither does His Bible. On the contrary, God's being is one of love, mercy, and justice. "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him..." (Romans 8:28). God does not cause evil. He merely allows it to happen. That is not to say that He is not "living and active" (Hebrews 4:12) here on earth in our lives, but it is to say that He gave human beings a free will.

God gave humankind the freedom of choice to either accept or to reject a relationship and a fellowship with Him in a plan perfect for each of our lives; and His love was so great that He even gave His one and only Son, so that we might know Him. So for God to prevent all evil would mean the surrender of freedom of choice, a lack of true love and need for God, and the denial that He truly loves us. This should not be misused or abused to justify one's own sin, and evil should be fought at all times. How it should be used, though, is as an explanation for why evil and suffering exist in this world, and how Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 does not justify evil and suffering by merely acknowledging that they co-exist on the earth with good. Nor does it justify it at all, for that matter.

Therefore, "a time for" is not indicative of God's desires for war, sorrow, mourning, etc.: it solely points out our inadequacies as humans to fully become the beings that God created us to be. Maybe the whole question is not "why" but "who" — who is God...

Family Weekend Successful

Gilda Boyd

This past weekend, October 5th and 6th, was set aside as Family Weekend for families and friends of Meredith College students. The festivities began at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday with registration in the Rotunda of Johnson Hall. At that time approximately 800 people representing 178 Meredith students registered for the 2-day event.

Among the activities was a Student Life Forum which gave a broad view of the many aspects of student life on campus. Sitting on the forum were Ann Hiott—SGA President, Christina Bergelin—MIA President, Jeaneen Logan—Chair for Black Emphasis Week, Amy Bond—Freshman Class President, and Jamie O'Briant—WINGS President. This information session was presented to a chapel full of family members, friends, and faculty.

According to Sonya Walters in Corporate Relations, "The parents were most impressed with the student speakers." Walters viewed the weekend overall as "very successful."

The Parents Programs Committee of Student Foundation would like to thank all those who helped to make the weekend a big success. THANK YOU!!!

SGA / Dining Hall Offer Meal Tickets

SGA Executive Committee

You may purchase a meal ticket in the dining hall. The current price is \$31.50. This fee covers 10 meals in the dining hall—breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

To purchase a ticket, you may talk with the cashier or someone in the dining hall office.

Remember, it is an Honor Code violation to eat in the dining hall without paying. Please purchase a meal ticket and come dine with us! We enjoy your company!!

Thank you!!

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Letters to the Editor Policy

Everyone in the Meredith Community is invited to write a letter to the editor. All published letters must be typewritten with contact name and address and telephone number. All letters must be signed by the author, but names will be withheld from publication upon request. Submissions may be dropped in the *Herald* box next to the Cate Center box office. Deadline for submission is Tuesday at noon.