

Get the Story Right

It happened in Chattanooga. Four-year-old girls in a Sunday school class had been studying Bible stories.

Their enthusiastic teacher looked at the class and asked this question: “Does anyone know what today is?”

One of those little 4-year-old girls held up her hand and said, “Yes, today is Palm Sunday.”

The teacher exclaimed, “That’s fantastic! That’s wonderful! Now, does anyone know what next Sunday is?”

The same girl held up her hand and said, “Yes, next Sunday is Easter Sunday.”

Once again, the teacher responded, “That’s fantastic! Now, does anyone know what makes next Sunday Easter?”

Quickly, the same little girl replied, “Yes, next Sunday is Easter because Jesus rose from the grave.”

The teacher was very impressed that her student had correctly and confidently answered all her questions. But before the teacher could congratulate the student, the little girl added: “But if He sees His shadow, He has to go back in for six weeks.”

Obviously, it is important to get our stories straight. If not, rumors can get started and lives can be ruined. It’s that serious.

And since Saturday is Groundhog Day, we hope that furry prognosticator gets his prediction right (the way we would like it). We don’t need six more weeks of winter.

According to tradition, Feb. 2 is the date that the groundhog, or woodchuck, wakes up from winter hibernation and comes out of its burrow. The legend says that if the sun shines that day, the groundhog will be scared by its own shadow, return to its burrow, and winter will last another six weeks. If the day is cloudy and the groundhog doesn’t see its shadow, it will stay outside, and spring will come soon.



(more)

We've all experienced the desire to hide from circumstances that threaten us, just like the traditional groundhog. Fear is a problem with everyone to some degree. God told Isaiah that the Lord is the only One we are to fear (Isaiah 8:13). Fear will be replaced by faith if we can concentrate on pleasing the One who holds our destiny in His hands.

There is no need to be frightened by scary shadows around us as long as the Son is shining in us.

Then we can say with David ...

I prayed to the Lord, and He answered me. He freed me from all my fears (Psalm 34:4 NLT).

– Beecher Hunter