

Running Too Fast

An American hunter was in search of big game in West Africa. He was getting close to his prey when his hard-running native guides suddenly sat down to rest. The American protested to their leader. He threatened, implored, cajoled, offered bribes, but the natives wouldn't budge.

"But why," he asked the leader, "why must they stop now?"

The leader replied: "The men say they have hurried too fast. Their bodies have run off and left their souls behind. They must wait now for their souls to catch up."

Could that be one of our problems today? Our technology – as good as it is and as much as we have come to depend upon it – may be outrunning our souls, if we allow it.

We find ourselves today conducting more and more business online, searching through a maze of recorded voice prompts on a telephone call, and generally interacting with machines at an accelerating pace while personal contact between human beings suffers.

Apart from the business world, social priorities have changed as well. Neighbors and friends have given up the front porch talks and backyard activities in the evening to sit before computers and television sets in the seclusion of their respective homes.

Shall we wait for our souls to catch up?

--Beecher Hunter