

The Importance of Remembering

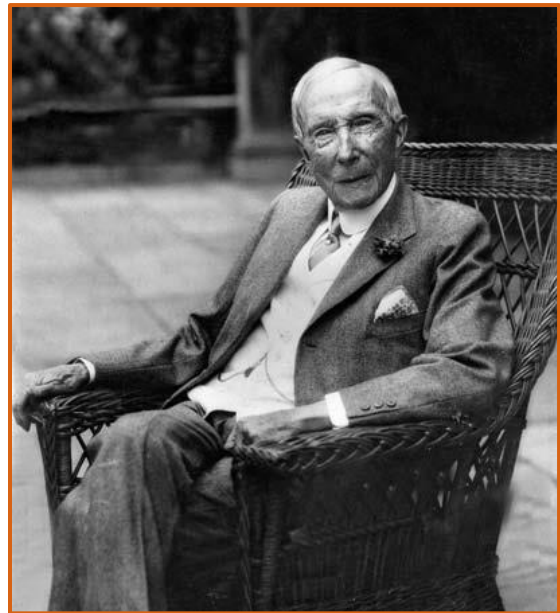
For the closing devotional at the 2017 annual management meeting, I shared the importance of remembering, which is defined as *to recall to the mind with effort; think of again*.

And I based it on Deuteronomy 4:9: *Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.*

This Perspective today and the one for tomorrow will expand on those devotional thoughts from AMM.

Remembering brings perspective

How many of you do not look at yourselves as wealthy, as rich? John D. Rockefeller is considered the richest man in American history. His net worth was \$336 billion, but adjusted to inflation would be almost \$7 trillion today. It is estimated that Bill Gates or Jeff Bezos might reach \$1 trillion next year, far short of Rockefeller.



Would you want Rockefeller's wealth if you had to leave where you are and return to his day? He never saw a television set or show, travel was difficult with no interstate system, medical technology and medicines were relatively primitive, long distance communication was unfavorable, air conditioning was in its infancy and scarcely known in public buildings. Surgery was often brutal and life spans were short.

In reality, in our day, we are far more comfortable and blessed with the conditions of life than that of the richest man in our country who ever lived. So remembering gives perspective.

Remembering brings peace

Edgar Guest wrote a famous poem – one of the greatest in American literature – that is often read at funerals. Many consider this the greatest poem every written for loved ones at death. Very simply, remembering brings peace in times of personal pain. Here it is:

(more)

Miss Me but Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little but not too long
And not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me but let me go.*

*For this is a journey that we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.
Miss Me But Let Me Go!*

– Edgar A. Guest

Remembering does, indeed, bring peace.

Tuesday: Part 2.

– Beecher Hunter