

The World We Live In

Life today is filled with paradox after paradox. That word is defined by *Merriam-Webster* as “a statement that is seemingly contradictory or opposed to common sense and yet is perhaps true.”

An essay, *The Paradox of Our Time*, was written by Dr. Bob Moorehead, former pastor of Seattle’s Overlake Christian Church, who retired in 1998 after 29 years in that position. Here are some of his observations:

THE PARADOX OF OUR TIME

- We have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints.
- We spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less.
- We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, yet less time.
- We have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment; more experts, but more problems.
- We have more gadgets, but less satisfaction.
- We have more medicine, but less wellness; we take more vitamins, but see fewer results.
- We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get angry too quickly, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too seldom, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.
- We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values.
- We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.
- We’ve learned how to make a living, but not a life; we’ve added years to life, not life to years.
- We’ve been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor.
- We’ve done larger things, but not better things.
- We’ve cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul.
- We’ve split the atom, but not our prejudice.
- We’ve learned to rush, but not to wait.
- We build more computers to hold more information to produce more copies than ever, but less communication.
- These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion; tall men, and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships.
- These are days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but broken homes.
- These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throw-away morality, one-night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to prevent, quiet or kill.
- It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stock room.

Indeed, these are the times.

– Beecher Hunter