

Of Fishing and Wintertime – April 10, 2003

Albert Camus is quoted as saying, "In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me lay an invincible summer."

I was on the phone with my realtor yesterday (19 February). He was down in Chinatown in Los Angeles having lunch with a friend and doing some shopping. It was sunny and 80 degrees. Every time we talk, he takes great satisfaction in pointing out to me the disparity between the weather we left when we moved here and the weather we have been having here.

The thing he can't seem to get through his head is that I like the weather here. Every time he dangles a hot day in February in front of me he expects me to leap for it as a fish does a fly, and no matter how many times I remind him that his bait is unappealing to me, he continues to dangle it in the vain hope that it will attract me.

They say the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Yet how many times do we find ourselves spiritually angling for something with bait that doesn't attract, doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results?

Is your prayer life working? Is your Bible study life working?
How about your church attendance (or not)?
How many of the things that you do in your spiritual experience are simple, unfulfilling habit as opposed to actually being beneficial? Having found that the old same things don't work, are you simply dormant, either going through the motions from rote or withdrawn from participation altogether?

Camus learned that the solution was there all along, but that he had been overlooking it.

What's staring you in the face today?
Are you trying to catch a spiritual experience with the same old bait?
Are you snowed in spiritually? Time to tie some new flies and break out the snow shovel.
Spiritual summer is just around the corner.