

17th January 2021



The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

And also with you

Call to worship

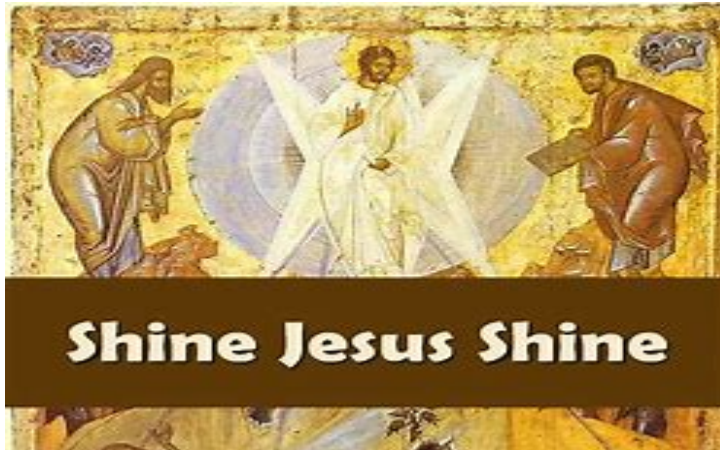
We rejoice and praise Your holy name today, O Lord, **because you have kept us from a destructive path.** We give thanks because Your Word gives us hope, **And we reflect on Your Word at all times.** You are the Source of deep-seated faith, **and our spirits are refreshed in your presence! Amen!**

(based on Psalm 1)

Silence- (Ask God to speak to you now)



The Peace Candle - Jesus came into the world, to be the light so people blinded by darkness could receive sight. We were once lost until one glorious day, when Jesus light shone upon us. Since Jesus light, came into our hearts to shine His world we are to walk in the light of Jesus, receiving the joy that overflows, His love, His light and peace Amen.



Shine Jesus shine

Youtube- Shine Jesus Shine (with lyrics)

•7 Dec 2015

D

[DarleneBAZ](#)

Lord, the light of Your love is shining
 In the midst of the darkness, shining
 Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us
 Set us free by the truth You now bring us
 Shine on me, shine on me

[Chorus]

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
 Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
 Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
 Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light**

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
 From the shadows into Your radiance
 By the blood, I may enter Your brightness
 Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
 Shine on me, shine on me

[Chorus]

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
 So our faces display Your likeness
 Ever changing from glory to glory
 Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story

Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
 Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
 Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
 Send forth Your word, Lord, and let, let there be light
 Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
 Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts, set them on fire
 Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
 Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light!

[Outro]

Lord, let there be light!
 Let there be light!

Prayer/ Lord Prayer

O God our Creator, in you alone are the riches of life. We come from the East and we come from the West knowing we follow, on our different roads, the same star to the same place so many did in the past. May we share what we know of its light, learn from each other the way to worship you, our only wealth, and serve the world with Gospel gold. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord who can be found in all places especially deep within our hearts, may his words bridge all divides and clear away the dark clouds which can hover over us,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen

Proverbs 1:20-33

Wisdom's Rebuke

²⁰ Out in the open wisdom calls aloud, she raises her voice in the public square;

²¹ on top of the wall^[a] she cries out, at the city gate she makes her speech:

²² "How long will you who are simple love your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge? ²³ Repent at my rebuke! Then I will pour out my thoughts to you, I will make known to you my teachings.²⁴ But

since you refuse to listen when I call and no one pays attention when I stretch out my hand,²⁵ since you disregard all my advice and do not accept my rebuke,²⁶ I in turn will laugh when disaster strikes you; I will mock when calamity overtakes you—²⁷ when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind, when distress and trouble overwhelm you.²⁸ "Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me,²⁹ since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the LORD. ³⁰ Since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke,³¹ they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes.³² For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; ³³ but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."



Come Immanuel

Godfrey Rust (b.1953)

*Come, Immanuel, God with us to be.
Come down from paradise and occupy
this dirty stable of humanity.
Come and live rough, as we do: come and die.*

*Come and be lonely as an orphaned child.
Come to where grief is harvested and stored.
Come to where empty aged minds run wild.
Come to the hospice and the cancer ward.*

Come, flee from tyrants as a refugee.
 Come, be betrayed by those you counted friends.
 Come and be tortured with no amnesty.
 Come as the means to justify all ends.

Come and be broken like a Christmas toy.
 Come, be completely human—then we'll know
 your sorrow may bring hope of lasting joy
 and *God above is God with us below.*

Immanuel (or Emmanuel) = Hebrew for 'God with us'

Proverbs 2:1-11

Moral benefits of wisdom

My child, listen to what I say, and treasure my commands. Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe Thanks be to God Amen.

Wonderful words of life

Youtube- Wonderful words of life •29 Sept 2010



Islington Baptist Church

1 Sing them over again to me,
 Wonderful words of life;
 Let me more of their beauty see,
 Wonderful words of life;

Words of life and beauty
Teach me faith and duty.

Refrain:

Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life;
Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life.

2 Christ, the blessed one, gives to all
Wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call,
Wonderful words of life;
All so freely given,
Woing us to heaven. [Refrain]

3 Sweetly echo the gospel call,
Wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all,
Wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior,
Sanctify forever. [Refrain]

Author: P. P. Bliss



Philip P. Bliss (b. Clearfield County, PA, 1838; d. Ashtabula, OH, 1876) left home as a young boy to make a living by working on farms and in lumber camps, all while trying to continue his schooling. He was converted at a revival meeting at age twelve. Bliss became an itinerant music teacher, making house calls on horseback during the winter, and during the summer attending the Normal Academy of Music in Genesco, New York. His first song was published in 1864, and in 1868 Dwight L. Moody advised him to

become a singing evangelist. For the last two years of his life Bliss travelled with Major D. W. Whittle and led the music at revival meetings in the Midwest and Southern United States.

Proverbs 2:10 - For wisdom will enter your heart
And knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

Job 28:28 - "And to man He said, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom;
And to depart from evil is understanding.'"

Exodus 31:3 - I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship,

Job 12:16 - "With Him are strength and sound wisdom,
The misled and the mis-leader belong to Him.

Ecclesiastes 7:11 - Wisdom along with an inheritance is good
And an advantage to those who see the sun.

Ecclesiastes 2:16 - For there is no lasting remembrance of the wise man as with the fool, inasmuch as in the coming days all will be forgotten. And how the wise man and the fool alike die!

Proverbs 24:5 - A wise man is strong,
And a man of knowledge increases power.

Proverbs 8:12 - "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion.

Reflection

Proverbs 1:20-22 : Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets, she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?"

Story or is it a test?

A long time ago in India there were six wise men and each of the wise men thought he knew everything there was to know. News of their great wisdom travelled far and wide throughout India until the news reached the ears of a King. He decided to offer a test to the six wise men to see if they really knew everything there was to know. In the message he added that thousands of people would attend so if they did not accept his invitation they would be seen as cowards.

Upon hearing about the King's test, the wise men all arrived at his kingdom as they had a reputation to preserve. He showed them a huge tent that he had erected in his courtyard and told them that all they had to do was to tell him what was inside the tent. "That will be easy," said the wise men.

The King replied, "Well, of course it will be easy, if you know all there is to know." The King then explained how the test was to be conducted. The tent was as big as a house and around the outside were six doorways into the tent. The wise men would each go into a different doorway but they would all be blindfolded when they entered. They would only be able to discover what was inside the tent by touch. "But this should not be a problem for you," said the King, "As you all know everything there is to know."

"Indeed!" Replied the wise men.

The first wise man was blindfolded and he entered through the first door. Inside the tent he suddenly bumped into something large and flat that stood in his way. He reached with his hands to discover that whatever it was stood as far as he could reach in either direction. He came out of the tent and said, "I know what's in the tent. It's a wall."

The second wise man then entered through the second door. He could feel something very different. In his hands he held something long and thin and flexible that felt rough to the touch with a frayed end. When he emerged from the tent he declared: "It's rope in the tent!"

Upon entering the tent through the third door the third wise man felt something long, thin, smooth and hard that bent slightly as it came to a sharp point. "It's a bent spear!" He told the King.

The fourth wise man came out and said, "I found something large and flappy that felt leathery and was high up off the ground so it must have been a flag on a pole."

The fifth wise man disagreed. When he came out of the tent he said, "It was solid and cylindrical and came up out of the ground and was very hard and rough. It is a tree trunk, or maybe a tree."

Finally, the sixth wise man went into the tent. He felt something long and slippery and bendy. He came running out of the tent and screamed, "It's a snake! I hate snakes! Aaagh!"

So, the first wise man thought it was a wall in the tent, the second wise man thought there was rope in there, the third wise man thought the King had put a bent spear in the tent, the fourth wise man thought there was a flag in there,

the fifth wise man thought it was a tree growing out of the ground and the sixth wise man thought he had met a snake in the tent.

1. A wall
2. A rope
3. A spear
4. A flag
5. A tree trunk
6. A snake

The six wise men stood there arguing about what they thought was in the tent for a long time before one of them said, "Hey, maybe the King is trying to trick us and maybe there are six different things in the tent." They all turned to the King and said, "Are there six different things in the tent?"

"No," replied the King. "There is only one thing in the tent and you have all touched the same thing. So, tell me what it is to pass the test."

The six wise men all looked at each other quite puzzled as to what was in the tent. 'What one thing could it be,' they thought to themselves, 'that would fit all the descriptions they had given?'

Once all the wise men had said what they thought was in the tent the King gave the order for the tent to be raised. A host of soldiers pulled on some ropes at the side and the tent slowly began to rise. When the tent had risen a few feet off the ground they could all see what appeared to be four tree trunks, two at the front and two at the back, standing under the tent. Eventually the tent was raised and it was revealed that inside the tent was...?? It was an elephant! None of the wise men had guessed that it was an elephant so the King said to them that this test had proved that they did not, after all, know all there was to know.

1. A wall - body
2. A rope - tail
3. A spear - tusk
4. A flag - ear
5. A tree trunk - leg
6. A snake - trunk



Did you work out what it was, or were you considering cheating and going to the end of the story...? how to have knowledge and much wisdom. I personally didn't work this puzzle out. Back in the 20th century there was a study where it was noted Universities promised students that by the end of their studies they would or should have acquired wisdom...By mid-century it was not wisdom promised, Universities were calling themselves places of knowledge...and by the end of the century they had scaled down their sights even more, now promising to give aspiring students information. Of course, it all depends on the student to take up the information given and advance with it. Wisdom how we all would like a little bit more wisdom or actually some wisdom in the first place...As I sat watching the news and what was taking place in America, the attack on the "The House of Representatives", ... As a hoard of rioters stormed and occupied the U.S. Capitol in Washington, the words being spoken to incite such an event...wisdom you may ask, where was it... for some can be blind and foolish as they are being told lies for the good of the one who preaches. As we hear many stories of events taking place, people doing what they believe is correct, we ask ourselves where is the wisdom in it all. Today where shall we find wisdom? Where do we find that practical ability to make our way wisely through life ? We live in an age where many stumble, lose their way and fall down. Our text is clearly crafted. It may have been used in Israel's wisdom literature renaissance, to instruct students in the characteristics of wisdom. You will have probably noticed that the introduction personifies Wisdom as a woman who cries out in the streets, stands and waits at the City gates where it is especially busy. This was the only way to enter or leave the city, so people had to go through the gates to attend to their fields during the day and return through the gates at night. City elders administered justice at the city gates. Prophets delivered prophecies there. Merchants conducted business there. Here Wisdom could be found, a woman selling her wares. When Lady Wisdom arrives, she cries out—makes an impassioned plea—pulls out all the stops to try to persuade the foolish to move to the camp of the wise. She assumes that the situation is not hopeless—that God has provided foolish people with the capacity for wisdom—that they can choose wisdom—and that their unhappy situation will reverse

itself if they do so. "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?" Here we have Wisdom no shrinking violet she is a teacher who actively passionately seeking out students, attempting to entice them, into the sphere of her instruction. In the hands of Wisdom all tuition is public education that dares to intrude into the realms of life, where people can be found, like the market place and the city square. Wisdom cares enough to go out to those who scoff at her and who do not like knowledge. Here she is looking, searching to demand a hearing... "I will pour out my thoughts to you, I will make my words known to you."

The purpose of the book of Proverbs is to teach us "to know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, to receive instruction in wise dealings, in righteousness, justice, and equity; to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth (1:2-4)." Proverbs aims to increase the learning of the wise and to give guidance to the one with understanding. This book wants to make us wise, to give us the skills and understanding to navigate life in a way that pleases God. In a way that brings us closer to God and uplifts us in times of darkness.

Our text today is best understood as a sermon although it can be hard to hear, its goal is to change the hearts and minds of the hearers". Here Lady Wisdom speaks at length about the consequences of foolishness, and as you read you will wonder why is Lady Wisdom laughing , isn't it hard to understand why laugh??

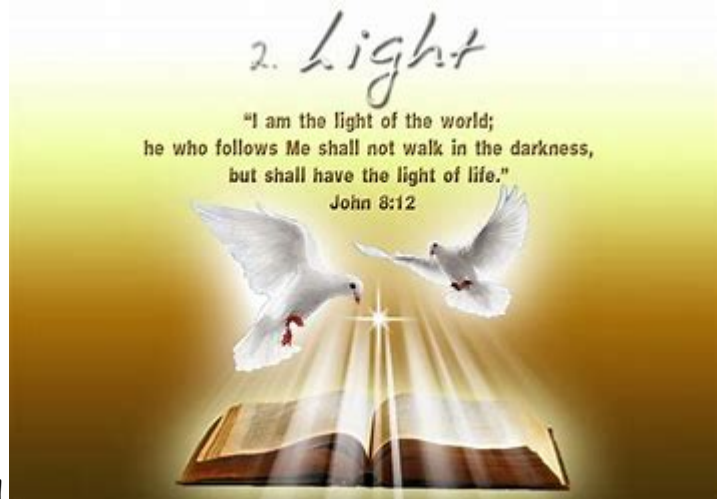
"I also will laugh at your disaster. I will mock when calamity overtakes you; when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when your disaster comes on like a whirlwind; when distress and anguish come on you."

This sounds rather inhuman and uncaring and we have to wonder what is going on...if Lady Wisdom is God, we have to ask ourselves, does He laugh at us when we are going through troubles and heart-break especially when we have been foolish...and have not listened to advice? As the rioters in America invaded the House of Representatives, I found it to be a joke. It was not funny, although I may have laughed out aloud as I sat and watched the events unfolding. It was not funny what was occurring was deadly serious, lives were put at risk and sadly life was taken...There are times when we laugh instead of crying. It isn't joyous laughter. It is the laughter of the broken heart. It is laughing to keep us from crying. Perhaps that is what is going on here. God has warned these foolish people over and over and over again—has pleaded with them—cajoled them—tried to woo them. They have rebuffed God's overtures again and again and again. At some point, they will find themselves suffering the consequences. And so what does he do, he laughs in sorrow.

Wisdom is, in fact, a divine gift that is granted by God whenever any believer asks. This is the clear teaching of James: *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."* James 1:5

As we moved into Level 4 and now back into lockdown for many of us, it is difficult. It might not have been a surprise, yet it was hard to hear, for so long in the Highlands we have been in level one only to be told you're going to have to stay at home, Protect the NHS. Save lives. We know there is a vaccine, there is hope, light at the end of the tunnel. It is the feeling of the lack of freedom, of being unable to be with family and friends again, going out without fear. It is putting on the tv news and hearing of how many people are dying each day, seeing our hospitals over run, worrying about our care homes, and hearing of poverty and people suffering due to this pandemic...yesterday, today and tomorrow will be the same... Lady Wisdom, says "Listening,"(v. 33a) must go beyond hearing with the ears. It must involve hearing with the heart so that the person will have an interior compass to steer away from foolish choices and toward wise choices. "But whoever listens to me will dwell securely, and will be at ease, without fear of harm" (v. 33).

The irony is that the foolish people who do silly things seem to be at ease, because they have foolishly chosen to disregard what is correct. Their current ease will therefore contribute to the disaster that awaits them we are told. But those who listen to Lady Wisdom "will dwell securely, and will be at ease, without fear of harm" (v. 33b). May the light of Christ shine down upon our foolishness for we can all do selfless and silly things which we regret latter. May we hear Lady Wisdom direct us to the one who leads us out of darkness into safety where our foolishness is washed away to a place where we laugh for joy and cry with happiness and are healed of all earthly traumas....Amen.



I Am the Light of The World

Youtube- Light of the World (Here I am to Worship) [with lyrics for congregations]

•28 Nov 2020



[Chet Valley Churches](#)

"Light of the World (Here I am to Worship)" was written by English song writer and priest Tim Hughes, published in 2001

Light of the world You stepped down into darkness

Opened my eyes, let me see Beauty that made this heart adore You

Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship Here I am to bow down Here I am to say that You're my God You're altogether lovely Altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

Oh so highly exalted Glorious in heaven above Humbly You came to the earth You created All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship Here I am to bow down Here I am to say that You're my God You're altogether lovely Altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross

Here I am to worship Here I am to bow down Here I am to say that You're my God You're altogether lovely Altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

Right hand of fellowship



I wave to you, Peace be with you.

Please give a peaceful wave to your friends and family and the stranger on the street



God's Wisdom; Man's Folly

We will never fully understand
No matter how much we try,
God's ways are outside our realm,
Along with the reasons 'why'

We analyse and intellectualise
What we do not understand,
We need God's wisdom in our hearts,
Not the intellect of man

I know we have so many questions,
But the answers we seldom find,
For we can never work God out,
Nor understand His mind

There's no searching God's understanding,
So infinite are His ways
New are His mercies and steadfast love
At the dawn of each new day

So wonderful are all His counsels,
His wisdom's too great for me,
He understands the whole universe
And the hurt inside, He sees
I wonder how almighty God,
All knowing and divine,
How He could care about my world
And give undivided time

But this is the complexity
Of the holy, great 'I Am',
We often do not fully grasp
And we fail to understand

Just how much God really loves us,
Beyond what we can comprehend
For God is more than omnipotent,
He is our dearest friend.

By M.S.Lowndes 1 Corinthians 1:10

Intercession Prayer

O God it is in you we come to worship to receive guidance and strength...its in you, who gives nourishment to move from day to day, and it's you who we can receive wisdom, comfort and encouragement. In a world where we can receive so much, we thank you for your direction and wisdom. As we face difficult situations, we turn to you and others for help. We know that you speak through people who can help us when we are in need. We give thanks for all the verbal help and guidance. We pray for all who work in the medical field, for all that they're undertaking to help people as ill health falls upon them. For our doctors and nurses in hospital on the coronavirus wards working long tiresome hours, for their expertise and all that they are doing, we give thanks and pray for their well-being. We pray for our care homes and all who live and work within these communities. For people at home who receive care and for all who work to help others so that they can live as normal a life as possible. We pray for people who are in need of food banks and are finding it hard to pay their bills and buy food. For all who are struggling with their mental health where each day is full of darkness and no hope. Lord in you we can turn for strength...we pray for all who are needing help and are feeling weak and have no strength to go on...in you we can receive comfort, we pray for all who grieve and as the numbers of deaths rise, we pray for all who are unwell, who are facing an untimely death, to all who pray and ask for your help as they watch their loved ones slip away from their sides... We pray for all who are organising funerals, for ministers and priest to all who take part in services...we pray for our undertakers and all that they do to help as we grieve. Lord we give thanks for our governments and all who are having to make difficult decisions...bless them and help each person as they decide what is best...we pray for their mental well in this time of distress. We pray for all who work in the emergency services who each day are at the end of a call to help and give assistance. In **Silence** hear our own very personal prayers. Lord hear all that we have to say, the words which we speak and those which come from deep within. We pray for our brothers and sisters who live abroad and where there is unrest, we ask for calm and peace. In you, we can face all things. Lord God, help us through these coming days of uncertainty and guide our thoughts and prayers where our spirits can be lifted up and we can receive rest upon you. In Jesus name Amen.



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Youtube-GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO. Antonio Vivaldi. Director: Antonio Fauró
•16 Jul 2013



[Solimusi Vocesparalapaz](#)

The refrain of the French Carol translated into English as "Angels We Have Heard on High" is in Latin as "Gloria in Excelsis Deo."



Gloria In Excelsis Deo

Gregorian

Angels we have heard on high
Singing sweetly o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains
Gloria in excelsis deo Gloria in excelsis deo

Come to bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee

Christ the lord, the newborn king
Gloria in excelsis deo Gloria in excelsis deo

See him in a manger laid
Whom the choirs of angels praise
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid
While our hearts in love we raise
Gloria in excelsis deo Gloria in excelsis deo
Gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis deo
Gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis deo
In excelsis deo
In excelsis deo
Songwriters: Johann Sebastian Bach, E. Harold Geer



Benediction

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go forth into the world, to fulfil our calling as the people of God, the body of Christ.

Go in peace, and may the blessings of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and accompany you throughout this week - may his light guide you, his strength support you, his grace give you joy, and his love inspire you - now and forevermore.

Three-fold - Amen



Joke

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

A mysterious magician offers a man two choices

One is a million pounds, and another is infinite wisdom.

After thinking for a while the man chooses infinite wisdom,

Snapping his fingers the magician shouts "Infinite wisdom." And points at the man while running away. Realising nothing has happened and he has just been scammed, he runs after the magician shouting "You have scammed me, I should have chosen a million pounds!"

The magician called back "See, you're getting smarter already!"

Old tribal wisdom says

Old tribal wisdom says that when you discover you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount. Businesses, however, often try other strategies. These include...

1. Buying a stronger whip.
2. Changing riders.
3. Saying things like "This is the way we always have ridden this horse"
4. Appointing a committee to study the horse.
5. Arranging to visit other sites to see how they ride dead horses.
6. Increasing the standards to ride dead horses.
7. Appointing a tiger team to revive the dead horse.
8. Creating a training session to increase our riding ability.

9. Comparing the state of dead horses in today's environment.
10. Change the requirements declaring that "This horse is not dead".
11. Hire contractors to ride the dead horse.
12. Harnessing several dead horses together for increased speed.
13. Declaring that "No horse is too dead to beat."
14. Providing additional funding to increase the horse's performance.
15. Do a CA Study to see if contractors can ride it cheaper.
16. Purchase a product to make dead horses run faster.
17. Declare the horse is now "better, faster and cheaper."
18. Form a quality circle to find uses for dead horses.
19. Revisit the performance requirements for horses.
20. Say this horse was procured with cost as an independent variable.
21. Promote the dead horse to a supervisory position.

