

A Precursor to the Beloved

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Education through Integration[™]

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1. After having studied over 44 hours a week, for 4 years, Ms. Delucchi graduated top in her class from the prestigious University of Notre Dame[®] with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and a GPA of 3.99. Since she could last remember, all she ever wanted to be in this world was a seventh grade Math teacher. She accepted employment 2266.1 miles away; only 34 hours and 51 minute drive from her home. Her starting pay is approximately \$29,149 year. With a Howard Dean like "Yeaaaahh" she wondered what on earth she would do with so much money. On her way to the car dealership, she was curious if she could afford a \$64,800 2004 Lexus LX 470[®] Sport Utility vehicle and rent of \$650/month in the thriving metropolis of Puyallup, WA. In a 60 short months, at \$1193.39/month, she knew she could do it. Besides, she was top in her class!! She deserves this! If roughly 29% of her income (single with no dependents) goes to taxes, medical, etc. how much remains or is missing a month after paying for rent and her Lexus[®]?
2. On Tuesday, September 11, 2001 the world changed forever. The twin towers of the World Trade Center were places of employment for some 50,000 people; with 2830 people known dead & missing. Some 23,000 people were the target of a third plane aimed at the Pentagon; the latest count shows that 123 lost their lives. American Airlines[®] Flight 77 a Boeing[®] 757 that was flown into the outside of the Pentagon could have carried up to 289 people, yet 64 were aboard. American Airlines[®] Flight 11a Boeing[®] 767 could have had up to 351 people aboard, but carried 92. United Airlines[®] Flight 175 Another Boeing[®] 767 that could have sat 351 people had 65 people on board. United Airlines[®] Flight 93 a Boeing[®] 757 was the smallest flight to be hijacked with 45 people aboard out of a possible 289. Assuming all of the flights were full as well as the Pentagon and the Twin Towers fully occupied, how many more people would have possibly died?
3. (*T. Davies, University of South Dakota*). The bill for all ten people at dinner comes to \$100. If they paid their bill the way we pay our taxes. The first four, the poorest -- would pay \$0; the fifth \$1, the sixth \$3, the seventh \$7, the eighth \$12, the ninth \$18, and the tenth-- the richest --\$59. The ten ate dinner in the restaurant every day and seemed quite happy with the arrangement until one day; the owner threw them a curve (in tax language a tax cut). "Since you are all such good customers," he said, "I'm going to reduce the cost of your daily meal by \$20." So now dinner for the ten only cost \$80.00. So the first four men were unaffected. They would still eat for free. But what about the other six? How could they divvy up the \$20 windfall so that everyone would get his "fair share?" The six people realized that \$20 divided by six is \$3.33. But if they subtracted that from everybody's share, then the fifth man and the sixth man would end up being PAID to eat their meal. So the restaurant owner suggested that it would be fair to reduce each man's bill by roughly the same amount, and he proceeded to work out the amounts each should pay. And so the fifth man paid nothing, the sixth pitched in \$2, the seventh paid \$5, the eighth paid \$9, the ninth paid \$12, leaving the tenth man with a bill of \$52 instead of his earlier \$59. Each of the six was better off than before. And the first four continued to eat for free. But once outside the restaurant, they began to compare their savings. "I only got a dollar out of the \$20," declared the sixth man, but he, pointing to the tenth. "But he got \$7!" "Yeah, that's right," exclaimed the fifth man, "I only saved a dollar, too, and it's unfair that he got seven times more than me!" That's true!" shouted the seventh man, why should he get \$7 back when I got only \$2?" The rich get all the breaks!" Wait a minute," yelled the first four men in unison, "We didn't get anything at all. The system exploits the poor!" The next day, the "rich" one skipped dinner and they were \$52 short. In your opinion, does this seem reasonable? Explain. What is your solution to taxes?