

LEA Weekly Devotion

Touché, Cliché series—challenging tired phrases to new life through Scripture

Week of May 17, 2020

Read this first: [Ephesians 1:15–23](#)

Be-All and End-All

“Christ is more important than anything in this world or in the next world. God put everything under his power. And God made him the head over everything in the church” (Eph. 1:21b–22).

Be-all and end-all—a truthful cliché that goes way back in history. Most etymologists would tell you that this cliché bugs them. No, wait. That would be an entomologist. Etymologists would credit Shakespeare for creating the phrase muttered in a scene from Macbeth. That would make it go back to the early 1600s.*

Being a self-proclaimed edomologist, I maintain that that the phrase goes back to Genesis 3:15, year unknown since Roman numerals hadn’t been invented yet. You might remember that Genesis 3:15 is where God promised serpent Satan a good stomping for his role in ruining the world.

Jesus Christ was the promised stomper—God’s Be-All and End-All for the problem of sin, the essential and ultimate Savior from sin, death, and the devil.

If only everyone believed that.

Bruised Satan still hisses, seducing both aspiring and expiring people to search for alternative means of success and meaning—something that puts themselves “in charge.” And that’s where you come in. You will need courage and knowledge and perseverance—you already have faith from the Holy Spirit. And you don’t have to travel far for your mission. Among your students and their families, you’ll find unbelievers, disbelievers, the apathetic, and the ignorant.

Tell them how Christ is your Be-All and End-All. Tell them He is theirs too. They may be especially open to hearing the Good News in these dark days of bad news and fake news.

God be with you. (You didn’t need me to say it. He already is!)

[Amen, King Jesus!](#)

*Wiktionary

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