

*"How is the gold become dim! how is the most fine gold changed!"
Lamentations 4:1*

Gold! The most precious metal on earth is prized for its malleability and luster. It does not corrode or tarnish. It can be used to cover and beautify the most common of objects. Scripture likens our faith to gold. Our faith is the currency of Heaven. It takes the comely and makes it lovely. It purchases to us a great reward. It allows us to



exchange our filthy rags for the spotless robes of righteousness. We can proudly display the Bread of Life once we've covered our comeliness with the gold of heaven. Sadly, our gold has started to lose its luster in this day and age of paganism. We seem to have adopted the philosophies of this world when it comes to evangelizing. "We have to be careful not to *offend* anyone's sensibilities with the Gospel." Would we feel the same way if they were plunging to their death over a precipice? Would we worry about "feelings, or would we simply call out a warning? "Political correctness" is an oxymoron at best. That's like saying, "truthful lie." Since when have politicians in general been correct about anything? I think you get my point. There is a story about a "swimmer" who kept diving into the lazy river to warn the "floaters" of the deadly falls at the end of the river. Some believed him and got out of the river, and some didn't. Some were complaining that the "swimmer should mind his own business, and leave people alone, but the "swimmer" doggedly kept on warning the "floaters" as they slowly drifted past towards their doom. Like the "swimmer," we should doggedly pursue the "floaters" with the hope that some may actually believe us, and leave the lazy river of death for the shores of Heaven. We need to constantly scan for the "floaters" as they drift past us so that we may warn them of their inevitable demise. We must convince them to come ashore, or has our "gold become so dim that it no longer attracts?

*"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."
1 Peter 1:7-9*