

## ***One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!***

### **# 67 “*Describe my shoe*”**

Life is a learning experience. Many of my lessons came from our children—some while they were young, but many of the best and most lasting teachings came after they were grown with expertise and experiences I had never known. Here is one example.

Our eldest son spent much of his adult life conducting Bible study groups in Israel and other areas of the Mideast. I learned a lot as we traveled together and talked about various Biblical issues. But he surprised me one day by declaring, “You think like a Greek.”

When I inquired what he meant, His response forever changed my view of the Biblical world. “*Describe my shoe*”, he said. Somewhat puzzled, I looked down and told him what I saw: “It is brown, leather, somewhat used, turned up a bit at the toe and about ten or twelve inches long.” “See”, he responded, “you think like a Greek.” Then he added the punch line: “Those in the Western world think in terms of *form*. A person from the Mideast would have told me, ‘It’s for walking’. They think in terms of *function*.”

My view of the Bible, and how to study it, were never the same again. That conversation was the beginning of a series of eye-openers as we began to look at the Bible from the writer’s perspective and their time and place. Many of my long held views changed. Some dramatically!

How grateful I am that we can learn from our children—if we will listen. Even when they say, “*Describe my shoe*”

*From Grandpa With Love*

#### **A Note From the Writer**

Moving into my nineties caused me to reminisce. It was eye-opening to realize how much I had been changed by one-liners. I decided some of these might give others a new insight or a chuckle, so—enjoy! You can reproduce this material, provided the copies are complete, including this copyright note, and circulated free of charge. © 2018 Marvin J. Martin