

Unwrapping the present:

1. Bathsheba reminds us that the Bible accurately describes the human condition.

Unwrapping the present:

2. The way Matthew includes Bathsheba in Jesus' lineage is a reminder that we are all in need God's help.

Unwrapping the present:

1. Bathsheba reminds us that the Bible accurately describes the human condition.

Unwrapping the present:

Reaction #1: "True BUT I'm not that bad! I'm basically a good person."

the human condition.



SNL: "Stuart Smalley"

Unwrapping the present:

Reaction #1: *"True BUT I'm not that bad! I'm basically a good person."*

the human condition.

"The depravity of man is at once the most empirically verifiable reality but at the same time the most intellectually resisted fact."

-Malcolm Muggeridge



Unwrapping the present:

Reaction #2: *"Yes I know what a failure I am and there is no way God would want to have anything to do with me!"*

the human condition.

Unwrapping the present:

Reaction #3: "The clear issue is my own sin. Repentance and Jesus' leadership is what I need."

the human condition.

Unwrapping the present:

Chaos in Ferguson as dozens defy curfew, protest descends into violence

PROTESTERS DEFY A CURFEW Sunday before smoke and tear gas was fired to disperse crowds outraged over the shooting of unarmed teenager last week. Ferguson, Mo.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL U.S.

Battle Rages Over Senate Report on CIA Interrogation Techniques

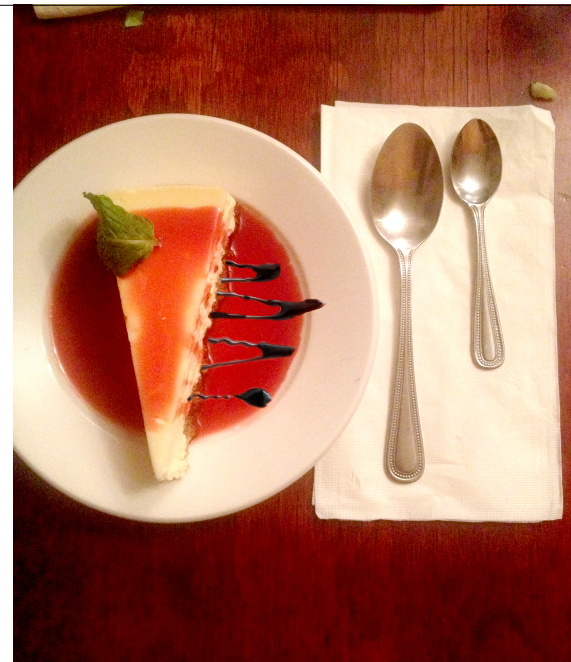
After Attack by Senate Democrats, Brennan Aims to Maintain Trust in Agency

minds

Noah's Journal

Unwrapping the present:

3. Bathsheba reminds us that God's grace is meant to be both admired and taken advantage of.



We are all meant to be mothers of God. What good is it to me if this eternal birth of the divine Son takes place unceasingly but does not take place within myself? And, what good is it to me if Mary is full of grace if I am not also full of grace? What good is it to me for the Creator to give birth to his Son if I do not also give birth to him in my time and my culture? This, then, is the fullness of time: When the Son of God is begotten in us.

-Meister Eckhart

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God's Grace is to be
taken advantage of.**

