

## The Butterfly Effect

*Nothing under the sun is insignificant to God*

The butterfly effect is a term used in Chaos Theory to describe how tiny variations can affect giant systems, and complex systems, like weather patterns.

- Chaos Theory: studies the behavior of dynamical systems that are highly sensitive to initial conditions. Small differences in initial conditions yield widely diverging outcomes for chaotic systems, rendering long-term prediction impossible in general.

An early pioneer of the theory was Edward Lorenz whose interest in chaos came about accidentally through his work on weather prediction in 1961. Lorenz was using a simple digital computer to run his weather simulation. He wanted to see a sequence of data again and to save time he started the simulation in the middle of its course. He was able to do this by entering a printout of the data corresponding to conditions in the middle of his simulation which he had calculated the last time.

To his surprise the weather that the machine began to predict was completely different from the weather calculated before. Lorenz tracked this down to the computer printout. The computer worked with 6-digit precision, but the printout rounded variables off to a 3-digit number, so a value like 0.506127 was printed as 0.506. This difference is tiny and the consensus at the time would have been that it should have had practically no effect. However Lorenz had discovered that small changes in initial conditions produced large changes in the long-term outcome. Lorenz's discovery, which gave its name to Lorenz attractors, showed that even detailed atmospheric modelling cannot in general make long-term weather predictions. Weather is usually predictable only about a week ahead.

### The Butterfly Effect of Our Lives Upon Others

Nothing we do for God no matter how small is insignificant; all work for the Lord bears fruit. One small thing done for the Lord can lead to long term changes and blessing for us and others. One testimony to a young man wrapping up shoes leads to his salvation and through that the salvation of thousands if not millions of others. Be faithful in God's work and He will make fruitful that work which he has called you to do. **Romans 14:7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.**

### D.L.Moody (1837-1899)

At seventeen years of age, Moody, tired of farm life and ambitious to work his way upward in the world, decided to go to Boston. He arrived there without any money, and tried in vain to find work until he was almost in despair. He then found employment with an uncle who was in the shoe business. He succeeded well as a salesman, and became a regular attendant at the Mount Vernon Congregational Sunday School. Having but little schooling, he took but little part in the discussions in the class in Sunday School, but gradually became deeply interested in the study of the Bible, and finally took part in the discussions in the class. His teacher, Mr. Kimball, took great interest in him, and gradually led him to see the plan of salvation until all that was necessary was a personal interview to lead him to Christ. Mr. Kimball prayerfully sought for a proper time for this interview.

"I determined to speak to him about Christ and about his soul," says Mr. Kimball, "and started down to Holton's shoe store. When I was nearly there I began to wonder whether I ought to go in just then during business hours. I thought that possibly my call might embarrass the boy, and that when I went away the other clerks would ask who I was, and taunt him with my efforts in trying to make him a good boy. In the meantime I had passed the store, and discovering this, I determined to make a dash for it and have it over at once. I found Moody in the back part of the building wrapping up shoes. I went up to him at once, and putting my hand on his shoulder, I made what I afterward thought was a very weak plea for Christ. I don't know just what words I used, nor could Mr. Moody tell. I simply told him of Christ's love for him and the love Christ wanted in return. That was all there was. It seemed the young man was just ready for the light that then broke upon him, and there, in the back of the store in Boston, he gave himself and his life to Christ."

D. L. Moody was undoubtedly one of the greatest evangelists of all time. The meetings held by Moody and Sankey were among the greatest the world has ever known. They were the means under God of arousing the church to new life and activity, and were the means of sweeping tens of thousands of persons into the kingdom of God.

Mr. Moody was one of the weak instruments which God has chosen to confound the mighty. Like Christmas Evans, he had very little education before his conversion to Christ. At seventeen years of age he could scarcely read or write, and in a Bible class he could not turn to the book of John but searched for it in the Old Testament. After his conversion he became a proficient scholar. Few men have learned so much in the school of observation

D. L. Moody went on to found the Northfield Schools in Massachusetts, Moody Church and Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, and the Colportage Association.

### **God Used D.L. Moody Because...**

#### **He Surrendered**

"D. L. Moody was a fully surrendered man. Every ounce of that two-hundred-and-eighty -pound body of his belonged to God; everything he was and everything he had, belonged wholly to God."

#### **Psalms 143:10**

**10** Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

#### **Luke 9:23**

**23** And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

#### **James 1:22**

**22** But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

#### **He Was A Man Of Prayer**

" Mr. Moody was in the deepest and most meaningful sense a man of prayer. People oftentimes say to me: "Well, I went many miles to see and to hear D. L. Moody and

he certainly was a wonderful preacher." Yes, D. L. Moody certainly was a wonderful preacher; taking it all in all, the most wonderful preacher I have ever heard, and it was a great privilege to hear him preach as he alone could preach; but out of a very intimate acquaintance with him I wish to testify that he was a far greater pray-er than he was preacher."

### **Philippians 4:6**

**6** Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God

### **Ephesians 6:18**

**18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

### **He Was A Student Of The Bible**

"Mr. Moody was a student, a profound and practical student of the one Book that is more worth studying than all other books in the world put together; he was a student of the Bible.

Every day of his life, I have reason for believing, he arose very early in the morning to study the Word of God, way down to the close of his life. Mr. Moody used to rise about four o'clock in the morning to study the Bible. He would say to me: "If I am going to get in any study, I have got to get up before the other folks get up"; and he would shut himself up in a remote room in his house, alone with his God and his Bible."

### **II Timothy 2:15**

**15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

### **II Timothy 3:16,17**

**16** All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

**17** That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

### **Matthew 4:4**

**4** But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

### **He Was A Humble Man**

"D.L. Moody was because he was a humble man. I think D. L. Moody was the humblest man I ever knew in all my life. He loved to quote the words of another; "Faith gets the most; love works the most; but humility keeps the most. " He made no pretense to a humility he did not possess. In his heart of hearts he constantly underestimated himself, and overestimated others."

## **I Peter 5:5**

**5** Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

## **Isaiah 57:15**

**15** For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

## **James 4:6**

**6** But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

## **He Was Free From The Love Of Money**

Mr. Moody might have been a wealthy man, but money had no charms for him. He loved to gather money for God's work; he refused to accumulate money for himself. He told me during the World's Fair that if he had taken, for himself, the royalties on the hymnbooks which he had published, they would have amounted, at that time, to a million dollars. But Mr. Moody refused to touch the money.

## **I Timothy 6:10**

**10** For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

## **He Had A Passion For The Salvation Of The Lost**

Mr. Moody made the resolution, shortly after he himself was saved, that he would never let twenty-four hours pass over his head without speaking to at least one person about his soul. His was a very busy life, and sometimes he would forget his resolution until the last hour, and sometimes he would get out of bed, dress, go out and talk to someone about his soul in order that he might not let one day pass without having definitely told at least one of his fellow-mortals about his need and the Savior who could meet it.

## **Romans 9:1-4**

**1** I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,

**2** That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart.

**3** For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

**4** Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service *of God*, and the promises;

## **He Was Endued With the Power Of The Holy Spirit**

"D. L. Moody had a very definite endowment with power from on High, a very clear and definite baptism with the Holy Ghost. Moody knew he had "the baptism with the Holy Ghost"; he had no doubt about it."

**John 14:26**

**26** But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

**Acts 1:8**

**8** But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

**II Corinthians 4:7**

**7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

Through one person reaching out to Mr. Moody and telling him of Christ's love for him. His life was change which led to Mr. Moody changing the lives of many others. The initial condition of Mr. Moody's life as a lost soul was changed when the plan of salvation was presented to him. The Butter Fly Effect so to speak was begun and the beginnings of Christ' work in Mr. Moody led to the evangelization of many, and many souls won to Christ.

We to can have a Butter Fly Effect upon others as we live a Christ like Life and tell others of Christ's love for them. We are fully empowered when we fully SURRENDER and become MEN AND WOMEN OF PRAYER. We empower our witness through STUDY OF THE BIBLE. We are effective when HUMBLE IN OUR WORK and FREE FROM GREED AND LOVE OF MONEY. We need a PASSION FOR THE LOST and must be ENDUED WITH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

JESUS SAVES