

Quotable Quotes Worth Quoting
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Long (long) ago, in a school system far away, I was a student of McLean Junior High School. My science teacher, Mr. Brenton, must have been a frustrated comedian. He was always cracking jokes and popping off one-liners hoping to entertain not always eager science students. He told us that he would give us a higher grade if we laughed at all of his jokes. Years later, when I became a teacher, I used to tell my students the very same thing. Thanks, Mr. Brenton.

Mr. Brenton loved to tease me about my name—Legg. He loved to tell the class they'd have to stand on their own two legs in order not to squash Miss Legg's legs. At least once a week, he'd say, "It's a good thing your parents didn't name you Armanda because then you would be known as Armanda Legg." Then he'd grin really big and say, "Get it? That's funny." Yeah, I get it. Thanks, Mr. Brenton.

Funny thing is, Mr. Brenton, I wonder how big you'd grin if you knew that all these years later, your sweet and gracious daughter, Sandy Boswell, is of my most precious friends? Her constant encouragement and support and prayers for me keep me standing on my own two legs. Many, many thanks, Mr. Brenton!

Just for the fun of it, I looked up the meaning of the idiomatic phrase, "an arm and a leg." It was on the internet, so you know it's gotta be true. I also saw a list of idioms that quote the Bible.

"Nothing but skin and bones" and "by the skin of my teeth," come from Job 19:20. What about that "fly in the ointment?" Read the KJV of Ecclesiastes 10:1. Something so small it is merely a "drop in the bucket?" That's what was said about the nations in Isaiah 40:15. What about "the blind leading the blind?" Jesus said in Matthew 15:14, "If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit."

My grandmother used to say "a leopard can't change his spots." I wonder if she knew she was quoting Jeremiah 13:23? I'm sure that in 1965, those Byrds knew they were quoting Ecclesiastes 3 when they sang, "Turn! Turn! Turn!" When we shake our heads in dismay and say, "How the mighty have fallen," we might not recognize we are quoting King David when he was mourning for King Saul. Something bad about to happen? We'll say we see "the writing on the wall," which Daniel 5 tells us was a very bad thing for King Belshazzar.

I know it's not an idiom, or a pithy proverb, or some one-liner that we use to get laughs, but there is one quote from the Bible that reaches into my heart and grabs hold of my soul. Romans 5:8 says, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." That's a sweet, gracious, and precious quote. It's worth quoting, don't you think, Mr. Brenton?