

Letter 142
Employee Appreciation Day
2012-10-04

Dear Dan,

In the summer months after the Day of 7 I took a job with (G4) that lasted two only weeks. I had to quit that job too because the lower back pain that forced me to quit from (G2) hadn't healed yet.

But something happened during the two weeks that I was there.

On the weekend before the Monday that I was to start work with (G4), I went to see the movie X-Men in the theater. I really related to that movie, as many parts of it seemed to coincide with the spiritual battles I had just been exposed to. Afterwards on the way home I stopped for a snack at Dennys in (L18).

I took a place at the counter two seats over from a young man that was studying a chessboard. His chess set reminded me of a scene in the movie I just came from where Dr. Xavier was playing chess with his rival, Magneto. Since I was hyped up from the movie and also played chess, I started up a conversation with the young man.

We talked for a bit, and then he invited me to join him someday at a coffee shop in Seattle where people played chess. He seemed a likable fellow and without any hidden agendas, so after some thought I suggested that we trade email addresses and told him I would be interested if my schedule permitted. He agreed and after the exchange we parted company. I remember that his email had the name "Traxler" in it. When I commented and wondered about the name (as it sounded unique), he said it was the name of a chess master that he studied.

During the week that followed, (M) decided to go over to the resort on the lakes at (L19) for a family function that would last more than a few days. She wanted me to go with her, but we decided I should stay home since there really wasn't enough time for me to go over for the weekend, leaving on Saturday just to drive home Sunday and be ready for work on Monday.

So, with (M) being out of town on the next weekend, I saw the opportunity to email the young man to arrange a time and place to meet. We decided on Mercer Island Dennys. This was very convenient as (G4) was having their annual "employee appreciation day" at a park on the island not far from the restaurant. I would meet the young man at about 2PM, just after the (G4) employee functions were over with.

I got to the park with what I thought was plenty of time to participate in the (G4) party, but found out that I had arrived just at the end of the festivities. So I left there and went over to Dennys to wait for the young man to arrive.

Upon his arrival I left my truck in the Dennys parking lot and got into the young man's car. Then we proceeded into Seattle, where he picked a place to park not far from where the coffee shop was.

We walked for a bit and then went inside a building and upstairs where the coffee shop was. We enjoyed our beverages and played a few games of chess, then left.

While walking back to his car he mentioned that he had a girlfriend that he thought might be a lesbian. He told me of a "gay" bar where she would sometimes go called "The Wild Rose".

After getting to the car he told me of another place he liked not far from there that had all kinds of old-school video games. I said I'd like to go there too, so we went.

Going into the video arcade was like entering a time machine. All the old video games that I had played as a young man were there. Pac-Man, Space Invaders, Joust, Asteroids, Lunar Lander, Tempest, the list goes on. I couldn't believe it. After playing for a while the shop started to close to gaming for the night as it doubled as a music venue, so a band was starting to set up their equipment and instruments for a later performance just as we were ready to leave.

We got back to his car and drove back to Mercer Island Dennys. After I thanked the young man many times for the good time, we parted company. That was the last time I saw him, and when I tried to send another email later on to see if he wanted to play chess again at Dennys, the email was returned with a "no such address" error message.

As I drove home I reflected on many things about what just happened. And as usual, the Lord had already pre-arranged a "Kingdom Coincidence" as a sign to me.

Not only did the young man play chess, but also he had the same name as Dr. Xavier's opponent in X-Men. Magneto's given name was Erik, and that was the name the young man gave to me as we sat and talked at Dennys.

So I pondered that entire meeting and subsequent "day out" with Erik for a while before the Lord, and then I began to know a few things, which I will discuss in the commentary when I write it.

Blessings...

R. C. Theophilus

P. S. That day out with Erik was a healing experience for me, and a rare gift from our Father in Heaven. At the same time, the Lord revealed another "target of opportunity" in His war on Satan. What I lost by being late to the (G4) employee function was more than replaced by a "private venue" given to me personally by the Lord. An "Employee Appreciation Day" custom fit just for me, his adopted son.