

said, "When I saw you in such despair, I knew that God must have died." That dramatic approach reminded her that God was not dead, and that He was still in control, even in distressful and unhappy situations!

The need to learn to respond to bad news in a really Christian way came home to me about a year ago when I visited a specialist for a urinary tract infection and later noticed at the bottom of the bill a notation which said "Prognosis: suspect prostate cancer." That notation gave me some pause in terms of the possible need of planning a shorter career and of arranging matters for my wife's future, but it was comforting to be able to put these questions in God's hands for disposal according to His good pleasure. I do confess that I was somewhat relieved a week later when I returned and asked the doctor what the prognosis meant and he said that he always added that notation to the bill of every man over a certain age!

CONCLUSION

Let us ask ourselves the question: "Do I really believe in God? Does my life really reflect my belief in God?"

A Greek philosopher named Pyrrho (who lived 360-275 B.C.) was said to be skeptical of everything. He claimed that we can be certain of nothing, not even of the most trivial assertions (except, of course, the assertion that we can be certain of nothing, which I suppose he did not regard as trivial!). He maintained that there was never any reason for preferring one option to another. Pyrrho professed complete indifference to life; and said he was not afraid of wagons, precipices, and dogs. Once a friend saved him from serious danger, but Pyrrho said it made no difference to him. On one occasion, however, he was frightened by a vicious dog and climbed a tree! When he was accused of inconsistency, he said it was a hard thing to lay aside humanity altogether!

That one action of climbing a tree in the face of real danger showed his true beliefs. In the light of that response, his other actions seem to be