

December 19, 2020

THE LAST TWO CHRISTMAS EGGS

Barna Magyarosi was struck by enticing smells as he climbed the stairs to his family's apartment on the top floor of the building. It was Christmas Eve in the 1980s in communist Romania, and it seemed that all the neighbors were baking cakes at the same time! He anticipated that something special would be waiting for him as well, but he was disappointed when he realized that the mouth-watering smells ended when he entered his apartment!

"Aren't we also having something special for Christmas?" Barna asked his mother, Genevieve. "I haven't yet found a recipe for making a cake using just two eggs," she answered, feeling frustrated for not being able to provide a treat for her children. She then went into another room, closed the door, and cried to God for help. Like the poor widow, she had been faithfully putting God first, returning her tithe even during the most difficult times. Deciding to believe in His promises and that He would provide for her family, she felt peace in her heart.

A few minutes later, one of the neighbors knocked on the door and asked if Genevieve had two eggs she could borrow, because she didn't have enough for her Christmas cake.

Trusting in God's provision, Genevieve gave the neighbor her remaining two eggs. She was happy to help someone, but her heart was aching at the thought that her three children were hoping for a cake that evening. Moved by principle, however, she put God first, others second, and her own desires last.

Fifteen minutes later, a stranger knocked at their door. Because Barna's father worked in a pharmacy depot, he often helped people have access to rare medicines, and the stranger was a grateful person whom Barna's father had helped the previous summer. The man had felt the desire that morning to take oil, flour, sugar, and eggs to Barna's family. Now, they could have a cake! (Barna Magyarosi is now the secretary of the Inter-European Division.)

APPEAL: God has thousands of windows He can open when we only see closed doors! Let's exercise trust in His supernatural provision as we worship Him with tithes and offerings—a small part of the blessings already received!

PRAYER: Dear Lord, please accept what we bring today, from what You have kindly provided.

