

Free Press

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DEAR friends,
As I sit here writing this, and while doing so have gone off-line for a moment, rarely have I felt better. Why? It's like this:

Switching on my laptop this morning after a whole day off from technology (Monday being Margaret's and my day off together), I went back on to find two days' worth of e-mails plus umpteen documents to be printed, and replies to make by pressing the reply button.

Only, today, the printer refuses to work and the reply button on the laptop only works sometimes. So I have spent much of the morning writing out in hand what I would normally print. And I have rarely enjoyed myself more.

By writing something out slowly and carefully, prayerfully even, I have time to think as I write and I can tell you that two of the manuscripts I have just dotted down are from people who e-mailed me about their loved ones in connection with funerals.

And by writing down what they have already

printed I can put myself in their situations much better than by simply pressing a printer button, and hopefully on the day I may deliver a much more personal tribute because of it.

So whereas before I would have blown my top if my technology did not work, not so today.

I am actually relishing the opportunity to go back to pen and paper and may do so much more in future. There is a lesson in all this. Give time, take time, and make the best of that time. Try and think before you press that button. Life is all too easy today, and it does us good to be reminded sometimes how we managed before all the "wizardry".

You need only think of The Bible, the greatest Book of Good News there is, carefully written by hand during years of preparation, by devoted and prayerful people, and long before the first printing press was thought about.

Right, back to pen and paper before I e-mail the editor (assuming the e-mail works of course.)

Thought for
the weak



with the Rev Preben
Andersen

Rev Preben Andersen