

Hipness vs. Happiness

It is hip to do
your own thing;
to be happy,
do your Father's will..
It is hip to carve out
your own path;
to be happy,
follow the Lord's Way.
It is hip to chase
your own ideas;
to be happy,
cherish the Truth.

"Protect yourself"
is the slogan of the hip.
"Invest your selves"
is the secret of the happy

Hipness hoards
what you have;
happiness exults
in giving away.
Hipness knows
what to avoid;
happiness intuits
what to pursue.
Hipness lies
on the surface;
happiness plunges
into the deep.

It is hip to go
through life
cool and detached;
with the happy
you travel warm
and in good company.

Hipness is careful and cautious;
happiness is more adventurous.
Hipness bewails and decries;
happiness helps and heals.
Hipness is suspicious and
circumspect;
happiness accepts and
embraces.

It is hip to resist
totalitarianism;
the happy are immersed
in totality.
It is hip to hedge
your bets;
the happy take a chance
on God.

The house of the hip
is neat and tidy;
the mansion of happiness
tolerates the messy.
The road of the hip
is marked and paved;
the highway of happiness
is a path to explore.
The hype of the hip
is cant and cacophony;
the song of happiness
is chant and harmony.

The most you get
from the hip
is guarded respect;
the least you get
from the happy
is a big hug.

So, while
"Do your own thing"
is at the gate to
hipdom,
by doing God's thing
the happy enter the
Kingdom.

© Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski
December 7, 1997
Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com
www.fatherwaltersparish.org