

My “Special” Angel Coin – by Lorelei Pepe

I believe God gives us signs of His presence and caring and shows His love for us in the form of angels, objects and also in the ways He reveals Himself through other people. Something as simple as a penny on the ground, or a feather, I believe is a sign too. I know they show up for me when I am troubled or questioning something. I think if we are aware, we can find the signs, all we have to do is look for them.

When I moved from Florida to my New Jersey apartment, I had to use the washer/dryer down in the basement as I had not purchased my own yet. It was a chore to go down the 14 back steps lugging the laundry up and down. It was especially hard in the wintertime. Also, there is only one washer/dryer and there are 4 units in the building, so sometimes I had to wait or return later.

I also had numerous problems moving into the apartment. There were all kinds of delays in my closing, getting my furniture delivered and then having to deal with squirrels that came from the attic. I was certainly traumatized by all this and was feeling quite down one early morning when I was bringing my laundry down to the basement. So, I just sat and watched the clothes wash and finish while wishing things were better. I was at the point of tears. When the wash cycle ended, I was taking all the clothes out and getting ready to throw them in the dryer, when I saw a bright, shiny object in the bottom of the dryer. I had to put my glasses on as I retrieved it.

It looked like a gold coin at first, but then after closer inspection, realized there was an angel imprinted on it! I could not believe it! This was not a monetary coin, but perhaps a collector coin, I thought to myself. However, I held it tightly in my hand and smiled. I was convinced it was a sign from above and knew my angels were with me! I felt such a warming sensation in my hand holding it and since no one was around to ask about it, I truly felt it was for me to keep.

Having a close relationship with God, I feel he knows how I feel even if I don't pray as often as I should, but I am a true believer. I knew at that moment He was sending a reminder to me to **“hang in there”** and carry on. I was feeling so lost and alone being new there, but realized HE was with me, every step of the way!

This reminds me of another similar story in the Bible. Jesus told many parables and one was on the **“lost” coin**. In the book of Luke, it tells how a woman had 10 silver coins and had lost one. Despite the fact she had 9 more, she was distraught and tore her house apart until she found it. I can relate, as in the later months I misplaced my Angel coin and searched high and low for it. When found, the woman rejoiced and so did I! It doesn't say so, but I am sure she prayed on it, as did I, and she was relieved and joyful too when she found it. I also thought maybe this story was about us, as sometimes we all go astray from God and need to be reminded to come back to Him.

I know I have had many experiences with Angels and have felt their presence in my life many times. Especially in the times of trouble, they seem to show up. I don't feel so alone and realize there is a higher power at work. I know Jesus loves and cares for each and every one of us, if we let Him into our hearts and lives. I think as I get older, my faith gets stronger and I trust in Him more than ever, as life does get harder!

I may not realize it at the time in the midst of my struggles and trials, but thinking back I realized that God always got me through them. He can give you a sense of calm in the middle of the storms if you just reach out to Him.

And for that I am very, very grateful!

Proverbs 3:5

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path.”