

Tex Ritter

"A Deck Of Cards"

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During the North African Campagne,
a bunch of soldier boys had been on a long hike,
and they arrived in a little town called Casino.

The next morning, being Sunday, several of the boys
went to church.

A Sargent commanded the boys in church,
and after the chaplain had read the prayer,
the text was taken up next.

Those of the boys who had a prayer books took them
out,
but, this one boy had only a deck of cards,
and so he spread them out.

The Sargent saw the cards and said, "Soldier, put away
those cards".

After the services were over, the soldier was taken
prisoner,
and brought before the Provost Marshall.

The marshall said " Sergeant, why have you brought
this man here?"

"For playing cards in church Sir."

"And what have you to say for yourself Son?"

"Much, Sir," replied the soldier.

The marshall said, " I hope so, for if not,
I shall punish you more than any man was ever
punished."

The soldier said, "Sir, I have been on the march for
about six days,

I have neither Bible nor prayerbook, but I hope to
satisfy you, Sir,

with the purity of my intentions."

And with that, the boy started his story.

"You see sir, when I look at the Ace,
it reminds me that there is but one God,
and the deuce, reminds me that the bible is divided
into two parts, the old and the new testament.
When I see the trey, I think of the Father, Son, and the

Holy Ghost.

And when I see the four, I think of the four Evangelists
who preached
the Gospel There was Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

And when I see the five, it reminds me of the five wise
virgins
who trimmed their lamps, there were ten of them,
Five were wise and were saved, five were foolish,
and were shut out.

When I see the six, it reminds me that in six days,
God made this great Heaven and Earth.

When I see the seven, it reminds me that on the
seventh day,
God rested from His great work.

And when I see the eight, I think of the eight righteous
persons

God saved when he destroyed this Earth.

There was Noah, his wife, their three sons, and their
wives.

And when I see the nine, I think of the lepers our
Saviour cleansed,
and, nine out of the ten, didn't even thank him.

When I see the ten, I think of the ten commandments,
God handed down to Moses on a table of stone.

When I see the king, it reminds me that there is but one
King of Heaven,
God Almighty.

And when I see the Queen, I think of the Blessed Virgin
Mary,

Who is Queen of Heaven, and the Jack of Knives is the
Devil.

When I count the number of spots in a deck of cards,
I find 365, the number of days in a year.

There are 52 cards, the number of weeks in a year.

There are four suits, the number of weeks in a month.

There are twelve picture cards, the number of months
in a year.

There are thirteen tricks, the number of weeks in a
quarter.

So, you see Sir, my pack of cards serves me as a Bible,
an Almanac, and a prayerbook.

And Friends, the story is true, I know,

I was that soldier.

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