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Word of the Year

"But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; let those also who love Your name be joyful in You." Psalm 5:11

Merriam-Webster has announced the Word of the Year for 2010, and the winner is:

The word of the year is... "austerity." As in "the quality or state of being austere." As in "an enforced or extreme economy." As in less pay. As in higher costs. As in serious belt-tightening. And now this noun that dates to the 14th century has been named word of the year for 2010 by Merriam-Webster. John Morse, president and publisher of the Merriam-Webster dictionary, says the annual selection is based not only on search spikes on its free online tool, but also words that strike the editors as out of character for what they would expect to see. "The word that really qualifies this year for that is 'austerity,'" he told The Associated Press.

The top 5 words of 2010 and their meaning:

- 1. Austerity:** enforced or extreme economy
- 2. Pragmatic:** practical as opposed to idealistic
- 3. Moratorium:** a waiting period set by an authority
- 4. Socialism:** any of various economic and political theories advocating collective or governmental ownership and administration of the means of production and distribution of goods
- 5. Bigot:** a person who is obstinately or intolerantly devoted to his or her own opinions and prejudices; especially one who regards or treats the members of a racial or ethnic group with hatred and intolerance

I certainly hope that our congressmen in Washington, D.C. have read Mr. Webster's choice of words. We need some representatives in Washington who will have the back bone to stand up and make some "pragmatic" choices and practice some productive "austerity" resulting in a "moratorium" on spending. We need to abandon "socialism;" pragmatic austerity does not automatically turn anyone into a "bigot." We need to quit looking for petty excuses to continue business as usual. It's time to roll up our sleeves and work together to make a better America.

And while we're on the subject of Words of the Year, how about a Spiritual Couplet: Trust and Obey!

"For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in His holy name." Psalm 33:21