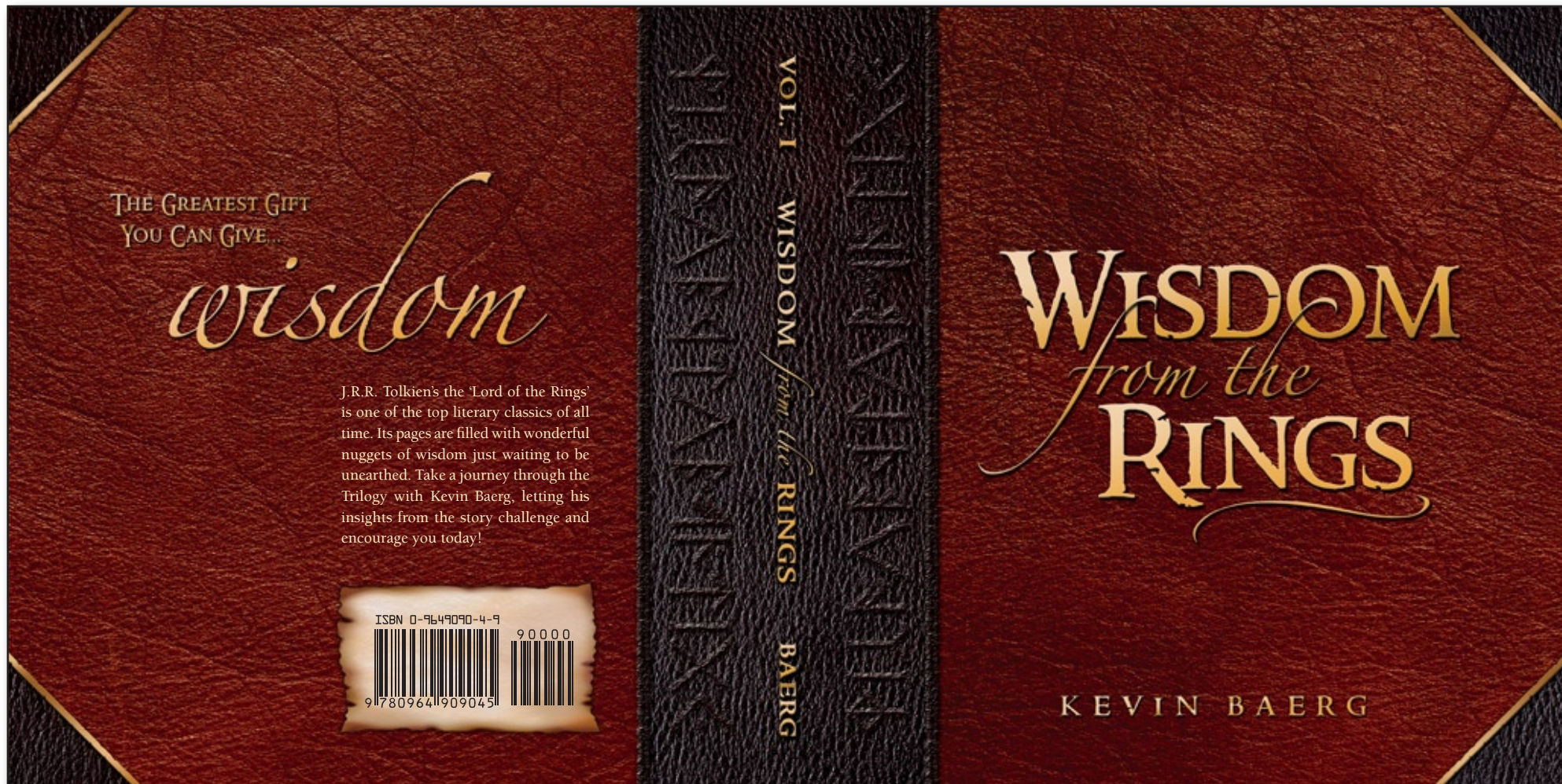


WISDOM *from the* RINGS

KEVIN BAERG

THIS BEAUTIFUL COFFEE TABLE GIFT BOOK WILL BE
TREASURED BY LORD OF THE RINGS FANS,
YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE!



ORDER YOURS TODAY!

www.wisdomfromtherings.com

Please email this sampler to all your friends!

Copyright © 2003 by Kevin Baerg
All rights reserved.

HOBBIT and all other fanciful names from the Lord of the Rings are registered trademarks of Tolkien Enterprises.
There is no affiliation, sponsorship, or endorsement of this book by the J.R.R. Tolkien Estate Limited.

Cover Design & Text Layout by Colin Magnuson www.cmcreative.com

Actual size of hardcover book approx. 6"x6" | Pages reduced approx. 80%
This is a low resolution sampler, the cover may appear blurry when printed.

WISDOM *from the* RINGS

KEVIN BAERG

THIS BEAUTIFUL COFFEE TABLE GIFT BOOK WILL BE
TREASURED BY LORD OF THE RINGS FANS,
YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE!

Thank you to everyone who helped me along with this project — you know who you are — I couldn't have done it without you!

Special thanks to Peter Jackson for bringing the story to life on film in fantastic style! You and your incredible team's magnificent work have helped millions of people discover the wonder of Tolkien's world. Many of these new fans might never have picked up the books without your inspiration!

This little project was birthed out of my desire to share with the world my love and passion for the Lord of the Rings. I wanted to have a medium that would give me the opportunity to highlight many of the lessons found therein and apply them to life in this new millennium.

I urge you to buy a complete set of the trilogy and follow along our little journey. You will discover much more as you read my commentary in light of the passages Professor Tolkien wrote containing the events and surrounding character interactions.

The Lord of the Rings references at the bottom of each page are from the edition(s) published by the Houghton Mifflin Company. FOTR = Fellowship of the Ring, TTT = The Two Towers, ROTK = Return of the King. I have placed the lessons in order of their appearance in the books for your convenience as you read along.

My comments are obviously my opinion only and do not reflect the opinion of the late J.R.R. Tolkien or his estate.

WISDOM FROM THE RINGS

Values

*H*ere is Bilbo, leaving his cozy, well appointed Bag-End for good and what does he take? One heavy bag with his old clothes, cloak and hood, Sting, mithril jacket, and of course, his book. Only that which was extremely valuable to him. Bilbo treasured the items that reminded him of his great adventure. *He packed just the very important things!*

What would you take from your home if you could only carry it in a backpack? Does this give you a glimpse into what you truly value in life? Things aren't bad in and of themselves, but *how much of our stuff is just fluff?*

- 5 -

Read FOTR pg. 21

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

www.wisdomfromtherings.com

Please email this sampler to all your friends!

Copyright © 2003 by Kevin Baerg
All rights reserved.

HOBBIT and all other fanciful names from the Lord of the Rings are registered trademarks of Tolkien Enterprises. There is no affiliation, sponsorship, or endorsement of this book by the J.R.R. Tolkien Estate Limited.

Cover Design & Text Layout by Colin Magnuson www.cmcreative.com

Actual size of hardcover book approx. 6"x6" | Pages reduced approx. 80%

WISDOM *from the* RINGS

KEVIN BAERG

THIS BEAUTIFUL COFFEE TABLE GIFT BOOK WILL BE
TREASURED BY LORD OF THE RINGS FANS,
YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE!

WISDOM FROM THE RINGS

Urgency

Frodo knew their quest hung by a thread. Deep inside him a tremendous sense of urgency pushed him forward. He wasn't going to put off 'til tomorrow what he could get done today. Even if the conditions might be better later, time was of the essence and he was going to make the most of it. Frodo knew the intrinsic value of NOW!

What have you been putting off 'til tomorrow? What important task or quest have you left 'un-begun' until your life circumstances line up perfectly? *Don't wait any longer — go for it!*

- 68 -

Read TTT pg. 593

WISDOM FROM THE RINGS

Faithfulness

Frodo gave Sam 'the look.' Translated here as, 'My mind is made up and nothing you can say will change it!' Even though it looked like it was all going to be over soon, Sam kept despair at bay. He was not going to throw in the towel and quit. He was not going to leave his master now. He was prepared to stick to Frodo like glue! Come what may, Sam was determined to be found faithful to the end. He would remain loyal no matter how dark the path.

Who are you called to stick with all the way? How will you show your loyalty and commitment to them?

- 69 -

Read TTT pg. 624

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

www.wisdomfromtherings.com

Please email this sampler to all your friends!

Copyright © 2003 by Kevin Baerg
All rights reserved.

HOBBIT and all other fanciful names from the Lord of the Rings are registered trademarks of Tolkien Enterprises. There is no affiliation, sponsorship, or endorsement of this book by the J.R.R. Tolkien Estate Limited.

Cover Design & Text Layout by Colin Magnuson www.cmcreative.com

Actual size of hardcover book approx. 6"x6" | Pages reduced approx. 80%

WISDOM FROM THE RINGS

Chosen

For some it is easy to put their foot forward and lay hold of a situation. Others are more laid back, a little less aggressive. Sam was a humble hobbit and did not want to presume anything nor put himself ahead of anyone else. At last his hobbit wisdom kicked in once again and he realized that he had been 'put forward.' *He was chosen.* Like Bilbo and Frodo before him, Sam was appointed for just such a time as this.

What task have you been chosen for? What opportunity have you been resisting, not wanting to put yourself above others? Perhaps you are supposed to step forward and embrace it. *Now is not the time to be timid!*

- 82 -

Read TTT pg. 715

WISDOM FROM THE RINGS

Do Your Best

Pippin just got through a sore trial being intensely interviewed by the Lord Denethor. He wants some feedback from Gandalf about how he performed. Gandalf gladly gives it to him!

We all search for approval, don't we? To know you did well through the eyes of someone you deeply respect means an awful lot. Of course, all you are ultimately responsible for is doing your best. We can't do any more — hopefully, we won't do any less! Pippin did his best and it was more than enough. *The same will be true for you!*

- 83 -

Read ROTK pg. 742

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

www.wisdomfromtherings.com

Please email this sampler to all your friends!

Copyright © 2003 by Kevin Baerg
All rights reserved.

HOBBIT and all other fanciful names from the Lord of the Rings are registered trademarks of Tolkien Enterprises. There is no affiliation, sponsorship, or endorsement of this book by the J.R.R. Tolkien Estate Limited.

Cover Design & Text Layout by Colin Magnuson www.cmcreative.com

Actual size of hardcover book approx. 6"x6" | Pages reduced approx. 80%

WISDOM FROM THE RINGS

Humility

Denethor insulted Gandalf by insinuating that he was overmatched by the evil Witch-King. What incredible restraint Gandalf shows at this time! I would have been tempted to tell Denethor, 'You don't have a clue who you are talking to, do you?!' Pippin obviously has the same thought, but Gandalf's humble, soft response breaks the tension instantly.

Gandalf knew who he was, and he understood the strength that had been given to him. He doesn't throw that in Denethor's face. He simply states that Denethor may be right, but the real test has not come — yet!

Always remember that a 'gentle answer turns away wrath' and 'a soft tongue can break a bone.'

- 96 -

Read ROTK pg. 800

WISDOM FROM THE RINGS

Heart Lifter

Looking for a great picture of leadership? Look no further! This is how a true leader should operate. In the midst of siege and terror, Gandalf tirelessly made the rounds, from the top of the tower to the bottom of the city gate. Everywhere he went he lifted people's hearts! He encouraged and strengthened the troops and helped drive the fear out of their minds. He did not retreat to the tower and try to lead from that lofty position. He got out and rubbed shoulders with the people he was leading.

Are you a heart lifter? Do you go out among those you are attempting to lead? *Are people encouraged and enheartened when you are in their midst?*

- 97 -

Read ROTK pg. 806

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

www.wisdomfromtherings.com

Please email this sampler to all your friends!

Copyright © 2003 by Kevin Baerg
All rights reserved.

HOBBIT and all other fanciful names from the Lord of the Rings are registered trademarks of Tolkien Enterprises. There is no affiliation, sponsorship, or endorsement of this book by the J.R.R. Tolkien Estate Limited.

Cover Design & Text Layout by Colin Magnuson www.cmcreative.com

Actual size of hardcover book approx. 6"x6" | Pages reduced approx. 80%