



II Cor. 3:17 – "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is..."

LIBERTY

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God's Hall of Fame

Your name may not appear down here
 In this world's Hall of Fame;
 In fact, you may be so unknown,
 That no one knows your name.
 The Oscars here may pass you by,
 And neon lights of blue;
 But if you love and serve the Lord,
 Then I have news for you!
 This Hall of Fame is only good
 As long as time shall be;
 But keep in mind, God's Hall of Fame
 Is for eternity!
 To have your name inscribed up there
 Is greater, yes, by far,
 Than all the Halls of Fame down here,
 And every man made star.
 This crowd on earth they soon forget
 The heroes of the past,
 They cheer like mad until you fall,
 And that's how long you last!
 But God, He never does forget,
 And in His Hall of Fame,
 By just believing in His Son,
 Inscribed you'll find your name.
 I tell you, friend, I wouldn't trade
 My name, however small,
 That's written there beyond the stars
 In that celestial Hall
 For every famous name on earth
 Or glory that they share;
 I'd rather be an unknown here,
 And have my name up there!

—Walt Huntley

Real confidence is "locking the door" and then not trying the knob to be sure.

In Days Gone By

On Feb. 4, 1783, the Revolutionary War ended.

On Feb. 4, 1876, Mordecai Ham was ordained to preach the Gospel. He was a hard-hitting southern preacher. It was under his preaching that Billy Graham was converted.

WHEN IT'S
ALL
ADDED UP!



A woman's day is filled
 With little things,
 Or so it sometimes seems
 When tasks are small:
 Cleaning the kitchen,
 Making rumpled beds,
 Sewing a button,
 Dusting in the hall.
 Yet when these little
 things
 Are added up,
 The sum is order
 And a home that brings
 A welcome to a husband,
 Meets a child
 With love that quite
 transcends
 These little things.

—Louise Darcy

WISDOM IN CREATION

O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all... Psalm 104:24

RECENTLY a most interesting scientific article by Professor B. H. Shaddock came to my attention. In it he discussed "the mistakes God didn't make when He created this world." Among other things he said, "From absolute zero, 460 degrees below zero Fahrenheit, up to the boiling point of water, at 212 above, is 672 degrees. Anywhere between these two extremes God could have fixed the freezing-melting point. However, anything except where He did place it — at 32 degrees above zero — would have been a tragic mistake! If water froze four-percent of the 672-degree range lower than it now does, it would rain when the temperature was only six degrees above zero. Men and most warm-blooded animals would soon freeze to death. Where there are now vast fields of snow, storing up water against the heat and drought of summer, there would instead be winter floods and eroded hillsides. However, if God had fixed the freezing point two-percent of the range higher, there would be frost whenever the temperature dropped to 45 degrees above, and snow and ice would never melt in colder areas, causing many serious problems."

While the very existence of plants and animals is dependent upon the freezing point being where it is, it would, however, never do to have the oceans freeze at 32 degrees above zero. In the Polar seas, the yearly thawing then could not balance the yearly freezing, and ice would accumulate through the centuries! To prevent such a disaster God put salt in the sea to alter the freezing point, while at the same time He arranged that evaporation would take nothing but fresh water back to the land!

Much more could be said, but this is enough to make us realize the marvelous design evident in the universe — extending even to so small a matter as the exact freezing point of water. With the Psalmist we exclaim: "How manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all!" —H.G.B.

DESIGN IN CREATION

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. Genesis 1:31

GOD speaks to us not only through His special revelation, the Bible, but also through His general revelation as it is manifested in creation.

Dr. A. Cressy Morrison, former president of the New York Academy of Sciences, says that it is possible to demonstrate mathematically that the universe could not have just happened or evolved. He says it shows such definite design and purpose that it demands a "Master Mind" to account for its many perfections. He points out that the earth rotates on its axis at 1,000 miles per hour. If it rotated at only 100 miles per hour, our days and nights would be ten times as long as they are now, and the earth would alternately burn and freeze. Under such circumstances vegetation could not live. Again—the sun has a surface temperature of 12,000 degrees Fahrenheit and our earth is at the exact distance necessary to get just enough heat and yet not too much. This earth is tilted at an angle of 23 degrees and this enables us to have four seasons; if it were not tilted at this angle, vapours from the ocean would move north and south, piling up continents of ice. If the moon were not at the exact distance it is from the earth, the ocean tides would inundate the land mass completely twice a day. If the ocean were just a few feet deeper than it is, the carbon dioxide and oxygen in the earth's atmosphere would be completely absorbed and no vegetable life could exist on earth. If the earth's atmosphere were just a little thinner, many of the meteors which are now burned out in space would bombard us, setting great fires everywhere.

Did this delicate balance just happen? Not a chance in ten million!

As we delve into the intricate and marvelous design of the universe, we are led to exclaim with the Psalmist, "Oh, LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all" (Psalm 104:24). —(H.G.B.)

What About Tattoos?

Answered by Dr. Bill Rice

Q: Recently my sixteen-year-old son asked me if there was anything wrong in tattooing. He said he had been contemplating this for some time. Kindly send me your opinion on this and tell me if there is anything in the Bible regarding tattooing.

A: In my judgment, your son will make a mistake if he has anything tattooed on his body that is not absolutely necessary. Now there are a few people who are allergic to certain medicines or who must have certain types of blood, etc., who sometimes have this information tattooed on an inconspicuous place on the arm in case of an accident. Aside from this, however, it is almost always a mistake for anyone to have tattoos.

There are several reasons:

First, I do not remember ever having met a Christian with pictures, names, etc., tattooed on his body who did not regret it. I have known some who have had them removed, although this is an expensive and very painful operation.

Second, responsible people are inclined to look down upon people who have mutilated their own bodies with tattooing. It is hard enough to become successful in this life without deliberately handicapping ourselves. The fellow with a tattoo is a great deal less likely to get a good job or position than the fellow who does not have the tattooing.

Third, and most important, our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost.

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."—1 Corinthians 6:19, 20.

It is an insult to God to mar these bodies in any way that God does not appreciate.

The chances are very great that your son will bitterly regret it if he lets anyone talk him into having tattoo work done on his body.

Is This the Right Road Home?

Is this the right road home, O Lord?
The clouds are dark and still;
The stony path is sharp and hard;
Each step brings some fresh hill.
I thought the way would brighter grow
And that the sun with warmth would glow
And joyous songs from free hearts flow.
Is this the right road home?

Yes, child! this very path I trod—
The clouds were dark for Me.
The stony path was hard to tread;
Not sight but faith can see
That at the end the sun-shines bright,
Forever where there is no night,
And glad hearts rest from earth's fierce fight.
It is the right road home!

—Mrs. Jonathan G. G. G.

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FAITH AND WORKS

There are two verses of Scripture that seem to be in contradiction with each other. However, as with all Scripture, there are no contradictions, and with serious study and a comparing of Scripture with Scripture, the truth is clearly shown.

The first verse was written by Paul in Galatians 2:16, "Knowing that a man is NOT JUSTIFIED BY THE WORKS OF THE LAW BUT BY THE FAITH OF Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified."

The second verse was written by James in James 2:24, "Ye see then how THAT BY WORKS A MAN IS JUSTIFIED, and not by faith alone?"

These two verses seem to contradict each other, but not so. It needs to be noted that Paul and James were talking about two different kinds of justification. Paul tells us that a lost sinner can be justified by faith alone in the sight of Almighty God. James is telling us how a saved person can be justified by works in the sight of his fellowman. These are two completely different matters. We are justified before God by faith alone, and justified before man by works alone. Men cannot see our faith, but they can see our works. Our faith is known to God but invisible to our fellowmen, until they see it in our lives by our works. The ROOT of our justification is faith and the FRUIT of our justification is works. The whole Book of Galatians was written to condemn the Judaizers who were trying to mix law and faith together for salvation. Paul says that it is a false gospel. Salvation is of the Lord and is INWARD. Works are of men and are OUTWARD.

Please note the purpose of the law. Paul says in Galatians 3:19 that God's law was added so that man could see how terrible his sin was. The law became a mirror for us to see how vile and filthy we were compared to God's righteous demands. To try to use the mirror (law) to wash away our sins only defiles the mirror as well as ourselves. Trying to keep the law to become clean is foolish. Only Christ's blood can cleanse us from all sin. Christ becomes the end of the law to everyone that believeth. We are made clean and righteous through Him, and not by keeping the law.

-Reprinted



So long as there are kept alive
Nation and people will survive;
God keep them always, everywhere;
The hearth, the Book, the place of prayer.

