



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

LIBERTY

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The Better Way

It is better to lose with a conscience
clean

Than win with a trick unfair;
It is better to fail and to know you've
been,

Whatever the prize was, square
Than to claim the joy of a far-off goal
And the cheers of the standers-by
And to know down deep in your in-
most soul,

A cheat you must live and die.

Who wins by trick may take the prize,
And, at first, he may think it sweet,
But many a day in the future lies

When he'll wish he had met defeat.
For the man who lost shall be glad at
heart

And walk with his head up high,
While his conqueror knows he must
play the part
Of a cheat and a living lie.

The prize seems fair when the fight is
on,

But sove it is truly won,
You will hate the thing when the
crowds are gone,
For it stands for a false deed
done.

And it's better you never should
reach your goal
Than ever success to buy,
At the price of knowing down in your
soul

That your glory is all a lie.

—Detroit Free Press

Someday the bell will sound,
Someday my heart will
bound,

As with a shout
That school is out
And, lessons done,
I homeward run.



In Days Gone By

On April 15, 1861, President
Lincoln declared a State of
War in the Civil War.

On April 15, 1865, President
Lincoln died at 7:22 a.m. He
had been shot the day before.

On April 17, 1790, American
statesman, author and inven-
tor Benjamin Franklin died
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvan-
ia at the age of 84.

Groaning in Grace

Two men were out on the
lake fishing one Sunday morn-
ing. About 10:00 A.M. one fish-
erman said, "Tom, we ought to
be ashamed of ourselves. It is
now church time and here we are
on the lake."

The other one responded, "I
could not have gone anyway; my
wife is sick."

God's Order

God's order may be observed in the hatching of eggs. For example

- the eggs of the potato bug hatch in seven days;
- those of the canary in fourteen days;
- those of the barnyard hen in twenty-one days;
- the eggs of ducks and geese hatch in twenty-eight days;
- those of the mallard in thirty-five days;
- the eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in forty-two days;
- the gestation period of a dog is sixty-three days;
- the gestation period of a human is 280 days (40 x 7).

Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!

The lives of each of you may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory. If you will only entrust Him with your life. If you try to regulate your own life, it will only be a mess and a failure. Only the One who made the brain and the heart can successfully guide them to a profitable end.

God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant. The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made. God ordered that this animal would have a huge body, and for this reason, He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily.

The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first. A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first. How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!

God's wisdom is revealed in His arrangement of fruit, vegetable and grain seed sections and segments, as well as in the number of seeds or grains.

- Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind;
- Each orange has an even number of segments;
- Each ear of corn has an even number of rows;
- Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains;
- Each bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number;
- The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather;
- All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks, and the Lord specified thirtyfold, sixtyfold and a hundredfold—all even numbers.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day, so that Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed!

Thus the Lord in His wonderful grace can arrange the life that is entrusted to His care in such a way that it will carry out His purposes and plans and will be fragrant with His presence.

Only the God-planned safe life is successful. Only the life given over to the care of the Lord is fulfilled.

—The Trumpet of Truth

WHO ARE YOU KIDDING?

When a man says he can't keep awake during a 30-minute sermon, but stays at home for 3 hours reading his 700-column newspaper—who is he kidding?

When he pleads that Sunday is his only day of rest, and yet gets up at 4:30 a.m. to spend the day fishing, golfing, or hunting—who is he kidding?

When a sports fan declares the church seats are too hard and uncomfortable, but will sit for hours on a bleacher in a drizzling rain to watch 22 men push one another back and forth across a muddy lot—who is he kidding?

When a penny-pincher claims he can't afford to give much to the Lord's cause, yet lives in a very comfortable home, drives an expensive car, eats well, clothes his family in the latest style, and on occasion even makes an extra payment on his house—who is he kidding?

When one says he has no time for Christian activities, but spends hours window-shopping, bowling, watching TV, playing cards, and having social evenings out with his friends—who is he kidding? SURELY NOT GOD!

You may seek to excuse yourself now for failing to grasp life's fleeting opportunities for spiritual blessing and service, but do you think your alibis will have the ring of truth when you must give an account of yourself under the searching eye of the Lord?

Change your way of living and avoid the sin of making hypocritical excuses.

—H. G. B.

FROM THE EDITOR'S SCRAPBOOK

PARADOXES

1. Jesus began His ministry by being hungry, yet He is the Bread of Life.
2. Jesus ended His earthly ministry by being thirsty, yet He is the Living Water.
3. Jesus was weary, yet He is our rest.
4. Jesus paid tribute, yet He is the King.
5. Jesus was accused of having a demon, yet He cast out demons.
6. Jesus wept, yet He wipes away our tears.
7. Jesus was sold for thirty pieces of silver, yet He re-deemed the world.
8. Jesus was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, yet He is the Good Shepherd.
9. Jesus died, yet by His death He destroyed the power of death.





POEMS

by Sharon

DAVID and GOLIATH



Listen to my story and you will surely see,
How God gave little David a mighty victory.
The Philistines stood on one side, on a mountain to be
seen,

The Israelites on the other side, a valley in between.

The Philistines had a champion, out of Gath he came,
He was a giant of a man, Goliath was his name.
Each day Goliath stood and cried, "Send to me a man,
Who's not afraid to fight me, and kill me if he can."

The armies of the Israelites had fear and were dismayed,
For forty days they watched him and were more and more
afraid.

Then came little David, for his father sent him there,
To look for his three brothers and for them some food
did bear.

When David heard the giant yell, he did not wait or pause,
He said unto the Israelites, "Is there not a cause?"
David told King Saul that day, "I will go and fight,
I'm not afraid because I know my God will give me might."

So David took his staff and five smooth stones from out
the brook,

He put them in his shepherd's bag and in his hand he took
His sling, to kill Goliath and the Lord was at his side,
Goliath cursed young David and the Israelites God defied.

The giant came to meet him and David took his sling,
The size of old Goliath did not mean a thing.
A stone was slung by David, hit Goliath in the head,
And that day in the valley, lay Goliath still and dead.

Young David ran and stood upon the giant where he lay,
Took out his sword, cut off his head, for Israel cleared
the way.

Yes, that day in the valley, I'm sure that you can see,
How God gave little David a mighty victory.

-Sharon Dice, June, 1990