



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

LIBERTY

A Ministry of Grace Baptist Church, Pittsfield, Illinois - 217-285-5230

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Age and Attitude

Nobody grows old merely by living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give-up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, distrust, fear and despair—these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whether 70 or 17, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement of the stars, and the starlike things and thoughts, the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing childlike appetite for what is next in the game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubts; as young as your Christ-centered confidence, as old as your fears; as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

Judgment

*The deeds we do, the words we say,
Into still air they seem to fleet,
We count them ever past;
But they shall last:
In the dread judgment they
And we shall meet.*

YOU CAN'T WALK OUT THEN

A woman was listening to a sermon about the coming judgment. She was so mad that she got up and started to leave. The preacher interrupted his message and said to her, "Lady, you can walk out on my sermon, but you will never be able to walk out on the judgment day when you meet the Judge personally."

In Days Gone By

On July 16, 1882, Mrs. Abraham (Mary Todd) Lincoln died.

On July 17, 1917, the British family adopted the name "Windsor."

On April 17, 1917, Charles Fuller was born. He founded "Old-Fashioned Revival Hour."

**Woe to the house
where the
HEN
crows louder
than the
ROOSTER.**



THE LIGHTER SIDE OF LIFE



An elderly woman spoke to a man who was buying stamps at the post office. "Would you please do me a favor?" she asked. "Do you mind addressing this envelope for me?"

He was happy to help the woman, and he did as she asked. Then she asked him to write a short message on a sheet of paper that she gave him. He did that, too, and then said, "Is there anything else I can do for you?"

"Yes, if you don't mind," she said. "Will you please write at the bottom of my letter, 'Please excuse this poor handwriting.'"

A patrolman arrived at the scene of an accident to find a woman lying unconscious a few feet from an automobile. A small crowd had gathered, and a man was trying feverishly to revive the woman.

"Who was driving this car?" the patrolman asked.

"I was," answered the man who was helping the woman.

"How did you hit her?" the patrolman asked.

"Oh, I didn't hit her," the man said. "As I approached the intersection I saw that she was trying to cross the street. So, I stopped for her and she fainted."

Mr. Collins took his wife and eight-year-old out for a spin in his brand-new Buick convertible. He had an idea that in his enthusiasm he would exceed the speed limit, so he posted his son in the back seat and told him, "Sonny, if you see a man in a blue uniform on a motorcycle coming up from behind, be sure and warn Daddy."

Off they went, and the delighted Mr. Collins drove faster and faster. The speedometer had just registered "seventy" when the eight-year-old tapped his father on the shoulder.

"Daddy," he reported, "that gentleman you were expecting has arrived."

PARISH BULLETIN: There will be a church picnic Thursday afternoon. If it rains in the afternoon, the picnic will be held in the morning.



My neighbor just had plastic surgery. Her husband cut off all her credit cards.

A farmer fell and broke his hip while he was plowing, and his horse galloped five miles to the nearest town, and returned carrying a doctor on his back.

"Pretty smart horse," a friend observed later.

"Not really so smart," the farmer said. "The doctor he brought back was a veterinarian."

The professor returned to class with the exam papers and requested that all the students sit down. "If you stood up it is conceivable that you might form a circle - in which case I would be arrested for maintaining a dope ring."

A school teacher was trying to explain subtraction to his young pupils. "You have ten fingers," he said to one youngster. "Suppose you have three less, then what would you have?"

The prompt reply: "No music lessons!"

Weeping wife: "John, you've forgotten my birthday again."

Quick-thinking husband: "But darling, how do you expect me to remember when you never look a day older?"

The lady's husband had been missing for more than a week, and she asked a friend to go with her to the missing persons' bureau. There she described him as "tall and handsome, with black hair, and pretty white teeth."

Her friend gasped, "Why, you know your husband is short, fat, bald, and hasn't a tooth in his head!"

"Shh-h-h!" shushed the wife. "I know, but who wants that back?"

A road contractor wanted to keep up his goodwill with a certain public official and offered to give him a new automobile.

The office holder said, "Sir, the ethics of my office and my personal integrity would never allow me to accept such a gift."

"I can understand how you feel about that," the contractor said. "Instead of me giving you this car, suppose I sell it to you at a greatly reduced price - say, for \$50."

The official thought for a moment, and then said, "In that case, I think I'll take two."

A GOOD SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

Many years ago in the city of Washington, a Sunday School teacher had in his class a mischievous boy who would not listen or behave. The consecrated teacher used every device at his command to soften the attitude of the disturbing youngster, but all to no avail. Later, when the boy grew to manhood, he left Washington for the West, where he continued to waste his life in reckless dissipation. Years afterward he returned to Baltimore and promptly spent the first night drinking and carousing. The next morning while still somewhat under the influence of liquor, he walked along the streets until he found himself in one of the city's cemeteries. He was shocked into sobriety when he noticed on a tombstone the name of his old teacher. A flood of memories rushed in upon him. Many things that the consecrated man had said came to his mind. His heart melted. Pulling himself over the little railing, he went to the grave, and there with tears, gave his life to Christ. He later confessed that conviction so gripped him that he knelt and kissed the very sod where his faithful Christian teacher lay buried. After some years he entered the ministry and became the fruitful pastor of one of the most prominent churches in Virginia. His old teacher, however, had gone to his grave feeling that his work with him had been a failure; yet his faithfulness really counted and will certainly merit a shining crown of reward over There!

LIVE AS YOU PRAY

I knelt to pray when day was done,
And prayed, "O Lord, bless every one;
Lift from each saddened heart the pain,
And let the sick be well again."

Then I woke another day,
And carelessly went on my way;
The whole day long I did not try
To wipe a tear from any eye.

I did not try to share the load
Of any brother on my road;
I did not even go to see
The sick man next door to me.

Yet once again when day was done,
I prayed, "O Lord, bless every one."
But as I prayed, into my ear
There came a voice that whispered clear:
"Pause, hypocrite, before you pray,
Whom have you tried to bless today?"

And then I hid my face and cried,
"Forgive me, God, for I have lied;
Let me but see another day
And I will live the way I pray."



Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



LOOKING FOR THE BLACK SHEEP - I have an excellent book about Jeremiah Hubbard, a great old-time preacher who started preaching in central Indiana (my country!) in the 1800's. He was first a teacher in several one-room schools and then began preaching. He had a tremendous ministry among the Indians, not only in Indiana but across the western U.S. and in portions of Canada. He was born in 1837 a few miles from where I lived. He died in 1915 in Oklahoma and is buried in a small cemetery, also a few miles from where I lived. Here is a short story written by him that I found to be interesting:

"In those days (middle to late 1800's) the young and old men would meet at some of the school houses one night in the week for the purpose of debating, and we all took an interest and tried to see how much we could learn. Joseph Quigg was a champion debater, a fine speaker and a noted infidel. In a few years after this he was converted to Christ, and he was now just as bold for the Lord as he had been for Satan. He said that before he was converted he was always looking for the black sheep in the flock, but now, after salvation, he looked for the white sheep, and there were more white ones than he thought there were."

Today, as in those days, there are people like Joseph Quigg, who look for the black sheep (hypocrite) in the church family and judge everyone else according to this person. In almost every church family there is a "black sheep", sometimes more than one, and that is all that some people can see. Long ago, I quit looking at the hypocrites and pretenders and began looking at the people in our churches who are truly saved, have the love of God in their hearts and serve Him. They are the most loving, caring and giving people in the world. It doesn't take long when you are in church to know who is real and who isn't.

Don't let a hypocrite (black sheep) keep you from church or be the reason for you not getting saved. You need to see and accept the truth of God's Word about Christ and the forgiveness of sins through Him. There are hypocrites in all walks of life. There are hypocritical doctors (not licensed), yet we don't stop going to doctors. There is hypocritical money (counterfeit), yet we don't stop taking money. So why stay away from church and the truth because there happens to be a "black sheep" in the flock?

TIMES OF SERVICES at Grace Baptist - Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Preaching, 10:45 and 5 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 6:30.