



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

Dr. Gary Dice, Pastor

Dr. Leonard Dice, Editor

July 8, 2018

Vol. XV, No. 27

In Days Gone By

On July 8, 1800, Washington, D.C. was made our Capitol.

On July 8, 1776, the Liberty Bell first rang for Independence.

On July 13, 1787, the Northwest Territory became a part of the United States.

A Good Prescription



Dr. Karl Menninger was asked at a forum once what one should do if he felt a nervous breakdown coming on. The famous psychiatrist said, "If you feel a nervous breakdown coming on, lock up your house, go across the railroad tracks, find someone in need, and do something for him."

Here's A Great Way To Live

FAITH

F - Forwarding

A - All

I - Issues

T - To

H - Heaven



Marriage resembles a pair of shears, so joined that they cannot be separated; often moving in opposite directions, yet always punishing anyone who comes between them.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ENJOYED BY MANY THIS YEAR

The "Wild, Wild West" was the theme for VBS this year. Bro. Thomas Myers spearheaded VBS this year for the first time and it turned out great. He texted all of those who helped with these words, "A big shout out to all who helped with VBS, from the platform crew, to crowd control and cleanup. We had 16 people saved because of you!!! Thank you for ALL the hard work and support!!!" We had good attendance each night with the biggest attendance on Friday night with 230 present. The children all received prizes, candy, toys, goodies and a lot of food and drinks on Friday after the service. Two new bicycles were given away, plus gift certificates. The auditorium was fully decorated with the "Wild West" theme. We even had a corral built in the parking lot with live horses to see and pet, plus Buddy the goat! ...and a great time was had by all!

A HEARTBEAT FROM HEAVEN

We are living on the border
Of eternity each day;
We are just as close to Heaven
As the stars so far away.
And the only thing between us,
Whether we are big or small,
Is a tender little heartbeat,
Just a heartbeat, that is all.



Just a heartbeat from the glory,
Just a heartbeat, nothing more,
Till we walk the golden shore.
Keep your lamp all trimmed and burning,
Let it shine, you'll never fall;
Just a heartbeat from the glory,
Just a heartbeat, that is all.

In this land of sin and sorrow,
Whether old or in our prime,
We are only just a heartbeat
From the grave at any time;
No one has a lease on living,
Any moment death may call,
It is only by God's mercy
That we live and breathe at all.



There's a place beyond the river
Where we'll lay our burdens down,
Where we'll meet our friends and loved ones,
And we'll wear a starry crown.
All our troubles will be over
And no tears shall ever fall;
Just a heartbeat from the glory,
Just a heartbeat, that is all.

YOUR PAST DOES NOT HAVE TO BE YOUR FUTURE

No matter how many times you have failed, God graciously offers His forgiveness. If your heart's desire is to grow spiritually and walk closely with Jesus Christ during this coming year, start by coming to church regularly, praying daily for God's will to be done, and by letting others know you are a Christian. Your year could be filled with joy that comes from an ever-closer relationship to Him.

Why Do God's Work in the 11th Hour?

Matthew 20:1-10

- I. Because one hour is better than no hour! (Use the time you have.)
 - II. Because you never know whom you will reach! (Despite the late hour, people are reachable.)
 - III. Because you don't know when your 11th hour will arrive! (How much life do you have left?)
 - IV. Because of the treasure you will have in Heaven! (There's a payday coming for your good efforts to fulfill the Lord's commandments.)
 - V. Because of the pleading of the Saviour! (Listen to Jesus calling for workers.)
 - VI. Because the harvest is precious! (Think of your children, friends, etc.)
- It is precious, too precious to turn back, to quit, to rest at ease.

—By Pastor Garvan Walls

Lord, It's Me Again

I guess it's only natural as the years pass away
To think about our childhood and the things of yesterday.
To think about our homestead, the place where we were born—
It may have been a palace or a humble little farm.
Our roof could be leaking or the floors rough and bare,
But it didn't seem to matter long as Dad and Mom were there.

I know that you remember many things that make you glad,
And I especially like to think about my boyhood with my dad.
I remember how he'd wake me every morning before day,
And sometimes I'd be so sleepy, I'd wish he'd go away.
But then he'd sit down by me and put his hand upon my head
And say, "You better get up, Son. That team's got to be fed."

And then as he was leaving, I'd always hear him say,
"Put Your hand upon us, Lord, and keep us through this day."
And somehow those words would stir me, and sleep from me
would fade;
So I'd grab my ragged britches and the shirt my mom had made;
And we'd head out toward the barn—I can almost see us now—
And Pa would feed the horses, while I would milk the cow.

And then when he would finish, he'd quietly slip away
To a spot down on the hillside where he seemed to like to pray.
And sometimes he'd sit down on a log or lean against a tree,
But usually, as I recall, he'd get down on one knee.
And how I still remember the tingle on my skin
As Dad would always start his prayer with "Lord, it's me again."

Many years have passed and gone since Pa went away,
And you know, I still miss the things he used to do and say.
But I guess he's mighty happy in that new Home that he's found,
With all the angels singing and Ma close around.
And someday I'm gonna meet him in a Place that's free from sin;
I'm so thankful that my daddy prayed, "Lord, it's me again."

—Jimmy E. Jones

You'll have revival in the church when
Gossipers shut up

Lukewarm folk fire up

Sleeping folk wake up

Estranged folk make up

Depressed folk look up

Dishonest folk "fess up"

Discouraged folk cheer up

Disgruntled folk sweeten up

Soldiers of Christ stand up!

THE PROVERBS

"My son, keep thy
father's commandment,
and forsake not the
law of thy mother."
Proverbs 6:20

REVIVAL

REVIVAL

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



WIFE OF MY YOUTH, MOTHER OF MY CHILDREN, LOVE OF MY LIFE

This week, on Tuesday, July 10, my wife Sharon will have a birthday. She was born on July 10, 1940, in Rushville, Indiana where she was also raised. She had the heartbreak of seeing her dad go off to war during World War II in 1944. She was only 4 years old, but she vividly remembers how hard it was and how hard she cried. Thankfully, after serving in the U.S. Navy and enduring Japanese kamikaze pilots trying to blow up his ship, he returned home to his family after the war.

When Sharon and I were married I was not a preacher. Two years later, when I surrendered to God's will to preach, she said she would stand with me in the ministry. She accepted His will for both of our lives. She has done exactly what she promised, and next month in August, we will have served the Lord together for 60 years of ministry. Thank God for her love to the Lord, to me, and to our family of 7 sons, 16 grandchildren and soon to be 28 great-grandchildren.

She has been a tremendous help and encouragement to me all the way, serving the Lord and raising 7 sons, 5 of whom are Baptist preachers. I pastored 3 churches in Indiana for over 40 years, served as pastor emeritus at my last church, and then moved to Illinois where I have served as assistant pastor to our son Gary at Grace Baptist Church in Pittsfield, Illinois for over 14 years. Our golden years could hardly have been more perfect.

God has blessed us and taken care of us in many ways we never thought possible. We also got to see our two last grandsons grow up like we saw all the others. We have both had open-heart surgeries, and other illnesses, but God has blessed and today we are both in fairly good health, still enjoying life and serving the Lord.

So, on July 10, or somewhere near that time, when you see her, wish her a happy birthday. She will be 78 years young but still married to an old 85 year-old man! We thank God for his goodness and mercy to us and to our family.

AMERICA CELEBRATES ANOTHER BIRTHDAY

Our great nation celebrated her 242nd Anniversary on July 4. We had a lot of flags flying and decorations were up for this tremendous occasion. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the signers of the Declaration of Independence, many of whom gave their lives and fortunes to give us our country. Thanks to all who have defended our nation to keep her free and great. America was founded on Christian principles, and the Bible and Constitution have made America the greatest freedom-loving nation in the world.