



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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Quite Suddenly

Quite suddenly—it may be at
the turning of a lane,
Where I stand to watch a skylark
from out the swelling grain,
That the trump of God shall thrill
me with its call so loud
and clear,
And I'm called away to meet Him
whom of all I hold most dear.

Quite suddenly—it may be in
His house I bend my knee
When the kingly voice, long hoped
for, comes at last to summon
me;
And the fellowship of earth-life
that has seemed so passing
sweet
Proves nothing but the shadow of
our meeting 'round His feet.

Quite suddenly—it may be as I
tread the busy street,
Strong to endure life's stress and
strain, its every call to meet,
That through the roar of traffic, a
trumpet, silvery clear,
Shall stir my startled senses and
proclaim His coming here.

Quite suddenly—it may be as I
lie in dreamless sleep,
God's gift to many a sorrowing
heart, with no more tears
to weep,
That a call shall break my slumber
and a voice sound in my ear:
"Rise up, My love, and come away!
Behold, the Bridegroom's
here!"

"What is the matter, darling?" asked Mrs. Smith, when her small son came to her in tears.

"Papa was hanging a picture and it fell on his toe," responded the child between sobs.

"But that is nothing to cry about," replied Mrs. Smith cheerily, "you should have laughed at that."

"I did," said the boy.

In Days Gone By

On December 30, 1903, about 600 people died when fire broke out at the Iroquois Theater in Chicago.

On December 30, 1847, the first postage stamps were issued.

SOME PEOPLE never get interested in anything until it is none of their business !!!

Happy
New Year



From Pastor Dice,
Family and Staff

Step by Step

He does not lead me year by year,
Nor even day by day,
But step by step my path unfolds,
My Lord directs my way.

Tomorrow's plans I do not know,
I only know this minute.
But he will say, "This is the way,
By faith now walk ye in it."

And I am glad that it is so,
Today's enough to bear,
And when tomorrow comes,
his grace
Shall far exceed its care.

What need to worry then, or fret?
The God who gave his Son
Holds all my moments in his hand
And gives them one by one.

New Years

Let God's Word Be Your Guide

ONE YEAR TO LIVE

If I had but one year to live;
One year to help; one year to give;
One year to love; one year to bless;
One year of better things to stress;
One year to sing; one year to smile;
To brighten earth a little while;
One year to sing my Master's praise;
One year to fill with work my days;

One year to strive for a reward
When I should stand before my
Lord,
I think that I would spend each day,
In just the very self-same way
That I do now. For from afar
The call may come to cross the bar
At any time, and I must be
Prepared to meet eternity.

So if I have a year to live;
Or just one day in which to give
A pleasant smile, a helping hand,
A mind that tries to understand
A fellow creature when in need
Tis one with me... I take no heed;
But try to live each day He sends
To serve my gracious Master's
ends.
—Henry Van Dyke

His Unfailing Presence

Another year I enter,
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone!

But I have heard a
whisper;
I know I shall be blest;
"My presence shall go
with thee,
And I will give thee
rest."

What will the new year
bring me?
I may not, must not
know;
Will it be love and
rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?

Hush! Hush! I hear His
whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
"My presence shall go
with thee,
And I will give thee
rest."



"A New Leaf"

He came to my desk with a quivering lip —
The lesson was done.
"Dear Teacher, I want a new leaf," he said,
"I have spoiled this one."

I took the old leaf, stained and blotted,
And gave him a new one all unspotted,
And into his sad eyes smiled,
"Do better, now, my child."

I went to the throne with a quivering soul —
The old year was done.
"Dear Father, hast Thou a new leaf for me?
I have spoiled this one."

He took the old leaf spoiled and blotted,
And gave me a new one all unspotted,
And into my sad heart smiled,
"Do better, now, My child."

A New Year's Message

Another year I enter,
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone.
But I have heard God's whisper;
I know I shall be blest —
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."
What will the new year bring me?
I may not, must not, know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest —
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest!"

The Clock OF LIFE

The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop at late or early hour. To lose one's wealth is sad indeed. To lose one's health is more. To lose one's soul is such a loss that no man can restore.

39 people died while you read this short poem. Every hour 5,417 go to meet their Maker. You could have been among them. Sooner or later you will be. Are you ready?



Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



CHRISTMAS AND OTHER NEWS AT GRACE

God has blessed our church in many ways this year, especially with His presence and help in difficult times. As many know, our Assistant Pastor Bro. Brad Bennett went to Heaven this past year and has been missed very much. We are grateful that Pastor Gary Dice has improved and has been preaching in almost all of our services. Recently he has been preaching on prophecy and is taking the church through a series of studies on the "Foundations of Faith" on Wednesday nights.

During December this year we had our annual Christmas Banquet. The Fellowship building overflowed! Also, the students of Grace Baptist Academy presented their Christmas play which everyone enjoyed. The staff and students worked very hard preparing for this play.

Grace Baptist continues to prosper and do very well. There is always a happy spirit among our people. Attendance remains good, the bus ministry still brings in many children and adults each Sunday morning and visitors attend regularly with some being saved and baptized. Our missions ministry goes full-steam ahead as well as our Gospel Tract Ministry.

We are hoping to get 2 rooms completed early next year in our new addition to accommodate our teenagers.

Weatherwise: so far this year the weather has not been too bad, though we did have some tornadoes pass through just a few miles east and north of us. Not much snow, yet.

We hope that our friends and acquaintances will have a very happy and prosperous New Year in the Lord. Pray with us for Pastor Dice's complete recovery this next year.

THE FOLLOWING ARE MEN OF GOD who preached at Grace Baptist Church during 2018. Some preached more than one time.

Pastor Gary Dice
Bro. Brad Bennett
Bro. Leonard Dice
Pastor Philip Dice
Bro. Patrick Hopkins
Bro. Thomas Myers
Bro. Jeff Fesler
Bro. Ryan Dice
Bro. Jason Barnes
Evangelist Lou
 Dephilipantonio
Bro. Todd Oprzedek
Bro. John Harris
Bro. Sam Marasco



Evan. Ted Huston
Bro. Jeremy Hart
Bro. Mike Goodall
Bro. Stan Kiefer
Bro. Jeremy Hinton
Evan. Craig Bryan
Bro. Chris Matthews
Bro. Wangraibou
 Ngonamai
Bro. John Nordman
Evan. Gary Mann
Pastor Doug Rogers
Bro. Bob Ueltzen