



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

LIBERTY

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I've found a Friend, oh, such a friend!

He bled, He died to save me;

And not alone the gift of life,

But His own self He gave me.

Naught that I have my own I call,

I hold it for the Giver,

My heart, my strength, my life, my all,

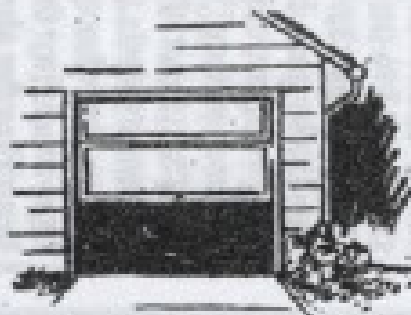
Are His and His forever.

-James G. Small

In Days Gone By

On June 2, 1953, Queen Elizabeth II was crowned in Westminster Abbey, 16 months after the death of her father, King George VI.

Do not blame God for the harvest when you, yourself, do the sowing.



Commentary on Human Nature

Just Things



"Dear Thief . . ." the letter in the *Evening Tribune* began. The writer explained that she spotted a man stealing something heavy from her garage, but ". . . we had so much stuff in the garage that we could not tell what it was that you took." (Mrs. Smith did not necessarily want the stolen things returned, but she wanted to report the loss, and the police could not make out a report until she knew what was stolen). ". . . Until we finally miss what it was you took, we can't report it missing: If we can't report it stolen, we can't claim our loss and deduct it from our income tax. So would you, just as a token of your appreciation, send us an itemized list of what you stole and its approximate value so we can turn it in to our tax man?"

This is a commentary on human nature! Most of us have so many things that we cannot keep inventory of what we have nor miss it when it's gone! How much better to lay up our treasure in Heaven, "where thieves do not break through nor steal." Heaven will keep a good inventory of what we send on ahead.

Philosophy

A collection of small bits of wit and wisdom that's really big on truth.

1. Owning a mistake is greater than perfection.
2. It takes both the sun and the rain to make a rainbow.
3. Forget all the reasons it won't work and believe the one reason that it will!
4. Walk away from anything or anyone who takes away your joy.
5. Greatness is measured by your gifts, not your possessions.
6. Another reason to take the high road: there's less traffic.
7. A good goal should scare you a little and excite you a lot.
8. Never give up on something you can't go a day without thinking about.
9. If you can see the invisible, you can do the impossible.
10. You have three choices in life: give up, give in, or give it all you have.
11. Only dead fish go with the flow.
12. Sometimes the best thing to get off your chest is your chin.
13. The truly rich are those who enjoy what they already have.
14. Share your strengths, not your weaknesses.

Words—so powerful!

They can crush a heart or heal it. They can shame a soul or liberate it. They can shatter dreams or energize them.

They can obstruct connection or invite it.

They can create defenses or melt them.

We have to use words wisely!

The Last Hug

The wedding was about to begin. The groom was nervous. The bride was radiant. The guests were in their places. I was trying to calm the anxiety-stricken groomsmen.

Then the father of the bride caught my attention. Serene. Pensive. Almost tearful. "I wonder when the last time was that I picked her up and held her," he said. "I mean the very last time. I don't remember. Was she six, seven or maybe nine? I don't remember. I only know that, if I would have realized that it was the last time to hold my little girl, I would have held her longer, tighter and with more feeling."

"*The Last Time!*" Those are serious words. The last football game for the quarterback. The last workday for the retiree. The last kiss for the widow. The last time.

What if you were to invest your energy into every day as if it were your last day? How would it be different from the routine? Think of the automatic change this would make in most of our relationships with parents, children, spouse, friends.

Are there feelings in your heart that are destined to stay locked inside? The body in the coffin does not hear the words of the loved one standing beside it.

Whoever the writer of Hebrews was, he certainly understood this principle.

"To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts" (3:7,8).

"... exhort one another daily, while it is called To day" (3:13).

Today there may be opportunities which may never come again. Doors may be open today which tomorrow may be shut. There will be a last hug for all of us.

- ... A last church service.
- ... A last singing of a favorite hymn.
- ... A last kiss.
- ... A last goodbye.
- ... A last hug.

—Terry Bell

Army and Police

A very new soldier was on sentry duty at the main gate of a military outpost. His orders were clear: No car was to enter unless it had a special sticker on the windshield. A big Army car drove up with a general seated in the back.

The sentry said, "Halt, who goes there?"

The chauffeur, a corporal, said, "General Wheeler."

"I'm sorry, I can't let you through. You've got to have a sticker on the windshield."

The general said, "Drive on."

The sentry said, "Hold it. You really can't come through. I have orders to shoot if you try driving in without a sticker."

The general repeated, "I'm telling you, son, drive on."

The sentry walked up to the rear window and said, "General, I'm new at this. Do I shoot you or the driver?"

A blowhard Air Force major was promoted to colonel and received a brand-new office. His first morning behind the desk, an airman knocked on the door and asked to speak to him. The colonel told him to come in. Then, feeling the urge to impress the young airman, the major picked up his phone and said: "Yes, General, thank you. Yes, I will pass that along to the president this afternoon. Yes, goodbye, sir."

Then turning to airman he barked, "And what do you want?"

"Nothing important, sir," said the airman. "I just came to install your telephone."

Just before a farm boy had his first parachute jump, his sergeant reminded him, "Count to ten then pull the first rip cord. If it snarls, pull the second rip cord for the auxiliary chute. After you land, our truck will pick you up."

The paratrooper took a deep breath and jumped. He counted to ten and pulled the first cord. Nothing happened. He pulled the second cord. Again, nothing happened. As he careened crazily earthward, he said to himself, *I'll bet that truck won't be there either!*

Officer: Soldier, do you have change for a dollar?

Soldier: Sure, buddy.

Officer: That's no way to address an officer.

Now, let's try that again. Soldier, do you have change for a dollar?

Soldier: No, sir!

Game warden: Fishing?

Man without a license: No, drowning worms.



Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? The answer is a resounding "NO!" However, a survey was taken recently to find who the happiest people in the world are. If you think that it's the rich, the powerful and the famous, you are wrong. The survey revealed that the happiest people in the world are evangelical Christians. There are many reasons for this because the true Christian knows and has things that the world knows nothing about. Listen to these things and you will understand why a Christian has joy and happiness in his heart and expresses it outwardly:

1. We know that Jesus Christ has come - I John 5:20.
2. We know that we have eternal life - I John 5:13.
3. We know that all things work together for good to them that love God - Romans 8:28.
4. We know we have a home in Heaven - I Cor. 5:1.
5. We know that Jesus is coming again - Acts 1:10-11
6. We know we have access to God through prayer - Ephesians 2:18.
7. We know that we have a Mediator - I John 1:1-2.
8. We know that we will be like Christ - I John 3:2.
9. We know that we shall reign with Christ - Rev. 20:4-6.
10. We know that we shall be with the Lord forever - II Thess. 4:17-18.

These are just a few of the marvelous, wonderful truths that Christians know. There are many, many more. It is no wonder, then, that truly born again people are the happiest people of all. We have a hope that is steadfast and sure. God's grace is sufficient for every day that we live, for every mile that we travel and for every trial that we endure. Without Him we have nothing; with Him we have everything!



Four women were having coffee. Said one, "My husband bought me some diamond bracelets. Then my

skin broke out. The doctor said I was allergic to diamonds. So we had to return them."

A second lady said her husband had bought her a fur coat that had to be returned. The doctor said she was allergic to furs.

Another fainted. When she was revived, she explained, "I'm allergic to hot air."