



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

LIBERTY

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Our custom of putting X's at the ends of letters and notes to symbolize kisses grew out of medieval legal practices. In order to indicate good faith and honesty in those days, the sign of St. Andrew—a cross—was placed after the signature on all important documents.

Thereafter, contracts and agreements were not considered binding until each signer added St. Andrew's cross after his name. Then he was required to kiss the document to further guarantee faithful performance of his obligations. The cross was drawn hurriedly, and often it was tilted and looked much like the letter "X."

Over the centuries the origin of the ceremony was forgotten. But, people still associated the "X" with the kiss instead of the pledge of good faith, and the custom has continued into modern times.

—Marvin Varoni

YOU'RE GROWING OLDER...
"WHEN!"

Everything Hurts And What Doesn't Hurt, Doesn't Work.

You Feel Like The Night Before and You Haven't Been Anywhere.

Your Mind Makes Promises Your Body Can't Keep.

You Know The Answers, But Have Forgotten The Questions.

You Sit In A Rocking Chair and Can't Get It Going.

Your Back Goes Out More Than You Do.

The Best Part of Your Day Is Over When Your Alarm Goes Off.

In Days Gone By

On Aug. 25, 1944, Paris was liberated by Allied Forces after 4 years of Nazi occupation.

On August 26, 55 B.C., Roman forces under Julius Caesar invaded Britain.

FACE POWDER MAY HELP CATCH A MAN, BUT IT'S THE BAKING POWDER THAT HOLDS HIM.

A TV repair service ad carried these words: "We can fix anything wrong with your TV except the lousy programs."

NOW YOU KNOW

- * A queen termite can live for up to fifty years.
- * Hurricanes in the Indian Ocean are called cyclones, in the North Pacific a typhoon, and in Australia a willy-willy.
- * The average freshman U.S. Senator enters office around \$300,000 in debt.
- * The Arabic word for "forbidden" is harem.
- * The offspring of a female donkey and a male horse is a hinny. A male is the offspring of a female horse and a male donkey.
- * American artist Grandma Moses didn't start painting full time until she was over 70 years old. Still, before her death, she completed 1,600 paintings.
- * Hong Kong has more Rolls Royce cars per capita than any other city on earth.
- * An estimated 16 million tons of rain fall to the earth every second.
- * Experts say the Statue of Liberty's mouth is 3 feet wide.
- * The only thing that can destroy a diamond is intense heat.
- * An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- * Baseball's first no-hitter was played on July 15, 1876.
- * President Taft weighed 352 lbs.
- * The original name for the butterfly was "Flutterby."
- * Scissors were invented by Leonardo da Vinci. So was the parachute.
- * A thirsty camel can drink an entire bathtub full of water in one sitting.
- * The original name of the Statue of Liberty was "Liberty Enlightening the World."
- * The shortest complete sentence in the English language is, "I am."
- * The very first bomb dropped by the Allies on Berlin during World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.
- * Dogs hear sounds at almost 4 times the distance that humans can hear them.
- * The geographical center of North America is Rugby, North Dakota.
- * Humpback whales do not have a hump. The "humpback" refers to their diving style, in which they arch their back when breaching the surface and diving back into the water.
- * Mel Blanc, the voice of Bugs Bunny, was allergic to carrots.
- * Some 21 million Americans blow out their birthday candles in August, making it the number-one birth month in America. The fewest birthdays fall in February.

WHO'S ON THE LORD'S SIDE?

A PASTOR tells an amusing but pointed story about an unsaved man who was on his way to attend a costume ball one Sunday evening. He was wearing a red suit with a tail and a skintight mask with horns. He looked like Satan—that is, he conformed to the false but widely accepted picture of the devil. As he hurried along, he was caught in a sudden rainstorm, so he took shelter in a church where the service was just ending. Rushing into the building, he shocked the members, who thought he was the real thing. A flash of lightning and a clap of thunder added to the illusion. The congregation panicked and rushed for the rear exits. The intruder thought the church had been struck and was on fire, so he raced after them. Everyone got out except an elderly lady. Turning in fear, she stretched out her hands and pleaded for mercy. "Oh, devil, please don't hurt me. I know I've been a member of this church for 30 years, but I've really been on your side all the time!"

We smile at this story, but regrettably it applies to many professing Christians who attend God's house just out of habit or to maintain social status in the community. They've never known the life-changing reality of receiving Christ as their personal Savior. Like that lady, they'd have to admit they are not really on the Lord's side.

"OLD AGE" IS SPIRITUALLY DANGEROUS

Why is "old age" such a spiritually dangerous period? The answer, I believe, is the increasing corruption of the "old man"—the Adamic nature—which we carry with us all through life! Let me illustrate. When I was a young man I worked in the summer months as an assistant to the caretaker of a local cemetery. One of my less attractive duties was to assist on occasion in "exhuming" a dead body. If the funeral had taken place recently, the task was not so disturbing; but if a year or two had intervened, the experience was gruesome and nauseating. I know this is a shocking subject, but I want to drive home the point that corruption becomes increasingly manifested in a corpse! So, too, the longer we carry the "old man" of sin around with us, the more violently evil it becomes. If we do not correspondingly grow in grace to offset this, the "old man" may take over, and then we will find to our sorrow just how corrupt it has become. Watch and pray lest you backslide in your old age, for you will certainly then make the most serious spiritual mistakes of your entire life! —(H.G.B.)

IT'S EXPENSIVE

Sin has always been costly and that has not changed. Just think of what could be done with the money saved if we did not need prisons. But we need to remember that sin is not confined just to those who have been put behind bars for crime. The Scripture clearly declares that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Why We Believe Jesus Rose from the Dead

If Jesus did not rise from the dead, the Christian faith is a foolish fantasy. However, if the resurrection of Christ did occur, it confirms His life, message, and atoning work. It is the basis of our hope of life beyond the grave.

Christ is alive, and the evidence is overwhelming. Here are some of the reasons we can be so sure.

1. Jesus predicted His resurrection. (Matt. 16:21; Mark 9:9-10; John 2:18-22).
2. The Old Testament prophesied it (Psalm 16:10; compare Acts 2:25-31; 13:33-37).
3. The tomb was empty and the graveclothes vacant. If those who opposed Christ wished to silence His disciples, all they had to do was produce a body, but they could not (John 20:3-9).
4. Many people saw the resurrected Christ. They looked on His face, touched Him, heard His voice, and saw Him eat (Matt. 28:16-20; Luke 24:13-39; John 20:11-29; John 21:1-9; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Cor. 15:3-8).
5. The lives of the disciples were revolutionized. Though they fled and even denied Christ at the time of His arrest, they later feared no one in their proclamation of the risen Christ (Matt. 26:56, 69-75).
6. The resurrection was the central message of the early church. The church grew with an unwavering conviction that Christ had risen and was the Lord of the church (Acts 4:33; 5:30-32; Rom. 5:24).
7. Men and women today testify that the power of the risen Christ has transformed their lives. We know that Jesus is alive not only because of the historical and biblical evidence but also because He has miraculously touched our lives. — Kurt E. De Haan

WHAT MAKES EVERYTHING DIFFERENT?

A young missionary wife living in very primitive surroundings became severely depressed, and it appeared that she and her husband would have to return home. But knowing that his skills were in great demand, she didn't want to be a hindrance to God's work. So she turned to the Lord in earnest prayer. The Holy Spirit impressed upon her that she had not done all she could to adjust to her environment. First she started taking a keen interest in the language and customs of the people. Then she learned about the trees, plants, and animals of that area. She found ways to help her new friends and began witnessing to them. Before long, her letters were filled with glowing accounts of successful and happy experiences. What had changed? Not her surroundings. She had! Trusting God and acting in faith had given her a new outlook. And this made everything different.

Miscellaneous-

Leonard E. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



OUR GREAT GOVERNMENT! In spite of the Bible deniers, the Christ rejectors and haters of the real truth, our forefathers understood the central theme of Biblical Christianity and built a system of government that is built on Biblical principles and ideals.

Our THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT that oversee one another through a system of checks and balances, are all based on one verse, Isaiah 33:22. Here is what it says: "For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; he will save us."

JUDICIAL BRANCH - For the Lord is our Judge

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH - For the Lord is our Lawgiver

EXECUTIVE BRANCH - The Lord is our King; He will save us.

This is just one of thousands of proofs that America was founded on the principles of God's Word.

WHAT'S IN THE NAME OF A CHURCH?

Believe it or not, the following are names of churches:

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| 1. Waterproof Baptist Church | 7. Boring Seventh Day Adventist Church, Pastor Elder Dull |
| 2. Fireworks Station Assembly of God | 8. No Hope Baptist Church |
| 3. Battleground Baptist Church | 9. Greater New Old Ship of Zion Southern Missionary Baptist Church. |
| 4. Country Club Christian Church | 10. Lilly Baptist Church (they toil not, neither do they spin.) Don't take this one too seriously. |
| 5. Boring Assembly of God Church | |
| 6. Whiskey Junction Baptist Church | |

WHAT IS THE LENGTH OF A GENERATION?

A generation is defined as the length of time it takes for a father to be succeeded by his child. It is usually considered to be 33 years.

A BIBLE generation is sometimes regarded as 35 years, being one-half the lifespan of 70 years (Psalm 90:10). Others believe it to be 40 years, saying that all the adults of the generation which left Egypt died during the 40-year wilderness wanderings.

Perhaps the strongest identification is found in Job 42:16, which says that "Job lived a hundred and forty years...even four generations." Dividing 140 by 4, the result is 35. A Bible generation could very well be 35 years.