



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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WHO ARE YOU KIDDING?

When a man says he can't keep awake during a twenty-minute sermon and stays home with his 700 column newspaper, who is he kidding?

When a man says Sunday is his only day to rest and gets up at 4:40 a.m. to spend the day fishing, who is he kidding?

When a man says the church seats are too hard and uncomfortable, then goes some Saturday to sit on a bleacher for hours in a drizzling rain to watch a bunch of football players push one another back and forth across a mud lot, who is he kidding?

When a man says he can't afford to tithe but lives in a comfortable home, drive a good car, eats well, clothes his family well, and makes payments on a home, who is he kidding?

When a man says he doesn't have time for the Lord and His church, then spends evenings shopping, bowling, watching television, going to all kinds of clubs, playing cards, having evenings out, who is he kidding?

ONE THING CERTAIN, HE IS NOT KIDDING GOD!!!

There is no neutral ground in the battle between God and Satan. We cannot be God's friends and not have God's enemies.

In Days Gone By

On Dec. 15, 1890, Sioux Chief Sitting Bull was killed with 11 others at Grand River in South Dakota.

The worried cow would have lived till now
If she had saved her breath,
But she feared her hay wouldn't last all day.
And she mooed herself to death!

But Didn't

Kathryn Thorne
Bowsher

Do you ever think at close of day
Of kindly words you meant to say—
But didn't?

Do you ever think when day is done
Of errands kind you could have run—
But didn't?

Do you ever think at daytime's leave
Of flowers gay you meant to give—
But didn't?

Do you ever think when skies are red
Of hungry mouths you could have fed—
But didn't?

Do you ever think at dawn of night
Of letters kind you meant to write—
But didn't?

Friend, do you think at life's set of sun
You'll think of deeds you could have done—
But didn't?

McChurch

by Vernon C. Lyons
Auburn Baptist Church
Orland Park, Illinois

Our culture demands conventional Christianity. We want it short, simple, fast and cheap.

The McBible does not have the tedious sixty-six books, but just a few with short sentences and simple words at the fifth-grade level. There are numerous pictures, and some pages have been ruled with lines so that you can add your own spiritual thoughts, just in case you get a new revelation.

The McWorship service is all sweetness and love, with nothing offensive.

The McSermon is easily digested with a minimum of nutrition and a maximum of fat.

Each McPrayer is centered on temporal and material things to keep the mind from wandering to the spiritual, which is often il-lusive for the modern American.

To keep the kids awake, the McHymns are done in hip-hop style.

McMarriages are performed for folk who like quickie relationships, and throw-away vows are the big feature. For those who still hold some traditional notions, there are premarital sessions with junk counseling.

The McPastor is a touchy-feely guy who majored in pop psychology and has an in-depth understanding of felt needs.

McSins, commonly called boobies, are easily forgiven with fast

prayers and, of course, are soon repeated but not taken too seriously. There is an effort to virtually eliminate the negative and dwell completely on the positive.

This whole business is sustained by the McTithe, which is not ten percent but whatever stray dollars happen to be left in the wallet.

The McYouth program is short on Bible study and discipleship and long on fun and games. It's designed to give the kids what they want and to teen-sit them so their parents can go out and have fun in the evenings without worrying about their kids getting into drugs and sex.

McChurch is staffed not by professionals but by hastily hired part-timers whose strongest spiritual slogan is "Have a nice day."

This is the church that offers McFellowship, which is not bonding but merely a quick "Hello," with a handshake, a hug and a hope that you do not become too responsible for the other person's life or spiritual well-being.

McSalvation does not have any deep doctrine of substitutionary atonement and regeneration, rather a simple human decision or a nod of the head is more than adequate to bring a person into McKingdom, where he hopes to live happily now and in the here-after.

All of this ends up in a McHeaven, where there are no golden streets but arches that appear over a broad entrance where the grill is scorching and the deep-fry grease superhot.

WHY SO MANY MULES?

A stranger, passing a mine, asked a little boy he saw near a fenced-in field: "Why do you have so many mules?"

"Oh sir, these mules are worked all week long in the nearby mines replied the boy. They are brought up into the light on Sunday to keep them from, going blind."

The application is apparent. Do not allow yourself to go spiritually blind. Find a good Bible-preaching church and attend every Sunday you can.

What Are They Worth?

Nobody knows what a boy is worth;

A boy at his work or play,

A boy who whistles around the place,
Or laughs in an artless way.

Nobody knows what a boy is worth;

A boy with his face aglow,

For hid in his heart, there are secrets deep
Not even the wisest know.

Nobody knows what a girl is worth;

With her carefree laugh and her sparkling smile,

With eyes like pools of dancing mirth,

To lighten the burdens of many a mile.

Nobody knows what a girl is worth;

A girl with her dolls and dreams,

For hidden away in the depths of her soul
The jewel of character gleams.

Nobody knows what a girl is worth;

Nobody knows what the future holds,

When the flowers of womanhood blossom forth

In a life of holiness lived for God.

Yes, Someone knows what a boy is worth,

A boy with his barefoot feet;

Yes, Someone knows what a girl is worth,

A girl with her smiles so sweet.

Yes, the Master knows and has given us them

To love, to train, to win, and to keep;

Each one is a gem in a diadem,

A trophy of grace to lay at His feet.

Bible Questions

1. Who, when about to die, charged his son to "show himself a man"?
1 Kings 2:1-2

2. What city was in such a deplorable condition that the virgins "hung down their heads" for shame?
Isaiah 22:10

3. Why did Jacob love Joseph more than all his other children? Gen. 37:3

Building or Wrecking Crew?

Ten little church members came to worship all the time.
One fell out with the pastor, then there were nine.
Nine little members stayed up late.

One overslept; then there were eight.

Eight church members on their way to Heaven.

One took the low road; now there are seven.

Seven church members all chirping like chicks.

One didn't like the music; now there are six.

Six church members seemed very much alive.

But one got "travelitis"; this left five.

Five church members pulling for Heaven's shore.

One got tired and disgruntled; this left four.

Four church members, busy as can be;

But one got his feelings hurt; now there are three.

Three church members, and the story's almost done.

For two of them got weary, and this left one.

Now everybody knows that one much can't do,

But one brought a friend last month; then there were two.

Two church members each won one more.

Now don't you see? $2 + 2 = 4$.

Four church members worked early and late.

Each one brought one; now there are eight.

Have you got the message, pointed and true?

Come on, folks, we've got a job to do.

For you see, these eight church members, if they double as before,

In just seven weeks would have 1,024!

In this little jingle there is a lesson true:

You belong to one or the other—either the building

or the wrecking crew.

—Reprinted from the Board of the Lord

It is hard today to know the difference between a boy and a girl because of their dress and hairdos.

A man at a party said to a stranger, "Isn't it awful the way kids look today? Look at that silly-looking girl over there."

"Sir," the stranger answered, "I'll have you know that isn't a girl. It's my son."

"Oh, I'm sorry," said the embarrassed man, "I had no way to know you were his mother."

"I'm not," the stranger answered angrily. "I'm his father."

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



WHERE WERE YOU ON THESE DATES?

Do you know where you were on November 22, 1963? You probably do if you are old enough to remember anything at all. That was the day that President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. Most folks can tell you exactly where they were, what they were doing and how they found out the news of his death.

Do you know where you were on January 22, 1973? No? Neither do most people. That was the day the Supreme Court legalized abortion on demand and since that time multiplied millions of unborn babies have been killed by their mothers and abortionists!

Isn't it strange that we could be so affected by the senseless killing of one man and remember it so clearly, and yet be so unaffected by the horrible decision that has senselessly killed multiplied millions of babies? And not even remember when it happened? God help us!

Former Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop stated, "In the alleged war on drugs, alcohol enjoys a battlefield exemption." While we "officially" oppose heroin, cocaine, opium, meth and even marijuana, BOOZE gets a free ride. Yet, in the 20th century, alcohol killed more people on our nation's highways than have been killed in all our wars from the Revolutionary War to the two wars in Iraq. Drug use kills about 20,000 annually in America; alcohol kills 5 times as many. It's way past time to do something about it.

Humans are Different in that the Creator has enabled us to laugh. Usually we think of laughter in frivolous terms, but it is indispensable to our physical and emotional health. Someone said, "Always laugh when you can, it is cheap medicine." The Bible says, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine..." Proverbs 17:22.

A woman apologized for her husband's never being in church. "The yard work keeps him pretty busy," she defended. Yet if a man misses four consecutive meetings of his Rotary Club in a year he's out. If a man doesn't show up for work, he's fired. This kind of approach makes good sense in any organization. Certainly Christ is as important as crabgrass.