

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

December 8, 2019

Vol. XVI, No. 49

STANDING WHERE THE FIRE HAS BEEN

"Who loved me, and gave himself for me." - Gal. 2:20.

One of the first gospel illustrations that ever made a real impression upon my young heart was a simple story which I heard a preacher tell when I was less than nine years old.

It was of pioneers who were making their way across one of the central states to a distant place that had been opened up for homesteading. They traveled in covered wagons drawn by oxen, and progress was necessarily slow.

One day they were horrified to note a long line of smoke in the west stretching for miles across the prairie, and soon it was evident that the dried grass was burning fiercely and that the fire was coming toward them rapidly.

They had crossed a river the day before, but it would be impossible to go back to that before the flames would be upon them. One man only seemed to have understanding as to what should be done. He gave the command to set fire to the grass behind them. When the space was burned over, the whole company moved back upon it.

As the flames roared on toward them from the west, a little girl cried out in terror, "Are you sure we shall not all be burned up?"

The leader replied, "My child, the flames cannot reach us here, for we are standing where the fire has been.!"

What a picture of the believer, who is safe in Christ!

If you have a gray-haired mother in the old home far away, then call or write a letter you put off day by day.

Don't wait until her tired steps reach Heaven's pearly gate. But show her that you think of her before it is too late.

If you've a tender message or a loving word to say, Don't wait till you forget it, but whisper it today.

Who knows what bitter memories may haunt you if you wait; So make your mother happy before it is too late.

In Days Gone By

On December 8, 1941, the United States entered World War II as Congress declared war against Japan after their attack.

The last-known Civil War survivors, six of them, met one another in Indiana in 1949.

AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY



When can little children be saved? What is the age of accountability? What does the Bible say on this subject? Well, let's look at the Scriptures and see what God tells us.

First, let's read Mark 10:13-16 - "And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them: and the disciples rebuked those that brought them. But, when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such IS the Kingdom of God. Verily, I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them."



Please notice in verse 15 the word "IS." It means in the present time. Jesus is saying that a child possesses the Kingdom of God at the present time. Jesus is saying that the little children who do not understand or know to make a decision, are safe from judgment.

Now then, when do they risk their status of being safe from judgment? In Romans 2:14-15, we find one of the requirements from becoming guilty under the law is to not understand the movement of their conscience and be able to decide according to their thought. Let's read Romans 2:14-15 - "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another.

Also, in Romans 3:19-21, we find that to become guilty under the law one must have the knowledge to meet the law's requirement for judgment. Let's read Romans 3:19-21 - "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it sayeth to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore, by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets."

Putting it all together, we come to the conclusion that children are "safe" from all judgment until they possess a conscience that takes its thoughts to the mind and the child understands them with the knowledge that comes by age, and time. When that time comes the child has reached the age of accountability; that is the time when the child will face their sin and lose their safe place.



-copied

TWO IMPORTANT INCIDENTS ABOUT CHILDREN

In Deuteronomy 1:39, we read where the little children had no knowledge of good and evil and would be allowed to enter the promised land while those who rebelled died in the wilderness.

In II Samuel 12:23, we read where David said that his baby would not return from the dead, but he would go to him. We need to know that a child's knowledge and conscience comes by age and time, and until then they are safe in the arms of Jesus.

STATISTICS PROVE that the vast majority of believers receive Christ at an early age. The teachings of Christ in Matthew 19, Mark 10 and Luke 18 prove the importance of children coming to Christ at a young age. Parents should pray earnestly for the salvation of their children, and God in His own time will answer those prayers.

-Reprinted by Request



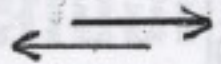
"Wireless communication is nothing new. I've been praying for 75 years!"

A LOST SINNER'S SINCERE PRAYER

Dear God, I'm a sinner headed for Hell, and I need to be saved. I cannot save myself, but I know You can do it for me. I do believe that Jesus in His death, burial and resurrection paid my sin debt and purchased salvation for me. I believe it, and right now I submit myself in full trust to Him. Please, God, forgive my sin and save me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Palindrome: a word, phrase, or sentence that reads the same forward and backward.

Do geese see God?
Dennis sinned.
Niagara, O roar again!
Live not on evil.
Draw, O coward!
Rise to vote, sir!



Murder for a jar of red rum.
Campus motto: bottoms up, Mac.
Go deliver a dare, vile dog!
Madam, in Eden I'm Adam.
Ah, Satan sees Natasha.
Don't nod.
Dogma: I am God.
Never odd or even.
Too bad—I hid a boot.
Go hang a salami; I'm a lasagna hog!

A LITTLE DAB WILL DO IT

Many parents are hard put to explain to their youth why some music, movies, books, and magazines are not acceptable material for them to bring into the home, for their youth to see, or hear. One parent came up with an original idea that was hard to refute.

He listened to all the reasons his children gave for wanting to see a particular PG-13 movie.

It had their favorite actors. Everyone else was seeing it. Even church members said it was great. It was only rated PG-13 because of the suggestion of sex. They never really showed it. The language was pretty good. They only used the Lord's name in vain three times in the whole movie. The video effects were fabulous and the plot was action packed. Yes there was the scene where a building and a bunch of people got blown up, but the violence was just the normal stuff. It wasn't very bad.

Even with all these explanations for the rating, the father wouldn't give in. He didn't even give them a satisfying explanation for saying, "No." He just said, "No."

It was a little bit later that evening, that this same father asked his teens if they would like some brownies he had prepared. He explained that he had taken the families favorite recipe and added something new.

They asked what it was. He calmly replied that he had added mouse and rat poison. He firmly stated

that it was only a little bit. All the ingredients were gourmet quality. He had taken great care to bake it at the precise temperature for the exact time. He was sure the brownies would be superb. Even with all the explanations of the perfect attributes of the brownies, the teens would not take one. The father acted surprised.

There was only one little element that would have caused them to act so stubbornly. He assured them that they would hardly notice it if at all. They all held firm and would not try the brownies.

He then explained that the movie they wanted to see was just like the brownies. Satan tries to enter our minds and our homes by deceiving us into believing that just a little bit of evil won't matter. With the brownies, just a little bit makes all the difference between a great brownie and a totally unacceptable product.

He explained that even though the movie people would have us believe the movies which are coming out are acceptable for adults and youths to see, they are not. Test your movie and see.

Would you be comfortable taking Christ with you to see the movie?

Now when this father's youth want to do something or see something they should not, the father merely asks them if they would like some of his special rat poison brownies and they never ask about doing those things again.

Be careful about calling yourself an expert. An "ex" is a has-been, and a "spurt" is a drip under pressure.

You cannot change the PAST, but you can ruin a perfectly good PRESENT by worrying over the FUTURE.

How can we teach our children not to gamble when their schools are supported by the lottery?