



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

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## TO A FATHER:

### Who Was There

You were there when I was little  
To soothe my childhood fears;  
There with love and wisdom  
To enrich my growing years.

When I came to you with problems,  
You helped me work them out;  
You were the one who taught me  
What life is all about.

You were there to show your pride  
On graduation day;  
There to bless my marriage  
And give the bride away.

It seems that you have always played  
A most important part  
In all the happy moments  
I hold within my heart.

Now I have a little one  
Who climbs upon your knee  
And listens to the stories  
You used to tell to me.

And I'm happy you are here  
To soothe her childhood fears  
And use your love and wisdom  
To bless her growing years.

—Alice E. Chase

## In Days Gone By

On Jan. 25, 1858, the Wedding March was played for the first time.

On Jan. 26, 1880, General Douglas MacArthur, a great general was born.

## AT DAY'S END

Is anybody happier because you passed his way?

Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?

The day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;

Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?

Can you say tonight, in parting with the day, that's slipping fast,

That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?

Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;

Does the man whose hopes were fading, now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day, or lose it? Was it well or sorely spent?

Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent?

As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say,

"You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today"?

—John Hall

## It's Not Impossible

by Helen Kitchell Evans

Are you saying it's impossible  
To live a Christian life?

Are you saying it's impossible  
To overcome your strife?

Are you saying it's impossible  
To go the better way?

Nothing is impossible  
If you take Christ each day.

# CHRISTIANS SUING CHRISTIANS IS IT SCRIPTURAL?

**A**s more internal church disputes end up in the courts, it becomes clear that Christians who sue churches and fellow-Christians are doing great harm both to themselves and to the cause of Christ before an unbelieving world which is looking for a reason to ridicule the claims of Christians. Even unsaved judges, as they write their decisions concerning church disputes, express disappointment in Christians who are coming to a secular court to settle disagreements with other Christians. Even unbelievers recognize that such actions are at odds with Scriptural teachings. Christians who take their disputes with a church to court demonstrate eight characteristics.

1. They transgress Scriptural commands. I Cor. 6:1-7 clearly prohibits Christians from taking a brother to law, saying that a believer who does so does it to his "shame."

2. They submit spiritual problems to unspiritual problem-solvers. Disputes among Christians ought never to happen, but they do because we are sinners. Scriptural principles, however, are to rule over every part of our lives. Secular judges do not understand the Lordship of Christ and must, by necessity, impose unscriptural answers to prob-

lems that are spiritual in nature.

3. They give testimony to the world that Scriptural principles are ineffective in meeting the needs of Christians. Christians are commanded to love one another, to turn the other cheek when wronged, to give up a cloak when asked only for a coat, and to esteem fellow-Christians above themselves. Matt. 5:39-45. A Christian who takes a church or fellow-believer to court has ignored all of these commands.

4. They demonstrate to the world that Christians are no different than non-believers in their ability to exemplify Christian love. Col. 3:12-17 sets out how Christians are to act toward one another. Taking them to secular court is not in that list; forbearing and forgiving one another is.

5. They take on themselves the role of God in protecting His church. God established His church, promising that the gates of Hell would not prevail against it. Matt. 16:18. God is perfectly capable of protecting His church. God never intended for secular courts to handle the problems within His churches.

6. They uncover their wicked denial of submission to the leaders of God's church.

Hebrews 13:17 commands believers to "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you."

7. They sow discord and confusion in the church, deflecting it from its proper role of winning the lost. God is not the author of confusion. I Cor. 14:33.

8. They focus on selfish desires rather than the needs of others and the testimony of Christ. Phil. 2:2-3 commands each believer to esteem the other better than himself and to be concerned about others rather than himself. If we do that, we are too busy to run to the courts with petty squabbles. The Bible gives clear instruction on what a Christian must do if he has a problem with a fellow-believer. A church is also commanded to discipline those who cause division. Matt. 18:15-17; Gal. 6:1; and Rom. 16:17.

We at the Christian Law Association continually pray for a revival among believers in churches across the nation. Perhaps now more than at any other time in the history of our country, we need strong churches with memberships which are united in their efforts to win the lost. Christians who are busy doing what God has commanded them to do will not have the inclination to go to secular courts to solve spiritual problems. — Christian Law Association.

The right to do something does not mean that doing it is right.

Henry Boye

It's nice to be important,  
But it's more important to be nice.



"In its purest form, truth is not a polite tap on the shoulder. It is a howling reproach. What Moses brought down from Mount Sinai were not the Ten Suggestions." \*



Jack Flynn ©MMI

"I learned my A,B,C's ... now they want me to learn my D,E,F's !

## DON'T NEED BARS TO BE IN A PRISON

You don't need bars to be in a prison  
You don't need walls to be in a cell.  
You're chained and bound and shackled  
if your heart's an empty shell.  
You don't need to be caught to be trapped  
Nor to fall to sink in a pit,  
You enslave your own soul when you hurt someone  
and you live like a hypocrite.  
When you lock out the Lord  
You're the one who's locked in,  
Yet He's the One with the key.  
In a world full of lies, Jesus is Truth,  
and the Truth shall make you free.

## PROTECTION

A survey of 600 imprisoned armed robbers, burglars, and car thieves revealed how they would protect their own property from people like themselves ... they would get a dog.

Psychology Today Magazine

# Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

\*STORIES  
\*EVENTS  
\*VIEWS  
\*NEWS



## THE CROWNING CREATION OF ALMIGHTY GOD

At the dawn of history, man was made in the image of God and given dominion over the earth and every living thing. He was endowed with an eternal spirit and the ability to reason. This made him unlike any animal. He was not only "self" conscious but also keenly aware of the Supreme Being who had formed him.

His body too is a masterpiece of exquisite design. Beautifully "engineered," it is governed by several hundred control systems, each interacting with the others to maintain perfect overall balance. Man's brain has 10 million nerve cells to record what he sees and hears. His skin has more than 2 million tiny sweat glands, about 3,000 per square inch, all part of an intricate network that regulates body temperature. A "pump" in his chest makes his blood cells travel 168 million miles a day, or 6,720 times around the world! The lining of his stomach contains 35 million glands secreting juices to aid the chemical processes which sustain life. The marvels of the human body are beyond comprehension!

A young student stood gazing at a chart that showed all of man's organs, nerves, arteries, and glands. He had been thinking about the fact that most new products don't operate efficiently until all the "bugs" are ironed out. Suddenly, he exclaimed, "Just think, the first time God put a human body together, it worked!"

After forming man, the all-wise Creator declared that this complex being was "very good." (Genesis 1:31). And, indeed, it was! As His crowning creation, let's offer Him our fervent and faithful service.

-H.G.B.

## WHEN MONEY ISN'T IMPORTANT

A business man whose life centered on making money had a dream in which an angel came to visit him and promised to grant him one wish. He requested a copy of the newspaper with the stock market quotes for a year. As he was studying the future prices of stocks on the New York stock exchange, contemplating how he was going to make a fortune, his eye caught the obituary across the page because it contained a picture of him. He awakened before he read the date, however, after that, money didn't seem nearly so important to him.

Life takes on a different perspective when one is faced with the reality of their death and eternity.

**S A L V A T I O N**

**DON'T LEAVE EARTH  
WITHOUT IT!**