



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

LIBERTY

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Never Alone

The world's fierce winds are blowing
Temptations sharp and keen;
I have a peace in knowing
My Savior stands between.
He stands to shield me from
danger

When my friends are all gone;
He promised never to leave me,
Never to leave me alone.

When in affliction's valley
I tread the road of care,
My Savior helps me carry
The cross so heavy to bear.
Though all around me is
darkness,

Earthly joys all flown,
My Savior whispers His promise
Never to leave me alone!

He died on Calvary's mountain;
For me they pierced His side;
For me He opened that
fountain,

The crimson, cleansing tide.
For me He waiteth in Glory,
Seated upon His throne.
He promised never to leave me,
Never to leave me alone.

—L. D. Pickett

MY NEIGHBORS

My neighbors just across the way
Arise before the break of day,
And build a fire for breakfast bite
And dine with aid of coal-oil light.

When I arise, I look to see
That emblem of tranquility...
The line of smoke that's outward
spread
Like snowy blankets on a bed.

And if the morning's calm and still
It reaches far, from hill to hill.
Oh, how I wish that you could see
The scenes my neighbors paint for me!

THE VOICE OF A FRIEND

Heartbroken and weary, I seemed not to know
Which answer to give, which direction to go.
My mind was a turmoil; my spirit was ill.
My soul ached within—and where was my will?
I knelt by my bed—tried to send up a prayer—
But the words wouldn't come. Was there nobody
there?

Then I answered the phone and the voice of a
friend
Brought comfort, and helped lift my spirits again.
Again I knelt down in my favorite place;
And this time, it seemed, I looked straight in His
face.

My words were set free, and I knew God was there
To hear and to talk with His child in her prayer.
Thank God for His promise, His guidance, His
grace!

Days Gone By

On Jan. 31, 1958, the
U.S. entered the Space
Age with a successful
launch of a satellite
into orbit, called Ex-
plorer 1.

A Small Boy's Essay on Anatomy

Your head is kind of round and hard and your brains are in it and your hair on it... Your face is the front of your head where you eat and make faces.... Your neck is what keeps your head out of your collar.... Your stomach is something that if you do not eat often enough it hurts and spinach doesn't help it.... Your shoulders are kind of shelves.... Your spine is a long bone in your back that keeps you from folding up.... Your back is always behind you no matter how quick you turn around.... Your arms you got to have to pitch with and so you can reach the butter.... Your fingers stick out of your hand so you can throw a curve and add up arithmetic.... Your legs are what if you have not got two of, you can't get to first base; neither can your sister.... Your feet are what you run on.... Your toes are what always get stubbed. And that's all there is of you except what's inside and I never saw it. The end.

WHY SHOOT A HORSE WITH A BROKEN LEG?

I remember asking my father why it was necessary to shoot a horse with a broken leg. My broken leg seemed to heal well. Why not so with a horse. The article I read gave me this answer.

A horse is a poor patient. He constantly bangs a cast or fights a sling. He just will not be calm enough for the leg to heal. A dog will do fine. How about a person? Especially the person who learns to yield to God in time of trials and trouble. God never makes a mistake. (Read Roman 8:28)

Like Job, he who submits and trusts in the day of trouble will be greatly blessed in the latter end.

Roger F. Campbell

SEVEN KINDS OF MINDS

1. Mind your tongue. Never allow it to speak hasty, cruel, unkind, untruthful or wicked words. It was made for something better.
2. Mind your eyes. Do not permit them to look on obscene pictures, or things which suggest evil. There are many things that sight of which will be inspirational.
3. Mind your ears. They should never listen to wicked speeches, improper songs or unholy words. They were made for hearing harmonies of Truth and the sweet voice of God.
4. Mind your lips. Never let anything befoul them, nor strong drink pass between them. They are for better purposes.
5. Mind your hands. They should never steal or fight, or be used to write down evil thoughts. Their best use is to lift up the fallen, and to hand out blessings to the needy.
6. Mind your feet. They are not to walk in the paths of sin, nor in any other steps of Satan. They are to carry you on errands of mercy and labors of love.
7. Mind your heart. The love of sin is to be kept out of it, and Satan is not to have any room in it. It is to be consecrated to Jesus, and He is to make it His throne. --Selected

WHICH ONE?

One of us, dear—

But one—

Will sit by the bed with marvelous fear
And clasp the hand
Growing cold as it feels for the spirit land—
Darling, which one?

One of us, dear—

But one—

Will stand by the other's coffin bier
And look and weep
While those marble lips strange silence keep—
Darling, which one?

One of us, dear—

But one—

By an open grave will drop a tear
And homeward go,
The anguish of an unshared grief to know—
Darling, which one?

One of us, darling, it must be.

It may be you will slip from me;
Or perhaps my life may first be done:
I'm glad we do not know
Which one.

—Home Duties, published by Moody Press

MAN'S QUESTIONS—GOD'S ANSWERS

These questions are frequently asked by people who are seeking answers to their problems from God's Word. Perhaps similar thoughts have come to your mind. Here's what the Bible says in response to each of these inquiries:

Am I accountable to God?

"So, then, every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:12).

Does He charge me with sin?

"But the scripture hath concluded all under sin" (Gal. 3:22).

Will He punish me for sin?

"For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).

Is there no hope for my soul?

"The Lord is... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9).

How can I escape?

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

Is God willing to save me?

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15).

Am I saved immediately upon believing?

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life" (John 3:36).

Can I be saved now?

"... now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2).

Can I come just as I am?

"... him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

If saved, how should I live?

"... they who live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him who died for them" (2 Cor. 5:15).

What about death and eternity?

"I go to prepare a place for you, ... that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:2,3). —H.G.B.

SIX KINDS OF PEOPLE GOD CAN'T USE

Many Christians will never be useful in the kingdom because of mindsets or behaviors that limit the flow of the Holy Spirit or, as the apostle Paul said in Galatians 2:21a (KJV), "frustrate the grace of God."

If you want God to use you, make sure you don't fall into any of these categories:

>>**Driver's seat Christians.** Jesus is not just our Savior; He is the Lord. He wants to guide our decisions, direct our steps and overrule our selfish choices. There are many believers who enjoy the benefits of salvation, yet they never yield control to God. If you want Him to use you, you must slide over into the passenger seat and let Jesus drive.

>>**Armchair critics.** Some people roll up their sleeves and serve the Lord; others make it their business to analyze and pick apart everyone who is doing God's work. The devil is the accuser, so if you are accusing others, you are operating in the spirit of Lucifer. The Holy Spirit doesn't work through people who are bitter, angry or judgmental.

>>**Carnally minded Christians.** It has become fashionable today for believers to lower the standard of moral behavior to the point that anything goes. Don't be fooled. Just because more and more people are jumping on the bandwagon of sexual permissiveness doesn't mean God has rewritten His eternal Word. People who live in blatant sin cannot be instruments of the Holy Spirit.

>>**Church dropouts.** I won't win a popularity contest by saying this, but it's true. God does not use people who have turned away from the church.

>>**Timid cowards.** Paul told Timothy: "Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord" (2 Tim. 1:8a). Fear has the power to paralyze. All who surrender to the call of God must bravely defend the faith, risk their reputation and suffer rejection — and possible persecution.

>>**Lazy spectators.** Many Christians today think following God means clocking in for a 60-minute service. We read quick devotions on our smartphones and breathe short prayers during our morning commutes. But somewhere in all this 21st-century stress, we lost the meaning of discipleship. If you want God to use you, you must take His call seriously and become a focused student of His Word and a passionate prayer warrior. Half-hearted people never changed the world. You must be devoted, committed and passionate if you want to make maximum spiritual impact.

- By J. LEE GRADY

**Is your place a small place?
Tend it with care—
He set you there.**

**Is your place a large place?
Guard it with care—
He set you there.**

**Whate'er your place it is
Not yours alone, but His
Who set you there.**

HOW TO MAKE GOD A STRANGER IN THE LAND. (Jer. 14:8)

1. Flood the market with many versions of the Bible.
2. Compromise Christianity and humanism.
3. Phase Him out of the school system.
4. Make preachers seem as idiots in Entertainment.
5. Get the IRS to define what a church is.
6. Make Sunday a holiday instead of a Holy Day.
7. Make television the main part of people's lives.
8. Make heroes out of entertainers in music, sports, movies, etc.
9. Belittle Godly men who went before us such as MacArthur, J., Edgar Hoover, Billy Sunday, etc.
10. Magnify the importance of the almighty dollar.
11. Destroy real Christian unity.
12. Foster the belief that Christian parents are hypocrites.
13. Tell lies so long that people believe they are true (such as humanism, evolution, rationalism, etc.).
14. Take God's name from all public places.
15. Make museums of churches.
16. Don't reach out through missions to a lost world.
17. Keep people too busy to pray.
18. Think more of material goods than your own soul.
19. Let someone else raise your children.
20. Have everybody in the family working so there is no time for family life.

-Pastor James Brown
: Beanblossom (IN) Baptist Church

NOW YOU KNOW

- * Pound for pound, earthworms make up half of all animal life.
- * At Thanksgiving, Americans consume an estimated 45 million turkeys.
- * Niagara Falls actually stopped flowing once, in 1848. The phenomenon was attributed to a "freak of nature."
- * The world's termites outweigh the world's humans 10 to one.
- * A caterpillar has more than 2000 muscles.
- * The original Coca-Cola soft drink was green.
- * Pain travels through your body at a rate of 350 feet per second.
- * Al Capone's business card identified him as a used-furniture dealer.
- * Maine is the only state with a one-syllable name.

A MERRY HEART DOETH GOOD LIKE A MEDICINE Proverbs 17:22

SCHOOL

A college dude thought he would share some of the latest slang with his folks at home on Easter break. At the breakfast table he said, "Chase the cow down this way, mom." And mom, wanting to bring him down a notch or two said, "Give the poor calf some milk and let him quit his bawling."

"How many senses are there," the teacher asked her pupil. "Six" was his immediate answer. "How is that, son? I only have five." He said, "I know it. The other one is common sense."

Father to son: I want you to do your school work well.

Son: Dad, I try real hard.

Father: Do you know what Abraham Lincoln was doing when he was your age?

Son: No, dad, but I know what he was doing when he was your age.

An absent-minded professor was going round and round in a revolving door. "Somebody help me," he cried. "I don't know for sure whether I'm coming or going."

Johnny was talking to his father about arithmetic. "Paw, I can't find the greatest common denominator." His dad, a little disgusted said, "Son, ain't they found that thing yet? They were looking for it when I was a boy."

After the photographer had taken a group picture of the fourth grade and the teacher, he tried to persuade each one of them to buy a picture. "Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you're grown up and say, "There's Annie, she's married now." Or "that's Billy, he's in the Navy." A boy spoke up from the back of the room and said, "There's teacher. She's dead."

The sixth grade teacher said to one of her pupils, "You ought to take something for your cold." His reply was, "Mam, I believe I will. I'll take the rest of the week off."

Teacher to pupil: "You've got a strange pair of socks on this morning, one is green and the other is blue." "I know it, teacher," was the reply. "I've got another pair just like them at home."

Because of poor grammar a schoolboy was assigned to stay after school and write this sentence 100 times on the blackboard: "I have gone . . . I have gone. . . I have gone." When he completed the assignment he wrote a little note to the teacher: "I did what you told me to. Now I have went home."

MISCELLANEOUS

A boy had a FOR SALE sign beside his dog. "How much are you asking for him?" a possible buyer asked. \$1000 was the boy's reply. That was outlandish so the man went on his way. On returning that afternoon he saw the sign read SOLD. "So you sold your dog, did you? How much did you sell him for?"

The boy answered, "Yep, I sold him. I traded him for two \$500 cats."

"Sonny, how'd you come to fall in the creek?"

"Mister, I didn't come to fall in the creek. I slipped off that log."

"Do you see that fly sitting on the church steeple across town?"

"No, but I can hear it."

Did you hear about the fellow who sat down at dusk wondering where the sun went? It finally dawned on him.

Some folks went to an Indian chief who had a good reputation for prognosticating the weather. "What's the weather going to be like tomorrow, chief?" He answered, "Me no know." "Well, why don't you know? You've always known before," they said. "I told you, me no know, radio broke."

Man getting up from the table after a lavish meal. "I guess I'll leave the table."

Hostess: "I'm glad. You didn't leave much else."

Man put a nickle in stand-up scales that also gave a little card of wisdom.

His read, "One person at a time, please."

Adam, Eve, Cain and Abel were out for a walk. They passed by some massive walls and a large gate. "Daddy, what's in there?" one of the boys asked. Adam answered, "Boys, that's the Garden of Eden. That's where we used to live until your mother ate us out of house and home."

SINGING

A man in the church choir couldn't sing and several choir members were upset because of it. They went to the pastor and threatened to quit if he wasn't removed. The preacher said, "I'll take care of it." So he went to the gentleman and said, "We need you to be our new head usher." "Well, I appreciate the confidence you have in me," the man replied, "but if it's all the same with you, I'll just stay in the choir."

The pastor said, "Let me level with you. There were several choir members who came to me and threatened to leave the choir if you didn't." "How many were there?" the man asked the preacher. "At least four or five," was his answer. "Well, preacher, I wouldn't worry about that. There were 30 or 40 who told me you couldn't preach but I never said anything to you about it!"

A lady was asked why she didn't sing in the choir any more. She explained: "One Sunday morning when I was absent, someone inquired if the organ had been fixed."

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



IT'S HARD TO GROW OLD ALONE

There is a pathetic story about the Danks family, the family who gave to the world the old song, "Silver Threads Among The Gold." In 1874, Mr. and Mrs. Danks, with their little brood of children, were a most happy and devoted couple. Both were in their early thirties. Mr. Danks was a song writer with a growing reputation. The couple had beautiful dreams of going down life's pathway and growing old together. In the atmosphere of this joyous anticipation the song was born. The song became universally popular. Mr. Danks dedicated it to his wife. But the bitter irony of the matter is the fact that marital discord came into the Dank's household. Separation followed. Mr. Danks died in 1903. He was found dead kneeling beside his bed. On an old copy of the famous song he had written these words: "It's hard to grow old alone."

NOW, RIGHT NOW, IS THE ONLY TIME

About two years ago there passed away a man noted for a life of extraordinary usefulness. Many people were interested in knowing something of the motives which had impelled this person in his unselfish pursuit for doing good. A clue was discovered when someone found in one of his pockets the following poem, crumpled and underscored, and embroidered with marginal notes:

"The clock of life is wound but once,
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop,
At late or early hour."

If you try to change your marriage partner by browbeating, you are sure to lose. More people are changed by love than by yelling. All of us stiffen our defenses when we are yelled at. We may do what we are told for fear of retaliation, but we will hate the person for telling us.

So if you want your own way, do not nag, instead, love.

Warm affection has changed more of the world's history than all the Spanish Armadas put together. It was love that caused a king to abdicate his throne. It was love that prompted thousands of France's best young men to leave their homes and follow Napoleon across the wilds of Russia. Love changes our loved ones.

NAGGING

NEVER

WINS