

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

Pastor Randy Love

Leonard Dice, Editor

April 11, 2021

Vol. XVIII, No. 15

31st Annual Faith-Promise

Missions Conference



APRIL 6:30
11-14 PM

Jeremy Ingalls, Baptist Couriers for
Christ

John Harris, Belize

Mark Haynes, Navajo Nation

Seth Lunday, on deputation to Brazil

DO NOT
FORGET
TO
PRAY
ABOUT
YOUR
FAITH-
PROMISE
OFFERING THIS YEAR!



"**CAST YOUR NET**" (John 21:6a) is the theme for our 31st Annual Faith-Promise Missions Conference this year, April 11-14, 2021.

Please Plan to Help Us !

Be faithful to all the services and help make this conference the most exciting and productive conference we have ever had. You'll be glad you did!

A one-legged school teacher from Scotland came to Hudson Taylor to offer himself for service in China.

"Why do you, with only one leg, think of going as a missionary?" asked Taylor.

"I do not see those with two legs going, so I must," replied George Stott.

He was accepted!

When you go to bed,
those you prayed for
on the other side of
the world are getting
up to begin their
ministries.

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



CELEBRATING OUR 65th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Leonard and Sharon Dice

Well, here we are, 65 years later, but it doesn't seem like it. Sharon and I celebrated our 65th Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday, March 30. We were married in Rushville, Indiana on March 30, 1956. Now, we are wondering where all the years have gone!

God certainly has blessed us with a good family, good churches to pastor and many good friends along the way. Many of our older friends have long left this world but we will meet again some day.

When Sharon and I were married I was not a preacher and had no intention of being one. But when God laid His work upon my heart, I knew I must follow His leading. When I told my wife I had surrendered to preach, she said she would be with me every step of the way, and she has. God blessed our marriage with 7 sons, 16 grandchildren, and soon to be 35 great-grandchildren.

There have been a lot of good times, and some difficult times, too, but the Lord has been with us in every situation. Looking back, it's hard to remember the troubles and problems that looked really big at the time. My heart's desire was to be a pastor, so the Lord led me to pastor three churches for over a period of 40 years. Though I retired from the active pastorate, I have been assistant pastor at Grace Baptist Church in Pittsfield, Illinois for 17 years. My wife and I are still rejoicing in the Lord and are thankful for the good health He gives to us. I just turned 88 years old and Sharon will be 81 on July 10.

Seventeen years ago, on April 1, 2004, we moved to Pittsfield, Illinois. We believe God spoke to our son Gary's heart, opened a door of opportunity for us and worked out all the details for us to come here. Illinois is now our home. Two years ago our son Rick went home to be with the Lord and we look forward to seeing him again in Heaven.

Our first "Liberty" paper was published in 1982, 39 years ago. It has proven to be a blessing and help to many people, including many preachers. For Sharon and me, it has been a labor of love. We'll keep it going for as long as we can.

We are thankful for your prayers and God's blessings.

A Hymn of Marriage....

The question is asked, "Is there anything more beautiful in life than a young man and lady clasping clean hands and pure hearts in the path of marriage?" And the answer is given, "Yes — there is a more beautiful thing; it is the spectacle of an old man and old woman finishing their journey together on that path. Their hands gnarled, but still clasped; their faces are seamed but still radiant; their hearts are tired and bowed down but still strong. They have proved the happiness of marriage and love continues."

POEMS

by Sharon



"WHERE HAVE THE YEARS GONE?"

Where have the years gone?
Oh, where have they flown?
It seems that just yesterday,
We were only half grown.

They teased my dear husband,
"Child bride," they did say;
But many years later,
We look back at that day.

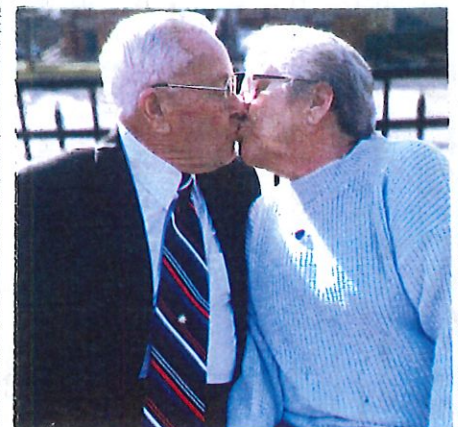
At times life's been rugged,
With hardships and trials;
And in the Lord's service,
We've trod many miles.

We've raised a large family,
Taught them to love God,
By using the Bible
And applying the rod.

We've led souls to Jesus,
Made friends on the way;
Serving the Saviour,
With joy, lived each day.

Where have the years gone
As on earth we've trod?
Praise be to our Lord,
We've lived them for God.

Sharon Dice
September, 1990



We Didn't Think
Anyone Was Watching!

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



GOOD CHRISTIAN MUSIC is extremely important to Christians and to good fundamental churches. Here at Grace Baptist Church we use the great, old, traditional hymns and songs that bring honor and glory to His wonderful name. It is Godly music that touches the hearts of His people, bringing comfort and encouragement.

You have no doubt noticed that the "religious music" on TV and in many churches is just as worldly as that in a barroom or nightclub. Don't accept this as true Christian music. True Christian music honors our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

In the '60s and '70s liberal and charismatic churches started bringing in rock and contemporary music after the hippie movements. Later, independent Baptists and others began to cave in and dropped their standards. Now, most churches in America have little moral influence. People used to expect something different when they went to church. Now, they wonder whatever happened to the music.

I heard a good preacher say recently that most churches are just one pastor away from being destroyed for God. If a church gets the wrong pastor he will change your Bible, your music, your standards, your missions endeavor and your purpose. How sad, but many good churches will be destroyed this year.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO "FEAR GOD?"

The Israelites were commanded to love and fear God with all their hearts and keep His commandments. (Deut. 10:12 and I Chron. 16:29.)

John Gill (1697-1771) was a Bible scholar. He explained what it means to fear God: "To walk in the ways He directs, to be under an awe of His majesty, to fear offending Him and have a reverential affection for Him such as children have for their own father..."

When you hear and fear God properly you will respond in obedience to what His Word says. God's Word will permeate the mind and heart, will provide understanding and will cause a response. James wrote (1:22) that we are to be doers of the Word and not hearers only.

Life is futile if we don't fear and respond to what His Word teaches us. We should love Him, first and foremost, keep His commands and have a love for each other. When you leave God's Word out you will get no satisfaction in this life, but in loving God and following His Word we find hope, contentment and joy.

-copied