

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

# LIBERTY

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Too many people confine their exercise to jumping to conclusions, running up bills, stretching the truth, bending over backward and pushing their luck.

## YOU HAVE YOURSELF TO BLAME

If you squander golden hours,  
And life to you seems tame,  
Don't say the age is out of joint—  
You have yourself to blame.

If opportunity is near  
And you fail to stake your claim,  
And lose the chance within your grasp—

You have yourself to blame.

If you persist in doing wrong  
And suffer sense of shame  
As conscience points accusingly—  
You have yourself to blame.

If after many years you fail  
To make an honored name;  
The world will merely shrug and think

You have yourself to blame.

GRENVILLE KLEISER

Our greatest glory consists not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

## LAUGH WITH ME

The preacher's little daughter noticed that her father always bowed his head for a minute before starting his sermon. One day she asked him why.

"Well, I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon."

"How come He doesn't do it?" she asked.

## In Days Gone By

On May 16, 1860, Abraham Lincoln was nominated for President.

## The Empty Pew

*"Thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty."*—I Sam. 20:18.

The empty pew has an eloquent tongue. Though its message is unpleasant, it is one that all may hear.

To the preacher the empty pew says, "Your sermon is not worthwhile."

To the visitor it whispers, "You see we are not holding our own."

To the treasurer it shouts, "Look out for a deficit."

To the stranger who is looking for a home church it suggests, "You had better wait for a while."

**RELATIVES IN BIBLE TIMES.** Fill in the blanks with the relationship of one of the persons to the other:

Ruth is Naomi's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Leah is Laban's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Seth is Adam's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Uriah is Bathsheba's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Solomon is Rehoboam's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Elizabeth is Zechariah's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hannah is Samuel's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jethro is Moses' \_\_\_\_\_  
 Joshua is Nun's \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deborah is Lapidoth's \_\_\_\_\_

## GIVE UP? NEVER!

Give up because the cross is heavy,  
 Sink down in weakness 'neath its load?  
 Give up and say you can't endure it,  
 Too rough, too toilsome is the road?  
 Ah, no; rejoice you have a cross,  
 A cross which none but you may bear;  
 Why, you are rich, when by that cross  
 You earn your right a crown to wear.

Give up while there is still in Heaven  
 A God who notes the sparrow's fall?  
 Give up when He so longs to help you,  
 But only wants to hear you call?

He clothes the lilies, feeds the birds;  
 Would He to you, then, pay less heed?  
 Look up to Him with prayerful heart—  
 He will supply your every need.

—Grace B. Renfrow

## 'TWAS ONLY A CRUMB

'Twas only a crumb last evening,  
 In the form of a kindly word,  
 That I spoke to a weary companion;  
 Only he and the dear Lord heard.

'Twas only a pleasant "Good Morning,"  
 To one whose life is drear,  
 But he understood its meaning,  
 And knew that I meant to cheer.

'Twas only a crumb at noonday  
 In the coin I gave to a child;  
 But I gave for the sake of Jesus  
 And he understood and smiled.

'Twas only a crumb at evening,  
 When after a tiresome day  
 I gave up my seat in the streetcar  
 To a woman old and gray.

'Twas only a crumb at nightfall,  
 When instead of the concert hall,  
 I went to the house of mourning  
 To comfort and help them all.

They're only crumbs, but without them  
 There could not be any bread;  
 And the bread shall be returned to us;  
 For so the Dear Lord said.

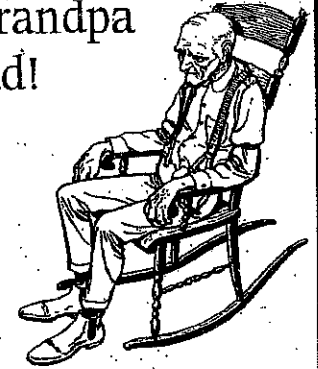
Visiting a family where the father had just died, the preacher asked the young son, "What were your father's last words?"

"He didn't have any," replied the boy; "Mama was with him to the end."

*A fable tells about a bear whose cubs asked, "Mother, which foot shall we put forward first?"*

*She answered, "Shut up and walk!" Some are so careful about how to walk by faith that they never walk.*

## What Great-Grandpa Never Had!



When we knew him, we thought Great-Grandpa had a long and exciting life, and it is only in the wisdom of maturer years that we realize how meager that life was.

Great-Grandpa:

- Never slept in pajamas
- Never took a vacation
- Never turned on an electric light
- Never had a hot water heater
- Never had an automobile
- Never smoked or drank
- Never divorced Great-Grandma
- Never heard of a deodorant
- Never took vitamin pills
- Never joined a club
- Never saw a football game
- Never put greasy stuff on his hair
- Never saw a swimming pool
- Never thought a prayer in school would harm anyone
- Never tried to keep up with the Joneses
- Never had the government bail him out
- Never rode in an airplane
- Never put foot in a boat
- Never bought anything on the installment plan

**BUT THERE ARE SOME OTHER UNUSUAL THINGS ABOUT GREAT-GRANDPA:**

He always paid his debts.  
 He made his little farm make a living for his family.  
 He did not whine.

He was respected and influential among people who knew him best because his word was his bond.

He was loyal to the United States because he thought it was a great and good country and worth his loyalty; he was loyal to his kin and friends for the same reason.

He did not condemn hypocrites, but he fathomed and would not follow them, and he could not be intimidated by ridicule.

Maybe we could afford to swap some of the things today's grandpas have for some of the things yesterday's great-grandpas had.

—Reprinted from *The State*

## ABOUT MAKING MISTAKES

Be not concerned nor be surprised,  
 If what you do is criticized;  
 There'll always be some folks who can,  
 Find fault with every man.  
 Mistakes are made, we can't deny,  
**BUT ONLY MADE BY THOSE WHO TRY!**



# Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

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



## NOT A JOURNEY, BUT A WILDERNESS WANDERING

God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and terrible bondage. It is exciting to read about their deliverance when God parted the Red Sea, letting the Israelites pass through on dry ground. It's exciting also to see what happened to Pharaoh and his armies as they attempted to do the same thing, but God let the waters return and they all drowned.

When this happened the Israelites started on a journey to the land of Canaan which normally would have taken about 11 days. However, very soon after being delivered from that terrible bondage, they began to complain about the food, water, etc. God provided every need for them in a miraculous way, but the complaining never stopped. Instead of a wonderful journey to Canaan, their complaining caused them to wander in the wilderness of Sinai for 40 years.

Many Christians today are like the Israelites. Instead of a wonderful journey of life in the will of God, they are wandering in the wilderness of this world, with no real effort of doing what God wants them to do or be.

Every Christian should want their life to be a journey for the Lord, accomplishing His will and purpose, not a wilderness wandering, accomplishing little or nothing for him. It's not too late to start!

## MORE DEATHS FROM HEART DISEASE AND CANCER in 2020 THAN FROM COVID-19

During 2020 the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports that heart disease and cancer deaths were more, far more, in number than deaths from Covid-19. Here are the results:

Heart Disease - 700,000 deaths

Cancer - 600,000 deaths

Covid-19 - 375,000 deaths

It should be noted that death certificates for Covid-19 named other contributory factors such as diabetes, pneumonia, etc. Only about 5% of the death certificates listed death as being caused only by Covid-19.

The death totals, no doubt, are correct, but the number of Covid-19 deaths has been so mismanaged that no one really knows the true total. I believe we need a little more perspective about the matter.

We need to remember that we always have a limited view of any situation, but God sees the totality of it. We can trust God with every future situation.