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

# A Ministry of Grace Baptist Church, Pittsfield, Illinois - 217-285-5230 Pastor Randy Love Leonard Dice, Editor

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#### Think I Shall **Never See**

I think that I shall never see A church that's all it ought to be, A church whose members never strav

Beyond the Straight and Narrow

A church that has no empty pews, Whose pastor never has the "blues."

A church whose deacons always

And none is proud and all are meek.

Where gossips never peddle lies Or make complaints or criticize. Where all are always sweet and kind

And all to other's faults are blind. Such perfect churches there may

But none of them are known to

But still we'll work and pray and

To make our own the best we can!

### In Days Gone By

On July 13, 1787, Congress established the Northwest Territory. It included Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin.

# POEMS

by Sharon



#### MY BIBLE

Holy Bible, Book Divine, Blessed treasure. thou art mine. Mine to read and mine to love.

Mine to learn of God above. Mine to help me every day, Through my fears and through dismay.

Mine to cherish, mine to keep,

To dry my tears when ere I weep.

Mine for comfort and for cheer,

Mine to tell my Lord is near. -Sharon Dice

A church that has to be supported by tea parties, ice cream socials and fried chicken is as weak as the tea, as cold as the ice cream and as dead as the chicken.

## iscellaneous. Dr. Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

\*STORIES \*EVENTS

\*VIEWS





# Our Dad, The Preacher Man

(Written in honor of my Dad, Dr. Leonard Dice, Pittsfield, Illinois) -by Pastor Philip Dice, Trinity, North Carolina

We used to hear him preach, with courage, take his stand; While the fiery trials of Satan ripped through our blessed land. "We'll take them with the sword and shield, we'll fight until we fall." And we as children heard his plea, the greatest of them all.

We stood as teens, unsure how to fight, we didn't understand; But we learned as kids in Sunday School to stand with our "Preacher Man." The King James Bible said, "Whose faith, follow." and so we learned to do, We tried with all the strength we had to be our preacher's "faithful few."

As years passed on, the time has come to see our preacher anew, Grow older with each passing year, it seems his fighting days are through. We look around with saddened eyes as his years are moving fast, But still we see a gleam in his eyes, these days are not his last.

We see into the distant days a joy that fills our eyes, A man still standing, holding God's Word, a sword, still ready to fight. Though feeble as it may seem to some, A greater man will never be, Than our "Preacher Man," our Dad, who's ready for eternity.

Together, he and mom trudge through these days of work and woe, Happy, as the Lord commands for a Christian family to show. Though they're tired, yet not afraid of what the end may be, They'll lay down their swords in Heaven's land for all eternity.

Now, here we are, with Bibles in hand, and preach to those who'll hear That now is the time to take our stand for the end of things is near. We preach to lead the lost to Christ, we preach of that same land, And we owe it all to the one God gave, our dad, our "Preacher man."

-From Bro. Dice, Editor of "Liberty." I hesitated to put this poem in the "Liberty" paper for fear that someone would think I was bragging, but, I thought it would mean much to others who are raising their children for the Lord. God gave my wife and me seven sons, and all of them were saved at young ages. God called five of them into the ministry, Gary, Tim, John, Kevin and Philip. had musical training and have used that in their ministries as well. Our oldest son Rick is now in Heaven. Though he was mentally handicapped he was a good witness for the Lord. Our youngest son Ron is "America's Best Semi-Truck Driver." He is one of the most considerate and friendly persons you will ever meet.

For all of God's blessings I can only say, "To God Be The Glory!"

#### Things Mom Taught Me:

Logic: "If you fall off that swing and break your neck, you can't go to the store with me."

Humor: "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

Justice: "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you. Then you'll see what it's like!"

#### Christ, the Only Way

Indulgence says, "Drink your way out." Philosophy says, "Think your way out." Science says, "Invent your way out." Industry says, "Work your way out." Communism says, "Strike your way out." Fascism says, "Bluff your way out." Militarism says, "Fight your way out." But Christ says, "I am the way out."

# knows your

## Just Trust

To help your hopes from turning to dust, To aid your plans from gathering rust, To keep your dreams from going bust, The simple plan is: You just must trust.

Edd Sterchi

#### FOR HIS GLORY

When a child of God Looks into the Word of God And sees the Son of God He is changed by the Spirit of God In the image of God For the glory of God.

In happy moments PRAISE GOD! Difficult moments SEEK GOD! In quiet moments WORSHIP GOD! In painful moments TRUST GOD! And....

In every moment THANK GOD!

Thank God for dirty dishes; They have a tale to tell. While others may go hungry, We are eating very well. With home, health, and happiness, I shouldn't want to fuss; By the stack of evidence, God's been incredibly good to us:

#### FRIEND THE PASSING OF A DEAR OLD

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

Knowing when to come in out of the rain; Why the early bird gets the worm; Life isn't always fair; And maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death. He is survived by 5 stepchildren;

- -by his parents, Truth and Trust, -by his wife, Discretion,
- -by his daughter, Responsibility,
- -and by his son, Reason.

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because... so few realized he was gone.