

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

LIBERTY

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In Days Gone By

On December 7, 1941, Japanese warplanes attacked the home base of the U.S. Pacific fleet located at Pearl Harbor on the Hawaiian island of Oahu, an act that resulted in America's entry into World War II.

On December 8, 1941, the United States declared war on Japan. The war ended in 1945.

The grace of God still enables men to live straight in a crooked world.

There can be no proxy in serving the Lord. You can no more hire a man to do your breathing for you than you can hire a man to do your praying for you.

Good Old Days?

Our forefathers did without sugar until the 13th century; without trains until the 15th century; without gas, matches and electricity until the 19th century; without cars and trucks on any scale of common use until well into the 20th century; without canned goods, radio, TV and computers until the 20th century.

Now, what was it you were complaining about?



Unless God Has Changed...

"The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God." — Deut. 22:5.

Unless God has changed, there are a great number of those who claim to be His people who dress in such a way as to be an "abomination" in His sight. Notice that this is directed to those who are God's people. If you are one of His, then you ought to give very serious thought to how you dress.

Girls, did you know that your testimony and skirt length shrink together? The length of your dress may well determine the strength of your witness.

Where is your spiritual hemline?

WHAT DO YOU SEE, NURSE?

What do you see, nurse, what do you see?
What are you thinking when you're looking at me?
A crabby old woman, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit, with faraway eyes?
Who dribbles her food and makes no reply
When you say in a loud voice, "I wish you'd try!"
Who seems not to notice the things that you do,
And forever is losing a stocking or shoe...
Who, resisting or not, lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding, the long day to fill...
I know what you're thinking? Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes, nurse, you're not looking at me.
I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I do at your bidding, as I eat at your will.
I'm a small child of ten... with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters, who love one another.
A young girl of sixteen, with wings on her feet,
Dreaming that soon now a lover she'll meet.
A bride soon at twenty—my heart gives a leap,
Remembering the vows that I promised to keep.
At twenty-five now, I have young of my own,
Who need me to guide and a secure happy home.

A woman of thirty, my young now grow fast,
Bound to each other with ties that should last.
At forty, my young sons have grown and are gone,
But my man's beside me to see I don't mourn.
At fifty once more, babies play around my knee,
Again we know children, my loved one and me.
Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead;
I look at the future, I shudder with dread
For my young are all rearing young of their own,
And I think of the years and the love that I've known.
I'm now an old woman...and nature is cruel;
'Tis jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles, grace and vigor depart,
There is now a stone where I once had a heart,
But inside this old carcass a young girl still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells,
I remember the joys, I remember the pain,
And I'm loving and living life over again.
I think of the years...all too few, gone too fast,
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last.
So open your eyes, nurses, open and see...
Not a crabby old woman; look closer...see ME!

Where To Go When I Get Old!

No nursing home for me. I am checking into the Holiday Inn! With the average cost for a nursing home per day reaching \$188.00, there is a better way when we get old and feeble.

I have already checked on reservations at the Holiday Inn. For a combined long term stay discount and senior discount, it's \$49.23 per night. That leaves \$138.77 a day for:

Breakfast, lunch and dinner in any restaurant I want, or room service. Laundry, gratuities and special TV movies. Plus, they provide a swimming pool, a workout room, a lounge, washer, dryer, etc. Most have free toothpaste and razors, and all have free shampoo and soap.

They treat you like a customer, not a patient. \$5.00 worth of tips a day will have the entire staff scrambling to help you. There is a city bus stop out front, and seniors ride free.

To meet other nice people, call a church bus on Sundays. For a change of scenery, take the airport shuttle bus and eat at one of the nice restaurants there. While you're at the airport, fly somewhere. Otherwise, the cash keeps building up. It takes months to get into decent nursing homes. Holiday Inn will take your reservation today.

And you are not stuck in one place forever. You can move from Inn to Inn, or even from city to city. Want to see Hawaii? They have a Holiday Inn there too.

T.V. broken? Light bulbs need changing? Need a mattress replaced? No problem. They fix everything and apologize for the inconvenience.

The Inn has a night security person and daily room service. The maid checks to see if you are ok. If not, they will call the undertaker or an ambulance.

If you fall and break a hip, Medicare will pay for the hip, and Holiday Inn will upgrade you to a suite for the rest of your life.

And no worries about visits from family. They will always be glad to find you, and probably check in for a few days mini-vacation. The grandkids can use the pool. What more can you ask for?

So, when I reach the golden age I'll face it with a grin.

Just forward all my e-mail to: me@Holiday.Inn

Found under the headline — EXCUSES

Folks who fill out accident forms for insurance companies seem to have a gift for explaining how someone with such great driving capabilities as they possess could get involved in a little old accident.

An issue of *Automotive Retailer* offered these ingenious but actual explanations of accidents:

"I knocked over a man. He admitted it was his fault as he had been run over before."

"I collided with a stationary bus coming the other way."

"To avoid a collision, I ran into the other car."

"Car had to turn sharper than was necessary, owing to an invisible truck."

"I collided with a stationary tree."

"The other man altered his mind—so I had to run over him."

"I told the other idiot what he was, and went on."

"I can give no details of the accident, as I was somewhat concussed at the time."

"A pedestrian hit me and went under my car."

"I blew my horn—but it would not work, as it was stolen."

"I thought the side window was down, but it was up, as I found out when I put my head through it."

"I misjudged a lady crossing the street."

"Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I didn't have."

"The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intentions."

"I left my car unattended for a minute, when by accident, or design, it ran away."

What's your excuse? Some excuses for not being a Christian are even more pathetic.

THE UNIVERSAL BOOK

How many ages and generations
Have brooded and wept and agonized
Over this Book!

What untellable joys and ecstasies,
What support to martyrs at the stake!

To what myriads has it been
The shore and rock of safety—
The refuge from the driving tempest
and wreck.

Translated into all languages,
How it has united this diverse world!
Of its thousands there is not a verse,
Not a word but is thick-studded
With human emotion.

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

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LOOK BEFORE YOU QUIT ON THE LORD

It has been my observation down through the years (63 as a preacher and pastor) that people quit on the Lord a long time before they quit church. In John 6:66 we read about some people who quit on the Lord: "From that time many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him." The Lord's work has always been plagued by those who quit. Some quit when the going gets rough, some because the truth is preached, some because they love the world and some because they are lazy, indifferent and careless about their Christian life.

If you are tempted to quit on the Lord, you need to take a good, long look and consider the consequences.

First, look at what it will do to you. There are many people recorded in the Bible who ended up in shame and disgrace with nothing but heartache and sorrow because they quit on God. You will lose a lot of important things such as fellowship with God, a good testimony, assurance of salvation, joy in the Lord, spiritual strength, hope, rewards and perhaps even your life. You will be hurting at the Judgment Seat of Christ where the Bible says you will suffer loss and lose whatever rewards you might have had. Besides that, people down here lose respect for you, whether they say so or not.

Second, look at what it will do to others. Lot lost his family because he quit on the Lord. Achan's whole family died because of his sin. King David's family suffered endlessly because of his sin. The list goes on and on. The Bible says that no man lives or dies unto himself. We each have a tremendous effect on others, either good or bad. What kind of a person would want to hurt his children?

Many people quit on God, condemning and criticizing the church and pastor, and in the process lose their children to the devil. What a price that is to pay! How many wish to God they could go back and do the right thing, but it's too late.

The Bible teaches us in I John 1:9 that God will forgive our sins if we repent and confess them, but the consequences are still there. It is a terrible price to pay. So, I say again, "Look before you quit on the Lord." An old teacher used to tell us, "A word to the wise is sufficient."

A bald man told a hair stylist that he had gone for a transplant, but he could not stand the pain. He said, "I'll give you \$5,000 to make my hair look like yours." The stylist said, "No problem," and she quickly shaved her head!