

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

LIBERTY

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February 27, 2022

Vol XIX, No. 9

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God.

We have forgotten the gracious Hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

— Abraham Lincoln

THE FAMILY BIBLE

Old Brother Higgins built a shelf for the family bible to rest itself lest a sticky finger or grimy thumb might injure the delicate pages some.



He cautioned his children to touch it not and it rested there with never a blot.

though the Higgins tribe were a troublesome lot.

His neighbor, Miggins, built a shelf "Come children," he said, "and help yourself."

His book is old and ragged and worn, with some of the choicest pages torn, where children have fingered and thumbed and read. But of the Miggins tribe I've heard it said, each carries a bible in his head.



In Days Gone By

On Feb. 27, 1922, voting by women was declared legal.

On Feb. 27, 1939, the Supreme Court outlawed sit-down strikes.

On March 1, 1872, Congress Authorized creation of Yellowstone National Park.

What you bring away from the Bible depends to some extent on what you carry to it.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

GOD KNOWS THE ANSWER

I question not God's means or ways,
Or how He uses time or days,
To answer every call or prayer,
I know He will, somehow, somewhere.

I question not the time or place
When I shall feel His love and
grace;
I only know that I believe,
And richest blessings shall receive.

I cannot doubt that He'll attend
My every call, and that He'll send
A ministering angel fair,
In answer to my faithful prayer.
-F.B. Whitney

Day and Night—Forever and Forever!

I have heard men and women boast that they were not afraid of Hell. They were sure they could endure the torment, and therefore they would 'take their chances.'

To such people I would offer a challenge: put just one finger over the flame of one little match and hold it there in the flame until the match burns out! No person alive would voluntarily do such a thing—nor could anyone endure the pain even if he (or she) would be willing to. The pain from even so small a flame would be so excruciating, it would force withdrawal long before the match extinguished itself.

In comparison, think of the rolling flames of the inferno of Hell, flames that will never cease to burn, and the wicked will be tormented on in those flames day and night forever and ever.

-Oliver B. Greene

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

"You cannot legislate the poor into freedom by legislating the wealthy out of freedom. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that my dear friend, is about the end of any nation. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it." Dr. Adrian Rogers, 1931-2005

A REAL CONTORTIONIST

A fellow has to be a contortionist these days. He's got to keep his back to the wall and his ear to the ground. He must keep his shoulder to the wheel and his nose to the grindstone. He has to keep a level head, both feet on the ground and at the same time look for the silver lining without getting his head in the clouds.

YESTERDAY and TOMORROW

There are two days in every week that we should not worry about ... two days that should be kept free from apprehension.

One is YESTERDAY, with its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. Yesterday has passed, forever beyond our control. All the money in the world cannot bring back yesterday. We cannot undo a single act we performed. Nor can we erase a single word we've said ... yesterday is gone!

The other day we shouldn't worry about is TOMORROW, with its impossible adversaries, its burden, its hopeful promise and poor performance. Tomorrow is beyond our control. Tomorrow's sun will rise either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds -- but it will rise. And until it does, we have no stake in tomorrow, for it is yet unborn.

This leaves only one day -- TODAY. Any person can fight the battles of just one day. It is only when we add the burdens of yesterday and tomorrow that we break down. It is not the experience of today that drives people mad -- it is the remorse and bitterness for something which happened yesterday, and the dread of what tomorrow may bring.

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

I watched the flag pass by one day.
It fluttered in the breeze.

A young Marine saluted it, and then
He stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform
So young, so tall, so proud,
With hair cut square and eyes alert.

He'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought how many men like him
Had fallen through the years.

How many died on foreign soil?

How many mothers' tears?

How many pilots' planes shot down?

How many died at sea?

How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?

No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of taps one night,
When everything was still.

I listened to the buglar play
And felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just how many times
That taps had meant "Amen,"

When a flag had draped a coffin
Of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children,
Of the mothers and the wives,

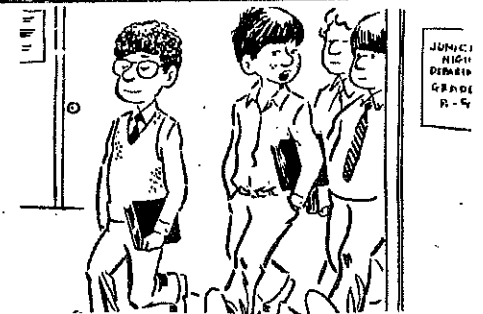
Of fathers, sons and husbands
With interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard

At the bottom of the sea

Of unmarked graves in Arlington...

No freedom is not free.



TALK ABOUT SMART—HE EVEN KNOWS WHERE TO FIND ZEPHANIAH IN THE BIBLE.

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



SHORT SERMONS SEEN ON CHURCH SIGNS

- * You are not too bad to come in. You are not too good to stay out.
 - * Come in and have your faith lifted.
 - * Come in and let us prepare you for your finals.
 - * Ask about our pray-as-you-go plan.
 - * We hold sit-in demonstrations every Sunday.
- * No matter how much you nurse a grudge it won't get better.
- * Patience is the ability to stand something as long as it happens to the other fellow.
- * [At an Arizona church in August] You think it's hot HERE?
 - * What on earth are you doing for heaven's sake?
 - * Will it take six strong pall-bearers to bring you to church?
 - * Aspire to inspire before you expire.
- * When down in the mouth, remember Jonah. He came out all right.
 - * Fight truth decay. . . study the Bible daily.
- * Where will you be sitting in eternity? Smoking or non-smoking?
- * Come, work for the Lord. The work is hard, the hours long and the pay is low. But the retirement benefits are out of this world.
 - * I was going to waste, but Jesus recycled me.
- * Our arms are the only ones God has to hug His children.
 - * It is unlikely there'll be a reduction in the wages of sin.

SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANING

- ◆ Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
- ◆ When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
- ◆ Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set alarms to wake up. That is hope.
- ◆ We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
- ◆ We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
- ◆ On an old man's shirt was written a sentence, "I am not 80 years old. I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience". That is attitude.