

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

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Where God Wants You

I don't know how to say it,
But somehow it seems to me
That maybe we are stationed
Where God wants us to be—
That the little place I'm filling
Is the reason for my birth,
And just to do the work I do
He sent me down to earth.
If God had wanted otherwise,
I reckon He'd have made
Me just a little different
Or a worse or better grade.
And since God knows and
understands
All things of land and sea,
I fancy that He placed me here,
Just where He wanted me.
Sometimes I get to thinking,
As my labors I review,
That I should like a higher place
With greater things to do;
But I came to the conclusion,
When the evening was still,
That the post to which God
sent me,
He wanted me to fill.
So I plod along and struggle
In the hope when day is
through
That I'm really necessary
To things God wants to do.
And there isn't any service
On earth which I should scorn,
For it may be just the reason
God caused me to be born.

GREATEST BLUNDER

Men have lost their lives be-
cause they waited too long to seek
the help of doctors and medical
science.

Farmers have lost their crops
because they delayed sowing and
reaping.

Merchants have lost their busi-
nesses because they waited too
long to take inventory and find
out where they stood.

Men have lost their homes and
families while hesitating to live
right, to show love and devotion
to their wives and children.

Life's greatest blunder, however,
is to put off accepting Jesus.

—Dr. Tom Malone

In Days Gone By

On April 3, 1860, the legendary
Pony Express began service be-
tween St. Joseph, Missouri and
Sacramento, California. The
Pony Express lasted only one
and a half years before giv-
ing way to the transcon-
tinental telegraph.

On April 4, 1968, Dr. Martin
Luther King Jr. was shot to
death. He was 39 years old.

IT'S FUNNY, ISN'T IT?

Funny how twenty dollars looks like a lot of money when we're about to make a donation to charity, but it looks so small when we take it to buy bread and milk.

Funny how long an hour of time feels to go to church, but how short it seems when we're online, fishing or playing games.

Funny how we hate cutting the grass, but look forward to walking the length of a golf course for exercise.

Funny how we watch our weight by washing down our hamburgers and fries with diet cola.

Funny how we speed up to get to the next stop light sooner.

Funny how we can comprehend novels in detail that are 500 pages long, but can't seem to figure out what the one sentence Golden Rule means.

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray but can talk to our friends non-stop for hours.

Funny, isn't it?

"WHICH ONE ARE YOU?"

The bones in the body are 200 or more, But in sorting out people, we need only four:

WISHBONE PEOPLE:

They hope for, they long for, they wish for, and sigh;

They want things to come but aren't willing to try.

FUNNYBONE PEOPLE:

They laugh, grin and giggle, smile, twinkle the eye;

If work is a joke, sure, they'll give it a try.

JAWBONE PEOPLE:

They scold, jaw and sputter, they froth, rave and cry;

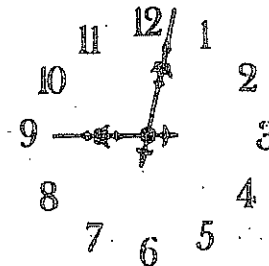
They're long on the talk but short on the try.

BACKBONE PEOPLE:

They strike from the shoulder, they never say die;

They're winners in life, for they know how to try!

WHAT
TO
DO
WITH
TIME



Time passes quickly. There is nothing we can do about it except to see, as far as possible, that it passes fruitfully. If, in passing swifter than a weaver's shuttle, it nevertheless lays up its store of good deeds done, noble ambitions clung to heroically, and kindness and sympathy scattered with a lavish hand, there will be given to it a permanence and enduring quality that nothing can take away.

The past has gone; the future has not yet come; the present is all we have. We cannot change the past nor can we draw upon the future, but we can use the present.

Take time to look—it is the price of success. Take time to think—it is a source of power. Take time to play—it is the secret of perennial youth. Take time to read—it is the source of wisdom. Take time to be friendly—it is the way to happiness. Take time to laugh—it is the music of the soul.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,
Our Father's full giving has only begun. —J. E. Myhill

THANK GOD, HE KNOWS

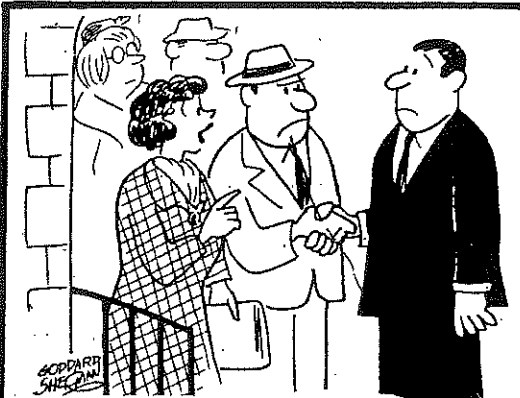
He knows the bitter, weary way,
The endless striving day by day,
The souls that weep, the souls that pray,
He knows.

He knows how hard the way has been,
The clouds that come our lives between,
The wounds the world has never seen,
He knows. He knows!

SLEEPING AT HARVEST

Too long I've laid me down to sleep
And prayed the Lord my soul to keep.
I should awake before I die
And realize time is passing by,
And rise and go and tell the lost
Despite my plans, despite the cost.

Too long I've laid me down to sleep
While multitudes about me weep,
And utter cries of dark despair
For no one ever seems to care.
My life is short, and soon I'll stand
With sinners' blood upon my hands
Unless I wake before I die.
And realize time is passing by.
—Maranatha



"BOY, YOU REALLY HAD HIS NUMBER THIS MORNING!"

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



WHEN DOES A CHRISTIAN BECOME A BACKSLIDER?

If you were ever closer to God than you are right now, you have backslidden! A person doesn't backslide all at once. Usually, it is quite gradual and goes unnoticed. Here are some telltale signs:

1. He stops reading his Bible. Previously it had a vital place in his life. Now, he is too busy.
2. He ceases to pray. No longer does he ask God to help solve his problems, supply wisdom and guidance, bless others and forgive sins.
3. He begins to criticize others. He tries to ease his conscience by finding fault with the church, the preacher and others in leadership.
4. He no longer feels he should be a witness for Christ. He no longer invites or brings other people to church.
5. He becomes irregular in attending church. Of course, he has his reasons. (Excuses is a much better term.)
6. He stops giving. He says the church is wasting money on missions and other ministries the church is involved in. He believes he has a better method than what the Bible teaches.

If any of the above telltale signs describe you, then here is the cure for backsliding. First, you must face yourself and your condition, confess it to God and make no room for excuses. Second, forsake your sins, renounce them and turn from them. Accept God's promise of cleansing in I John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Third, begin to do what God wants you to do. You must not only turn from sin, but you must begin to serve the Lord in positive ways. You will be happier, you will be blessed and used of God and when you stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ it will be different--you will receive rewards. As an old college professor used to say to us, "A word to the wise is sufficient."