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



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#### 'ARE YOU A USED TO BE?'

As I go on visitation. People are telling me. How they USED to go to church. And what they USED to be.

They say they were a teacher, And some were deacons, too, Others played the organ, And ushers, there were a few :

Some USED to drive a church bus. Some sang in the choir, they'd say, Some USED to go on visitation, And give out tracts each day.

I've heard what they USED to be. And it made me wonder how, They could be active members. But are doing nothing now.

We must fight against the devil, Until our Lord we see! Are you busy serving Jesus, Or just a USED TO BE?

## In Days Gone B

On August 14, 1935, the Social Security Act was signed.

A Sunday School teacher was telling her kindergarten class about the Golden Rule."Remember," she said, "we are here to help others."

"Then what are the others here for?" a little girl asked.

## Lord, Give Me Courage

I saw a little bird one day. 'Twas sitting on a wire. The air was cold and frosty And one longed for the fire.

The little bird stretched wide his beak

And melody flowed out. He didn't seem to mind the cold,

Just sang and looked about.

From out his feathered throat there came

A song of pure delight. The wind blew hard; the snow swirled by.

He sang with all his might.

I bowed my head and said, "Dear Lord

Make me like that small bird.

When things are cold and drear, O Lord. Please make my song be heard.

"If I can sing when harsh winds blow

And things are drear and cold.

I'll be of help to kindred hearts Who've almost lost their hold.

"Lord, give me courage to sing out, Though skies above seem

gray; And may I, like the little bird, Help make a happy day."

-Glenn Wagoner

## WHAT IS A GOOD CHRISTIAN HOME?

The Christian Church cannot flourish without the Christian Home.

The Christian home is the backbone of the nation, the salt of civilization;

A Christian home is an institution where parents are bound together by Christian love; where children are welcome and Scripturally instructed, and the Lord Jesus is not only the supposed Head of the home, but the actual Head; where parents and children gather daily for family worship.

A Christian home is a place where members of the family enjoy rest, privacy, a sense of security; and learn to work, play, pray, and plan together.

A Christian home is one in which the members learn to regard one another with respect; where loyalty, honesty and co-operation are practiced and learned by each member of the family team.

A Christian home is one that radiates Christ; welcomes strangers; and dispenses hospitality without measure.

A Christian home consists of a God-fearing Father, God-fearing Mother, and God-fearing children.

#### L GOD-FEARING PARENTS

A home cannot be happy without children. The parents who deliberately hinder the birth of a family are disobeying God and waiting for judgment.

God's order, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth," Gen. 1:28.

In some cases God closes the womb and even though parents pray for children their prayers are denied, temporarily or permanently (Hannah).

Parents are to realize that their children are a precious heritage from the Lord.

Parents are to love their children, Titus 2:4.

Parents are to bring their children to the Lord at an early age, Matt. 19:13,14.

Parents are to train and discipline their children for the Lord. Pro. 22:6, "Train up a child in the way that he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Parents, be sure that you bring your children to Sunday School and church.

Teach the children Bible stories at home and give them a part in family prayers. Teach the children to obey God and the laws of the country, Deut. 32:46.

Parents are to provide for their children—food, clothing and opportunities for an education and means to choose their own life vocation under God. I Tim. 5:8.

Parents are not to provoke their children to wrath, Eph. 6:4. Sometimes when the parents quarrel, the frustrated one releases pent-up feelings by whipping the children. This is very wrong.

Above all, let godly parents pray for their children. Pray that they will be saved. Pray that they will overcome sin, etc.

### H. GOD-FEARING CHILDREN

Ex. 20:12, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land."

Isaac was exemplary in Gen. 22 by carrying the wood without murmuring. Samuel was most exemplary with instant obedience even in the middle of the night. Jesus as a child was obedient to his parents, Luke 2:51.

# Thinking Out Loud

- If you're over sixty and you don't wake up each morning aching in every joint, you're probably dead.
- If your dog doesn't like a certain person, you probably shouldn't either.
- Congressmen should wear uniforms like NASCAR drivers do, so we could identify their corporate sponsors.
- It seems to me you should never assume that just because it's a stop sign drivers are actually going to stop.
- Why do they lock gas station toilets? Are they afraid someone will sneak in and clean them?
- Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?
- With hurricanes, tornadoes, fires out of control, mudslides, flooding, severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another and with the threat of different kinds of flu and terrorist attacks from within and without, are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?
- Blessed are those who can give without remembering and those who can receive without forgetting.

Just thinking out loud.

-Pastor Earl B. Medlen

# **DAILY MIRACLES**

Can anyone tell how this comes about – how brown cast into black results in green and then in red and white? Yet you eat your radish without troubling your mind over miracles. Men are not distressed by mysteries in the dining room; they reserve them all for church.

BIBLE GROCERY LIST: Find the food products
mentioned in the following verses:
Ruth 1:22 Luke 11:11
Isa, 7:15 Acts 7:12
Isa. 7:22 Luke 11:12
Num. 11:5 Psalm 17:8
Num. 6:3 Lev. 2:2
Lev. 25:5 Luke 14:34
Jer. 8:13 Isa, 1:8
Isa, 38:21 Mt, 17:20
Rev. 4:3. Mt. 3:12

# Miscellaneous-

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### WHAT DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILDREN TO BECOME?

Parents are given to children by God (Ps. 127:3). He expects parents to train their children in the best manner they can (Eph. 6:4). He knows their example is of vital importance. Parents, you need to be what you want your children to become.

Do you want them to be honest? Then you be honest.

Do you want them to be clean in their speech? Then don't cuss.

Do you want them to be calm? Then cease your outbursts of anger.

Do you want them to be sober? Then quit doing alcohol and drugs.

¿Do you want them to be worshipers of God? Then attend services.

Do you want them to trust in prayer? Then pray in front of them.

Do you want them to have a strong home? Then make yours strong.

Do you want them to care for others? Then be compassionate.

Do you want them to be moral? Then live a virtuous life.

Do you want them to love God? Then keep God's commands.

Do you want them to love their spouse? Then show them how.

Do you want them to work hard? Then don't be lazy.

Do you want them to be responsible? Then quit blaming others.

Do you want them to be positive? Then don't murmur and complain.

Do you want them to go to heaven? Then show them the way.

Your children will become what you are. Think about that! Are you pleased with who you are today? Are you what you want your children to become? If not, perhaps you need to make some big changes in your life.

### **GUESS MY NAME:**

- I. I am the father of Methuselah and lived to be 365 years old. (Gen. 5:21)
- 2. I walked with God for three hundred years after Methuselah was born and begat sons and daughters. (Gen. 5:22)
- 3. By faith, I was translated that I should not see death. (Heb. 11:5)
- 4. Before my translation, I had this testimony, that I pleased God. (Heb. 11:5)