

II Cor. 3:17 – “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is...

LIBERTY

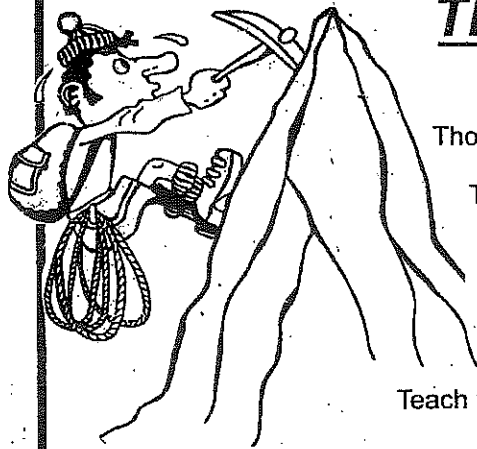
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THE CLIMBER

The way is rough, and dark, and steep;
Demanding courage, strength, and time;
Though mists surround and shadows creep,
Teach me to climb.

Though struggles test my heart and soul,
And not much blue of sky is seen,
When perils loom and take their toll;
Teach me to lean.

When I have left the vale below,
And struggled on and done my best,
Then, panting in the sunset glow,
Teach me to rest, O God of the precarious way,
Of heights and steeps of Thy design.

What joy to realize each day
Thy staff is mine.

Viola Jacobson Berg

The Conqueror

No matter how the storms may rage
Upon the sea of life,
No matter how the waves may beat,
No matter what the strife;
The Lord is just the same today
As when He walked the sea
And He can conquer every storm
That life may send to thee.

The waves are raging everywhere
And men are sore distressed,
But all they need is found in Him
Who giveth perfect rest;
So cast your care upon the Lord
Whose strength will never fail.
He calms the waves for your frail bark;
His power will e'er prevail.

The Rolling Cabbage

As William Howard Taft was giving a campaign speech, a large cabbage rolled across the platform and stopped at his feet!

Taft quipped, "I see that one of my opponents has lost his head!"

How wise we are when we react humorously to intended insults and indignities! It is easy to fly off the handle, blow a fuse and give others a piece of our minds, forgetful of the fact that, when we do this, we have no peace of mind left.

*"A soft answer turneth away wrath:
but grievous words stir up anger."—
Prov. 15:1.*

Don't Alter The Word

Every motive that could move men to alter the Word of God has been fully delineated in various portions of the Bible. It shows that God was aware from the first of the reception that would be given to His truth; and it is instructive to the humble believer as it is humiliating to the modern lover of pen-knife criticism.

1. The tendency to alter the Word of God is *human*. It is manifested in the first religious conversation on record. The divine voice had asserted, "Thou shalt not eat of it;" the human voice added, "neither shall ye touch it." The addition was the precursor of the fall.

2. The desire to alter the Word of God is *dangerous*. In the wilderness God Himself points this out: "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it" (Dt. 4:2). The nations they were advancing to conquer had long cast aside their allegiance to their Maker, and the least tendency to question or alter God's Word might result in the same downfall for Israel. Deuteronomy 12:31-32 distinctly refers to this danger, and re-asserts the warning, "Thou shalt not add thereto; nor diminish from it." That idolatry does result from such daring rebellion is proved by the state of the Roman Catholic community today.

3. The act of altering the Word of God is *sinful*. "Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar" (Prov. 30:5-6). "Every word of God is pure;" and he who essays to improve upon it imputes error to the All-wise. Only unholy minds could attempt it.

4. The desire to alter the Word of God is *weakness*. Jeremiah's was a terrible message, and even he might yield to feelings of pity for his race; God saw this, and in words that could not be misunderstood, He said to the prophet, "Diminish not a word" (Jer. 24:2). If God's message is diminished, its power is lessened, and its results are consequently less certain. The authority, the power, the meaning, the terror of God's truth must be preserved in all their fulness for God's purposes are to be carried out.

5. The ambition to alter the Word of God is *Pharasaic*. To break the perfection of the law and teach our own alterations or additions as if they were of God is vile indeed (Mt. 5:19-20). Our Lord reproved this spirit in seathing and unmistakable language. Why is it His words are forgotten? "Ye have made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition," He says. "They teach for doctrines the commandments of men" (Mt. 23:2, 9). The Pharasaic spirit thus renders impossible obedience and loyalty to God as the supreme Teacher.

6. The craving to alter the Word of God is *accursed*. Revelation 22:18-19 should be read with fear and trembling. From Adam and all down the ages God has warned men against this crime. He is a jealous God, and has determined to visit with the direst punishment all who dare to alter His completed and full revelation.

This is the crime of the present day: the Lord preserve us from it!
— Copied

Educated Kooks!

Recently a well-known Christian said that no matter how kooky an idea was, there would always be some college professor to teach it, some lawyer to defend it in court, and some reporter to eagerly parade it!

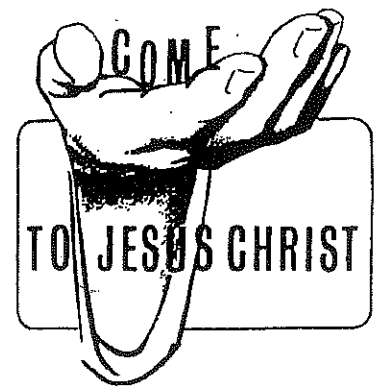
HOMOSEXUALITY HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH

Dozens of studies, including a study of 5,371 obituaries over a 5-year period in 16 newspapers reveal these stunning statistics: The average age of men dying with AIDS is 39; the average age of homosexuals dying of all other causes is 41; of 106 lesbians, the average age of death was 45; less than 2% of "gays" survived to old age; homosexuals are 25 times more apt to commit suicide; "gay" men are three times as likely to be alcohol or drug abusers, 14 times more likely to have syphilis, 23 times more likely to contract VD, and thousands of times more apt to contract AIDS; and, the murder rate for homosexual men is 50 times that of the general population (adapted from ACCC Resol. & 8/93 Pulpit Helps article). [A logical conclusion to these grim statistics is that sodomites are not gay, they are crazy! They (and heterosexual adulterers) are sinners who need a savior to deliver them from their bondage.] — CC

WHAT THE ACLU IS FOR

American Civil Liberties Union founder Roger Baldwin said: "I am for Socialism, disarmament, and ultimately for abolishing the state itself as an instrument of violence and compulsion. I see social ownership of property... Communism is the goal." Today, the ACLU supports legalization of child pornography, drugs, polygamy, and prostitution; abortion on demand, busing, mandatory sex education, and tax exemption for satanists. It opposes: Church tax exemption, home schooling and vouchers, parental consent laws, voluntary school prayer, prison terms for criminals, and public religious displays.

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Ginsburg was a women's rights attorney for the radical pro-abortion, pro-homosexual ACLU in the 1970s. — CC



Lion's Nature By Birth

Walter Beckwith, famous lion trainer, once tried to change the nature of lion cubs by adopting an entirely different method of training them. He decided he would rear them on milk.

"My first disillusionment came," he says "when the cubs were ten months old." While working in the cage one day, he heard his wife calling, "Walter, come here quick." So he dashed out of the cage. Let him tell what he saw.

"Munching grass, about fifty feet away was our pet burro; and slinking toward him on his belly, was one of our bottle-fed, kindness-reared cubs. Just as if he had been doing it for years, that cub jumped on to the burro's shoulder, hung on the mane with one paw and reached for the animal's nose with the other. Then he jerked the burro's nose back, just as a cowboy would bulldog a steer. The next thing I knew, the burro was on the ground, and the little devil, with bared teeth, was going right after the jugular vein. He was out for blood — this kindness-reared cub.

The cub lion had had the best of care, and had never wanted for food. Still, he was as much a hell-cat as if he had never been treated like a house-pet."

By birth that cub had a lion's nature, and no amount of "culture" could change his nature.

So it is with all of Adam's descendents. All have the nature of sin and no amount of refinement or culture will ever change it. Man must have a new nature imparted to him by God.

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



Three strikes and you're out!

Anyone who has ever played baseball has heard those familiar words. In fact, American culture has adopted that phrase to apply to a number of different situations. However, the bottom line is the same in each one. Mistakes aren't allowed. Performance is the only thing that really matters. You've only got a couple of chances and then you're out. We live in a "no second chance" kind of world.

King David knew all about striking out. Out on the roof, relaxing in the evening, he lusted after another man's wife. (Strike One!) He committed adultery with her and she became pregnant. (Strike Two!) He then had her husband murdered in battle to cover-up the first two strikes! (Strike Three!)

David, you're out of there. Hang it up. You're done. That's the human way of responding to failure, isn't it?

I, for one, am certainly glad that we don't have a "three strikes and you're out" God. Psalm 103:10-12 says, "He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His loving kindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed OUR transgressions from us,"

King David wrote those words after the Bathsheba incident. He had to live with the consequences of his sin, but when he repented, God forgave Him. Perhaps there is someone reading this today who needs to know that there is nothing, absolutely nothing, that God can't forgive when we truly repent. And He'll never, ever throw it back in your face!

A TALK WITH GOD

Though my path is often weary,
And a toilsome road I plod,
All my burdens seem much lighter
When I've had a talk with God.
I can cast on Him my sorrow,
I can take to Him my fear,
I can tell Him every heartache,
I can feel His presence near.
And not only do I love Him,
Greater wonder, He loves me;
And His love shall have no ending,
Now, or through eternity.

Oh, why do I ever doubt Him
When His love to me is true;
He's promised to go with me
All this earthly journey through?
I could not go on without Him,
He is all my hope and stay;
And beneath His mighty shadow
Peace attends me on my way.
If your life's a field of stubble,
And your days just seem to plod;
I can tell you what's your trouble;
Friend, you need a talk with God.
James McGinlay