

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

Pastor Randy Love

Leonard Dice, Editor

November 12, 2023

Vol. XX, No. 45

**Hallelujah** is the one word that is common to all languages. It is never translated. No doubt it is a word that strayed away from Heaven, and we will doubtless continue its use up there.

**Hallelujah!**

### WILL I PRAY?

Sometimes when I have much to do  
And think it must be done,  
I work so very very hard  
From morn to set of sun;  
But here is something I have found  
That really doesn't pay --  
I've always found I've weaker grown  
If I have failed to pray!

So I am trying hard to learn  
That nothing's really great  
If it must take my praying time,  
So praying has to wait.  
My praying makes me fit for work -  
It is my staff and stay;  
And work will never be the best  
If I have failed to pray!

### Incorruptible Things

I Peter 1:18

1. The incorruptible God (Rom. 1:22, 23)
2. The incorruptible Word (I Pet. 1:23)
3. The incorruptible ornament (I Pet. 3:4)
4. The incorruptible crown (I Cor. 9:25)
5. The incorruptible inheritance (I Pet. 1:3, 4)

—Christian Victory

...

If you are at fault, acknowledge the error and take the blame. Few will remember the wrong, but all will remember your humility and your courage.

...

The vast majority of Christians today have accepted the blessings of salvation with no thought of the obligation that goes with this relationship. Paul was acknowledging an obligation that rests upon every saved soul when he declared:

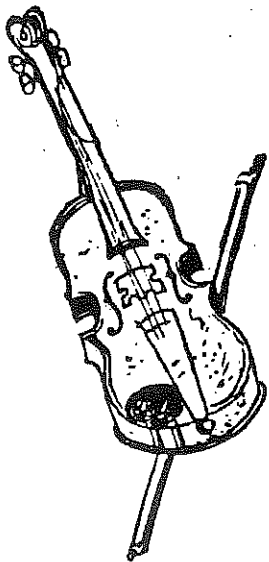
—Millions have never heard about Jesus!



What kind of church would my church be

if every member were just like me?





'Twas battered and scarred,  
and the auctioneer  
Thought it scarcely  
worth his while  
To waste much time on the old  
*violin,*

But held it up with a smile.  
"What am I bid, good folks?" he cried.  
"Who'll start the bidding for me?  
A dollar, a dollar — now two, only two —  
Two dollars, and who'll make it three?"  
"Three dollars once, three dollars twice,  
Going for three"  
— but no!

From the room far back a gray-haired man  
Came forward and picked up the bow;  
Then wiping the dust from the old violin,  
And tightening up all the strings,  
He played a melody pure and sweet,  
As sweet as an angel sings.



The music ceased, and the auctioneer,  
With a voice that was quiet and low,  
Said: "What am I bid for the old violin?"  
And he held it up with the bow.  
"A thousand dollars — and who'll make it two?  
Two thousand — and who'll make it three?  
Three thousand once and three thousand twice —  
And going and gone!" said he.

The people cheered, but some of them cried,  
"We do not quite understand.  
What changed its worth?" The man replied:

## *The Touch Of The Master's Hand*

And many a man with life out of tune,  
And battered and torn with sin,  
Is auctioned cheap to a thoughtless crowd,  
Much like the old violin.  
A "mess of pottage," a glass of wine,  
A game — and he travels on,  
He's going once, and going twice,  
He's going — and almost gone!



But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd  
Never can quite understand  
The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought  
By the touch of the Master's hand.

— Myra Brooks Welch

**"Choose  
you  
this  
day  
whom  
you  
will  
serve"**

"...but as for me and my  
house, we will serve the  
Lord."

—Joshua 24:15.

### THE COMMON TASK

A woman with eyes and cheeks aglow,  
Watching a kettle; tending a scarlet flame,  
Guarding a little child - there is no name  
For this great ministry. But eyes are dull  
That do not see that it is beautiful;  
That do not see within the common tasks  
The simple answer to the thing God asks.

### Bible Trivia Questions

"I was not a prodigal, but I  
was a refugee from home. I  
raised a large family of boys,  
most of whom were rough. I  
loved one of my boys more than  
the others. This special son  
was very famous and saved the  
rest of my family during a  
time of famine. I died in  
Egypt. Who am I?"

(Gen. 24 - Jacob)

## THE PARABLE OF THE CHURCH THAT DIED

There was a man who lived during the twentieth century. He had a new house. Two cars and a bright, shiny boat filled his garage. A color television gleamed in his den. His family was healthy.

His custom—when he was in town, when the fish were not biting, when he was not on the beach or at the lake, when he had no guests, when he could get up on time, when he was not too tired, or when he had nothing else to do—was to go to church. When he went, he spent his time deploring the decaying state of the church: Sunday school attendance was low, the choir scanty, the congregation small, the offering poor, and the preacher discouraged. “They ought to do better,” he said. “What do they think religion is all about, anyway?”

Many vacations and days off came and went. According to the way of the world, this man’s children grew up. They did not go to church. The reason, their father said, was that those people down at the church had not kindled his children’s interest in religion. The man’s health failed. One day he noticed something strange. Those people down at the church no longer came by. He was in the hospital and they did not visit him. And lo, he was very angry!

But being a greathearted man, he decided to forgive them and go to church once more. But behold, when he arrived at the church, there was no church. There was only a corner grocery store.

“Where is the church?” he demanded.

“Oh,” somebody said, “that church went out of business several years ago.”

“Oh,” he cried, “they should never have let it die!”

The way you teach is very important, and what you teach is even more important; but how you live is most important.

**TACT:** The ability to make someone feel at home, even when you wish they were!