

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

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FINAL ISSUE



Leonard and Sharon Dice, serving the Lord together for 66 years of ministry.

THE "LIBERTY" PAPER COMES TO A CLOSE

With much sadness my wife Sharon and I have to announce this will be the last edition of the "Liberty" paper. We started the "Liberty" in 1982, 41 years ago. It has proven to be a wonderful ministry that many people around the world have used and enjoyed. The "Liberty" has been a labor of love, even though many hard hours of work went into researching, preparing, printing, folding and mailing it.

But the time has now come to also bring this part of my ministry to a close. I knew this day would come, and I tried to prepare for it, but I am still deeply saddened in my heart. I feel like a part of my life is being removed. This little saying I read long ago has helped me some in the last few days: "Don't be sad because it's over; be happy because it happened."

At 91 years of age I now experience the frailties and weaknesses that accompany aging. I am thankful for my precious wife Sharon who has served the Lord with me in my 66 years of ministry. I am thankful for each one who has been blessed and helped by the "Liberty." Keep on serving the Lord. Keep looking up because He is coming soon to take us home. I hope to see each one of you in Heaven some glad day. Proverbs 3:5-6

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO AMERICA?

When I was just a young girl,
I walked all over town.
I spoke to all the neighbors,
Waved howdys all around.
Today the scene is different,
You dare not walk alone.
You best not trust a stranger,
Or wander far from home.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO AMERICA?

A wonderful word was "family",
With children, Mom and Dad.
Grandpa and Grandma joined
right in,
Sharing the life they had.

Today, Grandparents are put away,
Leaving to others their care.
Young people are way too busy
For old folks problems to share.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO AMERICA?

Folks used to love their babies,
A mother's joy was to rock and
sing.

Today, they're not sweet little
ones,
To some they're just a thing.
Alas! They've found the answer,

Abortion is the way.
But God says it is murder,

No matter what they say.
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO AMERICA?

There's thefts and drugs and killings,
There's war and beatings and rape.
Loving hearts that used to be tender,
Are filled with cruelty and hate.
When did right become wrong?
And when did wrong become right?
Oh, how did it all happen?

So slowly and without a fight?
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO AMERICA?

Scholars are changing our Bible
From 1611 King James
Schools changed from old-fashioned
phonics

To sports and winning ball games.
It seems everyone is too busy,
Christians don't take time to pray
Or go to church each time faithfully.
Don't show love to someone each day.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO AMERICA?

What has happened to America
As o'er our land we trod?
I think I know the answer:
We've turned away from God?

-Sharon Dice

I'M FREE

Message from a loved
one gone to Heaven!

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took His hand when I heard His call.
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found the peace at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joys.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
O yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee.
God wanted me now; He set me free.*

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS

OF THE "LIBERTY" PAPER

This will be the last issue of the "Liberty" paper to be published and sent through Grace Baptist Church in Pittsfield, Illinois. However, my grandson Pastor Stephen Dice will begin publishing the "Liberty" through his church, the Liberty Baptist Church in Carmi, Illinois. For more information you may contact him at P.O. Box 295, Norris City, Illinois, 62854. His phone number is 618-384-0759.

-Leonard Dice

When we love God (John 14:15)

- I. We will love and serve Christ (John 14:15)
- II. We will love the cross and its message (1 Corinthians 2:2)
- III. We will love the church and work in it (Ephesians 3:21)
- IV. We will love other Christians (Psalms 133)



POEMS



by Sharon

I Love:

My husband and our boys,
The soft coo of a dove;
My grandchildren's hugs,
And my daughters-in-love.

I love the Springtime,
A cool gentle breeze;
The beautiful Autumn,
The rustling of leaves.

The sounds of a river,
Or a rippling brook;
A few quiet moments,
I love a good book.

I love little puppies,
And beautiful deer;
And redbirds will always
Bring me some cheer.

I love the woods,
A deep, gentle snow;
When everything's quiet
And peaceful, you know.

I love roses and daisies,
And Christmas time, too;
And crocheting afghans,
Whether pink, orange or
blue.

I love music boxes
That play pretty songs;

Peace, knowing each child
Is where he belongs.

I love ruffles and frills,
A good cup of tea;
And being with people
Who like being with me.

I love wearing sweat shirts,
I love summer time;
And singing good songs,
Writing verses that rhyme.

I love Raggedy Ann,
And teddy bears, too;
I guess I love life
And whatever I do.

I love the Lord God
And the things that He made;
I love serving the Saviour,
In the place that He bade.

I love the Holy Spirit
Who lives within;
To keep my heart tender
And warns me of sin.

I love all these things,
And more, I confess;
But most of all, Jesus,
Yes, I love Him best.

Sharon Dice

Dec. 16, 1990