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*STORIES *EVENTS

Pastor Stephen Dice, Editor





SENTENCE SERMONS

- Many a father has forgotten that the best offering he can make his children is "himself".
- Why is the way OUT of trouble, not as simple as the way IN?
- It is always a dangerous thing when the mouth goes into motion before the mind is in gear.
- I have never failed to hit the "bulls' eye" when I aimed at "nothing".
- Although the tongue weighs only a few ounces, very few can hold it.
- If you ever get a place in the sun; you will have to expect some blisters.
- Remember if you form a habit of looking back, you will soon be heading that way.
- Happiness is like potato salad...if you expect to have a picnic you must "share it".
- We would all fare better if we allowed our "listeners" a little "Butting-in" time.

...BARGAIN... The decrepit old car drove up to the toll bridge. "Fifty cents," cried the gatemen.

"Sold," replied the driver.

Lord, help me every day to see Chances to do some kindly deed And make me always ready To be of help to those in need.

THE HARD WAY

For every hill I've had to climb, For every stone that bruised my feet, For all the blood and sweat and grime, For blinding storms and burning heat, My heart sings but a grateful song-These were the things that made me strong!

Prayer

Each prayer is answered, that is so; but for our own good it may at times be "no".

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



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When I survey the wondrous cross on which the *Prince of glory* died,



my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Judging Others

When I'm busy blaming others, Looking for fault or two, Then it's time I started counting, All the petty things I do.

There's a lot of good in others.

And a lot of bad in me. So, I have no right in judging Faults of others that I see.

Thus, before I look for failings I have found a better plan, Tis to keep my own

house cleaner Before I judge another man.

If any man thinks ill of you, do not be angry with him; for you are worse than he thinks you to be. -Charles Spurgeon

LOOKING TO JESUS

Are you burdened? Are you weary? Is your pathway dark and dreary? Look to Jesus—He is the Light! He truly makes your pathway bright!

Are your burdens too hard to bear? With non to comfort or to care? Look to Jesus! He is the way; He turns your darkness into day.

And is your courage almost gone? With ne'er a prayer or ne'er a song And your days only constant strife? Look to Jesus—He is our Light!

How disappointment and despair, Overcast all your visions rare? With happiness a slender rope, Look to Jesus, He is our Hope.

Have you let darkness settle down? Hiding a smile, showing a frown? Forgetting to love, or favor? Look to Jesus, He is our Saviour!

Look far away from self and sin, Look to Jesus and follow Him; He then will give you joy and peace, And all your worries then will cease.

What About the Hymns



When I Survey the Wondrous Cross brings together the words of the father of English hymnody, Isaac Watts, and the music of the father of American church music, Lowell Mason. This is the fourth hymn written by Watts. It was written as a communion hymn and first appeared in his 1707 collection "Hymns and Spiritual Songs". This hymn is based on Galatians 6:14 "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." Charles Wesley who wrote more than six thousand hymns reportedly said he would give up all of the hymns he wrote to have written this one.

Lowell Mason showed an interest in music from childhood. In his early adult years, he worked as a bank clerk, but pursued his true love, music, on the side. He began composing his own music and many publishers in Philadelphia and Boston rejected his early work. Then in 1822, his collection that didn't even carry his name, was finally accepted by the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston Massachusetts.

In 1827 Mason became the president of the Handel and Haydn Society, and eventually became the first music teacher in an American public school. In 1833 he co-founded the Boston Academy of Music, and in 1838, he became music superintendent for the Boston school system. Mason composed over sixteen hundred religious works and is rightfully called the "Father of American church music".

THE SEARCH

I searched for God in human ways, by doing good and thoughtful deeds, Practicing honesty;

And while some satisfaction rose within, I found not Him.

I sought for God both earnestly and long, striving to convince Him of my worth,

But no peace came;

With broken heart, I fell on bended knee, confessing all my sin—

And He found me!

-Geraldine Nicholas

An Important Job

I woke up early today, excited over all I get to do before the clock strikes midnight. I have responsibilities to fulfill today. I am important. My job is to choose what kind of day I am going to have.

Today I can complain because the weather is rainy, or I can be thankful that the grass is getting watered for free.

Today I can feel sad that I don't have more money, or I can be glad that my finances encourage me to plan my purchases wisely and guide me away from waste.

Today I can grumble about my health, or I can rejoice that I am alive.

Today I can lament over all that my parents didn't give me when I was growing up or I can feel grateful that they allowed me to be born.

Today I can cry because roses have thorns, or I can celebrate that thorns have roses.

Today I can mourn my lack of friends, or I can excitedly embark upon a quest to discover new relationships.

Today I can whine because I have to go to work, or I can shout for joy because I have a job to do.

Today I can complain because I have to go to school, or eagerly open my mind and fill it with rich new tidbits of knowledge.

Today I can murmur dejectedly because I have to do housework, or I can feel honored because I've been provided shelter for my mind and body.

Today stretches ahead of me, waiting to be shaped. And here I am, the sculptor who gets to do the shaping. What today will be like is up to me. I get to choose what kind of day I will have!

-Author Unknown

A CHILDS FAITH

Jesus loves me, this I know For the BIBLE tells me so— Little children ask no more, For love is all they're looking for,

And in a small child's shining eyes
The FAITH of all the ages lies—
And tiny hands and tousled heads
That kneel in prayer by little beds
Are close to the dear LORD'S
heart

And of His Kingdom more a part Then we who search, and never find

The answers to our questioning mind—

For faith in things, we cannot see Requires a child's simplicity For, lost in life's complexities, We drift upon uncharted seas And slowly FAITH disintegrates While wealth and power accumulate—

And the more man learns, the less he knows,
And the more involved his thinking grows
And, in his arrogance and pride,
No longer is man satisfied
To place his confidence and love
With childlike FAITH in God
above—

Oh, Father, grant once more to men

A simple childlike FAITH again And, with a small child's trusting eyes,

May all men come to realize That FAITH alone can save man's soul

And lead him to a HIGHER GOAL.

-Helen Steiner Rice