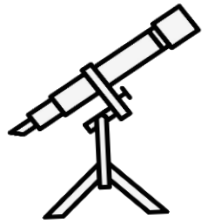


## What About the Hymns



O Come, All Ye Faithful is one of the most beloved of all the songs that are centered around the birth of Jesus. It was written in France in the year 1744 by English hymn writer John Francis Wade. It first appeared in his collection, *Cantus Diversi*, published in England in 1751 for use in the Portuguese embassy in London. When the words and music came into universal use in England it was named, The Portuguese Hymn. The four verses were originally written in Latin however one-hundred years later they were translated into English by Anglican Minister Fredrick Oakeley who desired to use it for his congregation. The tune name, *Adeste Fideles*, is taken from the first words of its Latin text.

\*Resource: \*Douglas Alvin Snow, *Revive Us Again*, 2004.



## A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE

*Funny how \$10.00 looks so big when you take it to church . . . and so small when you take it to the store.*

*Funny how laborious it is to read a chapter in the Bible . . . and how easy it is to read a best-selling novel.*

*Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray . . . but we don't have any difficulty talking on the phone or over the back fence with a neighbor.*

*On second thought, maybe these things aren't so funny after all. Perhaps they reflect our mixed-up priorities. Maybe our problem is that were viewing our commitment to God through the wrong end of a telescope.*

## My Bible

Holy Bible, Book Divine,  
Blessed treasure, Thou art mine.  
Mine to read and mine to love,  
Mine to learn of God above.  
Mine to help me every day,  
Through my fears and through  
dismay.  
Mine to cherish, mine to keep,  
To dry my tears when 'ere I weep.  
Mine for comfort and for cheer,  
Mine to tell my Lord is near.

-Mrs. Sharon Dice



## CHUCKELS

A preacher saw a group of small boys sitting in a circle with a dog in the middle. He asked them what they were doing. One boy said, "We are just telling lies, and the one that tells the biggest lie gets to keep the dog."

The preacher said, "Why I'm shocked! When I was a little boy, I never even thought of telling a lie."

The little boy said to the others, "Give him the dog, fellas. He's the winner."

**Patrick Henry shouted, "Give me liberty or give me death." The next generations shouted, "Give me liberty." The present generations shouts, "Give me!"**

## I VOTED TO CLOSE THE CHURCH

Last Sunday I voted to close the church – not maliciously but thoughtlessly.

I voted to close its doors so its witness and testimony would be stopped. I voted to close the Bible on the pulpit—the Bible given to us by the blood of martyrs. I voted for our minister to stop preaching the truths of the gospel.

I voted that children no longer be taught the stories of the Bible and the songs of salvation and God's love.

I voted that the voice of the choir and congregation be hushed, no more to sing the great hymns of the church. I voted for every missionary to be called home. I voted for the darkness of superstition, the degrading influence of sin, the blight of ignorance, and the curse of selfishness.

I could have gone to church last Sunday, but I didn't. I stayed away. By my laxity and indifference, I voted to close the church.



**LIBERTY**

Liberty Baptist Church, 318 1st Street, Carmi, Illinois

Pastor Stephen Dice · 540-808-7112

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**Do you own a Bible?** If you do you have one of the greatest possessions you could possibly have. When I was saved on July 12, 1955, the first thing I wanted was a Bible. I knew practically nothing about the Bible, but God put a desire in my heart to know His Word. A Christian friend bought me a King James Version (Scofield) Bible and I have used several like it ever since. In the 49 years of my Christian life, 46 as a preacher, I have worn out many Bibles and refer to them occasionally to some of the notes that I have written in them.

Some Bibles are very cheap, costing about a dollar. Better quality Bibles with concordances, maps, etc., cost much more, but the cost is still reasonable. The Old Scofield Bible that I use now cost me about \$40 in 2001. I'm hoping it will last as long as I do, but I don't know; I seem to still be going strong. Every Christian should try to have a good quality King James Bible. We have given away thousands of Bibles through the churches I have pastored. Many churches will give you a Bible if you can't afford one.

Our forefathers valued and appreciated their Bibles, seemingly much more than the average person today. In their day the lack of Bibles and the high cost caused them to place a great value on them. Apparently, the abundance of Bibles today and the low cost has caused some people to devalue the very existence of God's precious Word.

What would life be like without the One Book that has all the answers for this life and the life to come? Do you let your Bible lie unappreciated and unused day after day? I was challenged by an older preacher years ago to read my Bible completely through year after year from Genesis to Revelation. This can be done by reading 3 or 4 chapters each day. The Bible is ever new and fresh, the living Word of God, and I seem to be receiving more from it than ever before. It is spiritual food for our souls.

Many good people in our church are reading the Bible through this year. You should join them. You will be a much happier, better, and useful Christian if you do.

*\*Written by Rev. Leonard Dice, Feb. 2004.*

**SIN HAS LOST ITS SHAME IN AMERICA!**

Last year I saw a greater boldness in wickedness. Hollywood has produced unparalleled amounts of sinfully graphic movies and television to plant evil thoughts and desires in the American people. The Bible is now treated as some sort of historical treaties rather than being respected as the living Word of God. To be non-offensive to contemporary American culture you cannot be against anything. To be "politically correct:" you must "sinfully accept" any form of evil perversion in which individuals choose to engage. I am shocked over how open sin has become in the lives of the next generation. Sin has lost its shame in America.

-David Gibbs-Christian Law Association

**THE LIFE THAT COUNTS**

"The life that counts must toil and fight;  
Must hate the wrong and love the right;  
Must stand for truth, by day, by night –  
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must hopeful be;  
In darkest night, make melody;  
Must wait the dawn on bended knee –  
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must aim to rise  
Above the earth to sunlit skies;  
Must fix its gaze on Paradise –  
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must helpful be;  
The cares and needs of others see;  
Must seek the slaves of sin to free –  
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts is linked with God;  
And turns not from the cross – the rod;  
But walks with joy where Jesus trod –  
This is the life that counts." -*Unknown*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem  
O come and behold Him, born the King of Angels



O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

***The person who falls down gets up a lot quicker than the person who just lies down.***