

The PROJECTOR

"Projecting the Light of the Word of God on the Issues of the Day"

DR. DAYTON HOBBS, Editor

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SELF-CENTERED IMITATORS

By Tod Brainard

"But beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

How that they told you there should be mockers (imitators) in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit." Jude 17-19.

The entire epistle of Jude is a warning to the church of the last days concerning the influx of professing believers who proclaim a knowledge of the truth, but have no love for the truth of God and no power of Almighty God in their lives.

The original language reveals that these "apostles" referred to by Jude repeatedly warned the early churches of the first century concerning these mockers who had "crept in unawares" (Jude 4). Their message was urgent and clear, Watch out! (II Peter 3:1-3).

These "mockers" or *imitators* who intend to deceive have three general qualities that identify their character. "These be they who" (Jude 18): 1. Walk after their own ungodly lusts; 2. Separate themselves; 3. Are sensual, having not the spirit.

It is important to understand that Jude describes the conditions of the visible church of the last days and its professed believers, not the world and its unregenerate hosts. The Bible is very clear concerning the description of the

lost world (John 3: 17-20; Romans 1:21-32, 3:10-18; Gal. 3:22). Jude is warning of those within the church who "walk after their own ungodly lusts..., separate themselves, and are sensual, having not the Spirit." Let this warning ring again and again in our ears!

Of the three characterizations of these end-time imitators, I want to focus on the last quality; that is "sensual, having not the Spirit."

"Sensual - the word is *psuchikos* from which we get our English word psychology. It means a life that centers about the individual; that is, the "I". It is an egotistical way of living in which the individual becomes all important..."(1) To be sensual is to be fully and completely self-conscious. The

See SELF page 9

AT EASE IN ZION

By Ronald E. Bean
Amos 6:1

Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came! Amos 6:1.

Amos was a simple farmer, called to warn Israel of their sin and call them to repentance and to return to whole-hearted fellowship with their God (7:10-15). As he pronounces his "woe to them that are at ease in Zion", we are reminded that the Old Testament was written for *our* admonition. As Amos addresses a spiritually relaxed, self-indulgent, self-centered group who profess to be God's people, it is proper that his message be applied to the people of God in our time.

WHAT IS IT TO BE "AT EASE IN ZION"?

Under the reigns of King Uzziah (Judah) and King Jeroboam II (Israel), the land enjoyed a period of peace and prosperity. As they experienced the absence of turmoil, they grew spiritually lazy. Like the church of Laodicea, they supposed that they had need of nothing while, in reality, they were spiritually destitute. They enjoyed the benefits of common grace and were content with a form of godliness but knew nothing of its power. Continuing in their vain ways; they even looked forward to the day of the Lord, without realizing that it would be a day of judgment in which they would be found wanting.

WHAT ARE THE SINS OF THOSE THAT ARE "AT EASE IN ZION"?

To be "at ease in Zion" begins with a growing apathy to spiritual things. The word "despise" that Amos uses in 2:4 to

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EDITOR'S DESK

Satan is a counterfeiter. The best counterfeiters are the ones who know the most about that which they are copying. Lucifer knows more about Christ and His program than anyone, other than Christ Himself and the Father; therefore, he has the knowledge and the power to be the best of counterfeiters. The Anti-Christ, Satan's masterpiece, will be his most successful counterfeit. The word "anti" could also be translated "alongside". Anti-Christ's program does not run headlong into Christ's program in order to destroy it but is built alongside of Christ's program in order to deceive as many as possible.

SCRIPTURAL DECEPTION

The more the Scriptures are mixed in with small portions of error, the more the fatal enzymes of error can do their deadly work. The better a man or movement looks; the more truth displayed on the marquee; the more worthwhile the stated mission, then the more likely those who are knowledgeable of the truth may be deceived. Our responsibility is to discern the error in a movement, not the truth that is certainly there.

The one who exposes error becomes the divisive brother, while the one who endorses the counterfeit movement becomes the loving, caring brother. Thus has it always been, and thus shall it always be here upon earth in the battle

for truth.

ETERNITY WILL TELL

Eternity, not time, should be our concern. The fear of man bringeth a snare; but the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God." (1 John 4:1).



THE APOSTASY OF THE VISIBLE CHURCH ANCHOR OF THE SOUL

PART TEN (Continued)
Dr. Dayton Hobbs

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath:

That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil. Hebrews 6:17-19.

ANCHOR FOR YOUTH

Some think that you have to change with the times, that you have to do things differently today if you are going to reach the youth. They think the old ways are not good enough, that you must have all kinds of gimmicks and new methods of entertainment. No, you still do it the same way that it has always been done! If the Word of God will not reach young people, then having parties will not! If the Word of God will not reach young people, then having wars will not. If the Word of God will not reach young people, then no other kind of program will reach young people. If the Word of God will not reach young people, then you cannot reach young people! I believe in having fun with kids. We had 875 youth in our spring baseball program this year. We believe

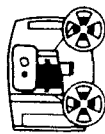
in having fun with kids, but I want to tell you that we do not depend on baseball to get them to Christ; we depend on the Word of God to win them to Christ. We are not going to win them with fun; we are going to win them with the Word of God. That does not change. In America people are not asking for the old paths, they are asking for the new paths. The visible church today is not asking for the old paths, it is asking for new paths. *Ask for the old paths, wherein is the good way and walk therein and ye shall find rest for your souls.* (Jer. 6:16). I know many folks who would like to have a little rest. Today many are having a rough time rearing their children, having a rough time in their own personal lives, in their business, or in other ways. When we leave the old paths, we are not likely to find rest for our souls.

ANCHOR FOR PERSONAL LIFE

Anchor your personal life in the Word of God. You cannot have too much conviction. I am sick and tired of getting periodicals from fundamentalists who are attacking other fundamentalists for being too strong. That is the rage today and has been for the last five to ten years. If you attend some fundamental fellowship meetings and if you take a strong stand, you get embarrassed. This ministry, by the grace of God, is anchored to the Word of God, and that is where we want to be. Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. drilled into his preacher boys that you cannot have too much conviction. Any amount of prejudice is too much. If it is prejudice we have, we ought to get rid of that, but if it is conviction, you cannot have too much. Now you can be a nut and mess up your testimony, but you cannot have too much conviction. We have to let the Lord give the right kind of approach, the right way of ministering, so that our good is not spoken of as evil, but I would rather have no tact at all than to not fight the Lord's battles. I would rather be tactless and keep my conviction than to have all kinds of tact and lose my convictions. There is something more important than people liking you and that is God being pleased with you. Our testings and experiences are designed to make us stronger, not weaker. These should tighten the anchor rope and make

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Dr. Dayton Hobbs

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Stars of the Morning

By: "Aunt Carolyn"



PETAL POWER

(Continued from summer issue)

Synopsis: Amy's love for flowers taught her to see God's hand in His creation and to learn many lessons in Christian character as she grew in Christ.

GIVERS

Now clover, whether along the road or in the field, Amy had to admire clover. The dark green of its leaves and rich red of its flower made a patch or a field into a lush carpet beckoning childish feet to run and play. And, oh, the sweetness of its scent in the cool of the evening was enough to make one inhale deeply and rest in its lingering fragrance. Beside that, clover made dandy feed for the cattle, and it was a haven for the busy bees collecting portions for their store of honey. What's more, everywhere clover grew, the ground became richer and more productive. Papa called it a legume. Amy only knew the clover put food and strength into the soil; it enriched and built up the land. What a privilege it would be to be that kind of Christian, one who would be a source of strength, encouragement, challenge and blessing to others, one who would not sap and drain strength, but would build up God's work and be an encourager to His children.

No, Amy's flowers were not the delicate varieties pampered in a greenhouse or coddled in a florist's controlled refrigerator. Hers were real flowers growing on the farm, weathering storms and dry spells and enriching lives with their color and beauty.

RESPONSIBILITY

Take the lilacs, for instance. Amy played around the bushes in the summer and sledded over them in the winter when

they became self-appointed snow fences, and drifts piled up the side. They didn't seem to need tending, but they burst forth every spring in their fresh new lavender dress. Hundreds of tiny buds formed the huge flowers on the end of the branches. When spring came, they brightened the hearts and the rooms of sick folks when Mama went on her missions of mercy. On Sunday mornings, big bouquets in Mama's best vase adorned the altar in front of the pulpit in the little country church. Tight fistfuls were proudly presented to the schoolteacher to grace her desk in a quart Ball canning jar. Oh, the lilacs! What an expression of love and care and tenderness. Yet perhaps their greater contribution lay in the fact that the hedge was planted so as to hide from view the chicken yard and other farmyard sights which the family

...real flowers...weathering storms and dry spells and enriching lives with their color and beauty.

appreciated and honored as part of their life and livelihood, but which were also given the respect of privacy. That is, Amy and Mama and Aunt Margaret could do the washing or shell peas on the back porch and enjoy lilacs instead of less attractive things. The lilacs stood as a constant reminder that in our lives must be duties and work and responsibilities, which are necessary and profitable but may not be pleasurable or glamorous, yet God can give grace for these tasks if we are faithful. He can clothe them with His beauty so that even the hardest jobs are satisfying and rewarding.

PURITY AND STRENGTH

Amy didn't talk about the rose much. Neither did Mama. It stood year after year by the corner of the house and seemed almost like something sacred. It was Grandmother's small white rose. She had brought it with her on the long journey to the prairie homestead. It had weathered many a hard winter and hot dry summer, and if roses could talk it would have had stories to tell. A piece of it also grew on Grandmother's grave out in the cemetery. Alone it stood by the small gray tombstone. Neither blizzard nor drought, sleet nor hail had conquered that beautiful rose. It was more than a monument to Grandmother's Christian character and womanhood. That delicate white rose, trembling in the wind, spoke gently of the Savior's purity and holiness. Yet that purity was Amy's through faith in Christ's cleansing blood. Softly Mama half breathed, half sang, *Oh, to be like Thee, Oh, to be like Thee, precious Redeemer, pure as Thou art. Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness. Stamp Thine own image deep in my heart.* And the rose thrust its roots deeper into the ground, each wind, each storm making it stronger to stand and to withstand. "Oh, Amy," spoke Mama, "Don't ask for an easy path. Ask God for strong shoulders to do a job for Him and to be faithful in whatever path He chooses for you."

Excerpt from LILACS AND SAGE, by "Aunt Carolyn". For these delightful lessons in Christian character, see order form on page 5. Will continue in next issue of The Projector.



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FOCUS ON RELIGION

By Rev. Tod Brainard

Apostles of Psychobabble

It has been the long-held position of the editor and staff of *The Projector* that Christ, the Word of God, is the all-sufficient One for the sinner and the redeemed sinner in this world. We do not accept pop "Christian psychology" or the much used substitute phrase "biblical counseling" to be of God and Christ, but rather to be the religious philosophies of men.

Some would accuse us of "throwing out the baby with the bath water" upon exposing "Christian" psychologically-oriented men and women and their teachings. After all, aren't these individuals good, honest Christians who sincerely wish to help others and honor the Lord? However, upon examination of the wash basin we find no baby (revealed truth) in the water, just the waste water of human thinking and philosophies (error mixed with truth). Human sincerity, no matter how noble, has never been a Biblical standard for judging doctrinal purity and practical Christian living.

In a continuing series, we will be listing the individuals who have distinguished themselves as "apostles of psychobabble". It is impossible to separate the teachings from the teacher, so we make no effort to sidestep certain personalities or soften positions taken by these individuals. These individuals have mixed the teachings of the Word of God with psychological ideology and terminology. They believe to have produced their conception of a panacea for the stresses, hurts, dysfunctions, distresses, and self-esteem crises of the sophisticated and complex church goer. Such psychobabble is the curse of the visible church today. Our purpose is to warn God's people and magnify Christ, the all-sufficient One!

Bill Gothard

Background:

1957 Graduate of Wheaton College.

Founder of Institute of Basic Life Principles in 1965 (formerly Institute of Basic Youth Conflicts). Publisher of a quarterly journal, *Life Purpose: A Journal of God's Power in Us*.

Associations:

Ecumenical in nature. He invites pastors representing various denominations of a given metropolitan area without regard for doctrinal aberrations. Holds meetings in Southern Baptist and GARBC churches.

Current Teachings:

1. Children are to obey parents even when parents tell children to do things contrary to God's Word. Teaches that

We do not except pop "Christian psychology"...to be of God and Christ, but rather to be the religious philosophies of men.

there should be unquestioning accountability to the authority of parents, even after the child moves into adulthood and even if the parents are unsaved. (See Institute in Basic Life Principles, Rebuilder's Guide, pp. 78, 110, 154, 224, 235/dated 1992)

2. Views spiritual warfare for the believer to include binding Satan and his demons, and "praying a hedge of thorns" around one's estranged spouse (See Rebuilder's Guide, pp. 115, 119-121, 124)

3. Accepts the pop psychological idea of "unconscious needs that motivate behavior" (See Rebuilder's Guide, pp 128-153, 204) (Sigmund Freud developed this model.)

4. Teaches "birth order" as being the key determinate of human personality traits (See Secrets to Self-Acceptance, pp. 6, 19. This concept was a favorite of psychologist/humanist Alfred Adler.)

5. Emphasizes "Self-love" concepts

such as, "Failure to properly love myself causes me to be unable to properly love others...Self-worth comes by knowing that I have a vital function within the body of Christ...Self-acceptance is the basis for glorifying God and conforming to the image of Christ." (page 23 of Secrets of Self-Acceptance/no date given) (Also see Rebuilder's Guide pp 93, 122, 133, 135, 139, 166-167, and 204 for more self-acceptance / self-rejection teachings).

6. Teaches that children are guilty for the sins of their forefathers. He also teaches that parents of an adopted child should research the child's biological parents and pray with the child for forgiveness of the parents' sins. (See Rebuilder's Guide, pp. 160, 181)

Sources:

Hobbs, Dayton; *Gothardism Evaluated*, 1988.

Huffman, Jerry; *Calvary Contender*, 4/1/90

Miesel, Rick; *BDM Notebook*, Bill Gothard:General Teachings/Activities 1994

Joni Eareckson Tada

Background:

Founder of Joni & Friends, an organization devoted to involving Christians with the disabled community. Tada was paralyzed from the shoulders down in 1967 after a diving accident in Chesapeake Bay. She served as presidential appointee under Presidents Reagan and Bush on the National Council on Disability. Joni & her husband, Ken, live in Augura Hills, California.

Associations:

Attends Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California, pastored by John MacArthur, Jr.; Speaks occasionally for Campus Crusade for Christ, James Dobson's Focus on the Family, and has traveled with Billy Graham (She was a speaker at Graham's "Mission in Moscow"). She often quotes psychologists, such as Philip Yancey and Larry Crabb, among others. She received glowing reviews for her latest devotional book, *Diamonds in the Dust*, by : Robert Schuller of the Crystal

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Teaching Tips

by Mrs. Doris Peppard

"Quotable Quotes"

Every now and then you will hear somebody say something that will make you pause to say, "I wish I had said that!" or "I'll have to remember that one." Well, good quotations will stand up under the test of time, and their truths will stand. You can find quotation books at a public library, bookstore, in textbooks, and in magazines. They can be found to fit every subject in the curriculum and can be a springboard to make students develop a process of reasoning skills.

Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.'s Chapel quotes have stood the test of time and are still a blessing to many people's lives. Do you remember these?

Do Right.

You and God make a majority in

your community.

The greatest ability is dependability.

It is no disgrace to fail, but it is a disgrace to do less than your best to keep from failing.

You can do anything you ought to do.

Classroom teachers should make use of Quotable Quotes and help their students reasoning skills as well as give them principles by which to live. Quotes could become a section in each student's notebook. Essays could be taught using quotes as a springboard. Logical thinking in Politics, Government, History, and the environment can be developed through the use of quotes. Consider this one: "Delay is preferable to error." (Thomas Jefferson). I can think how this could be used in a Bible Class (Israel's defeat); History (the legislative procedure); Math (careless errors); English (think before speaking); etc.

Not every quote will have a Christian perspective. You will want to guide the reasoning skills of the pupils—especially when humanistic ideas come out of their thinking process. Being "Politically Correct" is not Biblical or

always right. The teacher's philosophy will come across to the students. These authors' quotes are timeless: Mark Twain, past-presidents, philosophers, historians, etc. The possibilities are endless. A few students might try to think of a concise way to say a truth and become "quotable" themselves! ☐

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From FOCUS page 4

Cathedral; Jay Kesler, President of the neo-evangelical Taylor University; Ruth Bell Graham, wife of Billy Graham; J.I. Packer, Covenant neo-evangelical theologian; Bill Bright, President of Campus Crusade for Christ.

Teachings:

1. Tada's devotional books place great emphasis on overcoming bitterness, violent questioning of God, tears, and healing emotional wounds and hurts. As Ruth Bell Graham states, "Each thought is illustrated by some little story or experience from her (Joni's) life". Tada is very experience-oriented and makes it clear that she is a living illustration to those who are suffering. In essence, she offers to her readers and her radio listeners a "shoulder to cry on".

2. She teaches that *the body* is created in the image of God and, therefore, any bad-mouthing of the body is succumbing to

the Devil's desire that you be ashamed of your body. (See *Diamonds in the Dust*, January 17 Devotional). Our image of God likenesses are spiritual, social, mental and moral; not physical. (John 4:24; Philippians 2:5-7).

3. Her portrait of God is a psychological mixture of humanity and divinity. She refers to God as her "elder Brother", a Father constantly placing His loving arms about us to hug us and to tell us that He loves us. She presents God as redeemer of "broken dreams and hearts that hurt by His loving, warm touch". Tada's feelings-oriented devotionals on the "love" of God and His desire to heal broken dreams sounds more like that of human design rather than that of a holy and righteous God loving (agape-loving, non-emotionally) His children. (See *Diamonds in the Dust*, April 21 Devotional, May 8 Devotional) ☐

PROVERB PRACTICALS

Proverbs 20:25
By Ludwig Opager

It is a snare to the man who devoureth that which is holy, and after vows to make inquiry. Proverbs 20:25

God takes vows seriously, because God always keeps His word and keeping vows is keeping His word. If He says that He will do something we can count on Him doing it. Everytime He vows He will keep His vow. He will not enter into a vow unless He intends to keep it.

God made us in His image, and His will concerning any vows we choose to make is the same as His will concerning vows that He makes. The Scriptures warn us: Do not vow unless you intend to keep your vow. Making vows has no inherent benefit of itself. You will not grow by making vows. If you vow and don't keep your vow you have stepped into the trap of the adversary. You have found the snare of Satan.

This proverb uses the phrase: "Devoureth that which is holy." To devour means to consume with greediness for one's own use. To devour that which is holy means to consume for one's own use that which has been separated unto God, that which belongs to God. God owns that which is holy; it has been separated unto Him for His use. To devour that which is holy is stealing from God. That which is holy, in the mind of God, has been separated unto Him for His use.

Remember what happened to Achan when he took the treasures of Jericho that had been separated unto God. Was not the goodly Babylonish garment, the two hundred shekels of silver, the wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight holy unto the Lord? Were they not separated by God to God's service? What a snare Achan was caught in. Is not that holy thing that we devour simply bait placed in the snare and used by the devil to entrap us? And don't forget his family whose feet were tied by the same snare!

Perhaps a Christian, who has been bought with the precious blood of Christ, rebels and consumes his life in his own way, thereby devouring that which is

holy.

You see, if you belong to Christ you are HOLY, you are separated for God's use. I am a holy man, you are a holy man or woman if you belong to God. The Christian who rebels takes that which has been dedicated to God and uses it for his own purposes, thereby denying God of that which is rightfully His.

If you came to Christ, you came by a vow. Eph 2:10, says: For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. When you were quickened by the Holy Spirit, you came to Christ, and He gave you life with the purpose of you doing good works for God. God says that your time, your being is holy, separated unto Him. Is not this vow a part of your salvation? Have not those of us who are saved vowed to serve the Lord and use the time that He gives us for His glory? We are not to give that which is holy unto the dogs or cast our pearls before swine! That which is holy belongs to the Lord, not to the dogs!

This proverb tells us that there is a snare designed to entrap those who devour that which is holy and who inquire of God whether he really has to keep his vows.

"Dear God, I know that I promised You that I would serve You here, but it is so hard! Do I have to keep my vow? How may I be loosed from this obligation?"

Too many times we so carelessly vow, perhaps in an emotional environment, and afterwards ask God how this promise can be retracted. So many are much more ready in making vows than in paying vows. Their life is built on shows of affection that are based upon some pleasant experience or some emotional sermon or service.

Jesus said in Luke 9:62,No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. His hand to the plow is the vow and the looking back is the inquiry.

As Charles Bridges quotes a Bishop Hall in his commentary on Proverbs: "He entangleth his soul in the snares of death, who resumeth unto a profane use that which is once consecrated unto God, and who, after he hath vowed aught unto the Lord, argues within himself, how to alter that holy purpose, and to defeat God of His due."

Mr. Bridges goes on to say: "Alienation of the gift proves the prior alienation of the heart. Let Ananias and Sapphira testify that God is a jealous God. Take care of rash engagements. Be faithful to upright engagements. Before entering into the service of God make inquiry into its full requisitions. Beware of a religion of temporary excitement; far different from deep, solid, permanent principle. And whatever be the cost, be true to the consecration of thyself as 'a living sacrifice' on the altar of thy God."

In this regard we caution those who serve the Lord to be careful in encouraging and pressing people to make vows to the Lord. This is an awesome work and must be bathed in wisdom. □

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See Order
Form, Page 5

From SELF page 1

following excerpt by Dr. Dean Alford, an able expositor from the 19th century, gives us a clear understanding of the relationship of the unregenerate soul with its counterparts, the spirit and body.

"The *psuche* is the center of the personal being, the 'I' of each individual. It is in each man bound to the spirit, man's higher part, and to the body, man's lower part; drawn upwards by the one, downward by the other. He who gives himself up to the lower appetites, is *sarkikos* (fleshly): he who by communion of his *pneuma* (spirit) with God's Spirit is employed in the higher aims of his being, is *pneumatikos* (spiritual). He who rests midway, thinking only of self and self's interests, whether animal or intellectual, is the *psuchikos* (sensual-Jude 19), the selfish man, the man in whom the spirit is sunk and degraded into subordination to the subordinate *psuche* (soul)." (2)

When God deals with a man, He deals with his spiritual wickedness first, not his soulish interests or his bodily needs. Romans 8: 16 declares, "The Spirit bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God".

This soulish emphasis is the cornerstone of the "Christian" psychology and biblical counseling movements of today. Too much emphasis, if not all the emphasis in "biblical counseling" is being placed on the "soul" and "body" with its fragile problems, dependencies, and difficulties. The Scriptures emphasize the spirit, under the regenerative power of the Spirit of God.

I Corinthians 2:10-12,14 bear this out: "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God...But the natural(*psuchikos*) man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually

discerned."

People, by and large, in Christianity are not being confronted with the Christ of the Word of God on a *spiritual* level, they are being "counselled" strictly on a self-centered, emotional, soulish (*psuchikos*) level. As a result, self-centered professors in mass are flooding our churches today. Many "Christian" psychological parachurch ministries and "biblical counseling" oriented churches pander after and cater to these self-centered professors, "beguiling unstable souls" as Peter warns in II Peter 2:14, rather than confronting them with the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. As a result, the self-centered professor never rises above the psychological state, for he is without the Spirit of God.

As the old adage reminds us "To be forewarned is to be forearmed", Fundamental Pastors, Evangelists, Bible Teachers, Christian college presidents and faculty should be alerted to the "psuchikos" emphasis in our ministries. God help us to preach and enjoy the sufficiency of Christ and His Word in salvation and practical daily living. God help us to see the enemy amongst us!

1 McGee, J Vernon, *Thru the Bible*, Jude 19

2 Dr. Dean Alford as quoted by Kenneth Wuest, *In These Last Days*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co. 1954, p. 253. □

P.C.* HYMNS (*Politically Correct) by Ronald E. Bean

During a recent telecast of Robert Schuller's *Hour of Power*, the congregation sang the following politically correct stanza of the hymn, *Rise Up, O Men of God*:

*Rise up, O Church of God,
Rise up o'er all the earth;
Let men and women, everywhere,
Proclaim their own self worth.*

It is not surprising when an apostate promoter of the cult of self-esteem like Robert Schuller changes hymns to fit his faulty theology, but consider what may happen when he and his followers amend the rest of the hymn book.

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That restored my self esteem.*

*My hope is built on nothing less,
Than my self-image and success.*

*The church's one foundation
Is the work of Sigmund Freud.*

Counseling covers it all.

It is wonderful to consider the absolute sufficiency of the Lord Jesus Christ. He alone can meet our every need and it is folly to look beyond Him for satisfaction. May we esteem Christ instead of self. □

BOOK REVIEW

By Tod Brainard

Against Biblical Counseling: For the Bible: by Martin & Deidre Bobgan: EastGate Publishers; Santa Barbara, CA; 1994

This book is certain to cause much stir in the evangelical and fundamentalist communities. It is controversial and thought provoking for it warns Christians to "abandon the biblical counseling movement" and calls believers "back to the Bible and biblically ordained ministries" (Ephesians 4:11-12).

In this book, Martin & Deidre Bobgan

trace their journey from "Biblical Counseling" to the fresh understanding that the believer who is in Christ is "thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Tim. 3:16). The Bobgans write, "In the effort to replace the wisdom of men (psychology) with the wisdom of the Word, those of us who attempted to formulate a model and methodology of biblical counseling inadvertently developed biblical counseling programs that more or less emulate or parallel psychological counseling....It is with repentance from our own involvement in the biblical counseling movement that we write this book." (pp 10 & 11).

The Bobgans ably deal with the foundation and history of the present
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the anchor dig in deeper.

Dr. Bob, Sr. used to say to us, "Boys, take your stand and take your losses, and build from there". Whatever the stand costs, take it, and then go ahead and build from there. But do not weaken your stand to keep from taking the losses. That is what is happening across America in fundamentalism. Men are weakening their stand to keep from taking losses. You cannot do that and stay true. You start drifting and when you start drifting you will find trouble in every direction. Do not mellow as you get older. Anything that is getting mellow is getting rotten. Just wait a few days on any fruit that is mellow and it will be rotten. Have more patience, have more longsuffering, get wiser, but get stronger in your stand as you get older. That is the way it ought to be. So we have to keep our personal life anchored to the Word of God.

I do not examine a thing to see if it has some of the right words in it; I examine a thing to see if it takes the same stand that the Word takes. If it does not, then I am not going to endorse it. I do not care who puts it out, I do not care who says it. I am not going to endorse it if it is not in harmony with the Word of God! We judge everything, we measure everything, we look at everything by the Scriptures.

ANCHOR FOR SOCIAL LIFE

Anchor your social understandings on the Word of God. This is a place where drifting can easily take place. Christians cannot afford to be socially correct today. If you are socially correct in the world in which you live then you are out of touch with God. The role God set for man is still the same today as it was when God set the role for man. Man and woman are different. Children are different still. Each has a place, each has a role. God established the role that man has, and God established the role that the woman is to have. We cannot modify that. We cannot go along with the women's lib movement. We cannot go along with any movement that modifies in any way the role that God gave in these areas. Man is the head of the home even as Christ is head of the Church. That

means that a man is supposed to love his wife as Christ loved the Church. That will keep her in line; that will keep her happy; that will keep her sweet; that will make her everything she ought to be; loving her! That is what she needs, that is all she needs; a man's love. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the Church. The Bible does not say, "Wives, love your husbands". That is not in the Bible. You say, is it all right if your wife loves you? Well, I guess it is all right, but it is not in the Bible. Wives reciprocate. How does the Church love Christ? It reciprocates. Christ loves, so it loves back. Is not that the way it works? The same is true in the home. You cannot solve marital problems if you

If you are socially correct in the world in which you live then you are out of touch with God.

cannot get the husband to love his wife.

God's principles must be followed as established in the Word of God. God meant the children to be under obedience. He meant for children to be brought up under the nurture and admonition, that is the discipline, of the Lord. Now you cannot change that; HRS cannot change that; legislatures cannot change that, nobody can change that! Have the children like they ought to be by the time they get to be five or six, then all you will have to do is speak to them. Do not tell me it cannot be done. It has been done all over this world for centuries. You just do not have the will to do it, that's all. It can be done. It has been done and is being done by godly people. And we cannot change it. That is the way it has to be if you are going to rear the right kind of children. These positions are established by God.

It affects boy-girl relationships. I was recently talking to a lady about her daughter. The girl is big for her age. She is only fifteen, but she looks like seventeen. The mother said, "My daughter thinks I am the meanest thing in the world because we say she cannot date yet". I said, "You just stick by that, and I will tell you what will happen. It will run off the bad boys and attract the good boys to your daughter. It will run off the bad girls and attract the right kind

of girls. The kind of girls whose mothers also will not let them date will become friends with your girl. Take the stand; take the responsibility; take the heat."

One of the toughest things in the world to do is to get those who are in places of authority over others to exercise that authority when it involves a face-to-face confrontation. I do not like face-to-face confrontations. I don't suppose anyone does, but when you have to do it, grit your teeth, walk into it, and do it! If you hold to Bible standards in your social relationships it will attract people of Bible standards. Girls, if you go man-hunting, you may catch one all right, but you are likely to live to regret it. You must hold to Bible standards and stick by them, and if God wants you to be married He will bring you someone worth having, somebody for whom you will be thankful. So boy-girl relationships have to be decided by the Word of God.

ANCHOR FOR FAMILY LIFE

What constitutes a family? Two lesbians living together do not make a family. Two homosexuals living together do not make a family. Two people living together outside of wedlock do not make a family. Just because people can have babies does not make a family. There is a Bible meaning and testimony about a family, and we have to hold to that. There are equal yokes and unequal yokes in the Scripture. We have to stick with equal yokes and stay clear of unequal yokes. We have to know what the Scripture says about relationships. You, as a Christian, cannot go in business with a man who is not a Christian. Oh, you may go ahead and sign the contract to do it, but you will be in a mess wishing you were out of it before long. You have to be careful about yokes. It is easy to get yoked up in the wrong way. There is an equal yoke, and there is an unequal yoke, and we have to know what the Scripture says about these things and follow the Scripture if we want the blessing of God.

JUSTICE

Do you know what justice is? Many times in the King James the word *judgment* could better be translated *justice*; especially when judgment and righteousness are mentioned together. It

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From AT EASE page 1

describe the people's attitude to God's law does not imply open denial and opposition. The word means that they simply did not hold the law of God in high regard. The value one places upon God's Word is not measured by the soundness of his doctrinal statement or the style of his Bible. It is demonstrated in his love for and obedience to the infallible and inerrant Word of God. Belief in God's Word and obedience to God's Word are inseparable.

In chapter 2 verse 12, there are two more indications of the people's spiritual condition. The first is their mockery of those who were visibly separated unto God. According to Numbers 6, the Nazarite would declare his separation unto the Lord by a number of voluntary acts of self-denial; one of these being his refusal to eat or drink anything from the fruit of the vine. The self-indulgent would attempt to encourage these separatists to forsake their vows and

Value one places upon God's Word is demonstrated in his love for and obedience to the infallible and inerrant Word of God.

drink wine. Those "at ease in Zion" have little tolerance for those who desire personal holiness and practice separation from the pleasure crazes of the world. The second indication of their spiritual condition was their refusal to tolerate the proclamation of God's Word. Like their weak spiritual leader of the people, Amaziah (7:13), their cry was "don't preach to me".

In chapter 4 verse 1, Amos likens the people to the kine of Bashan. These large creatures were known for their unruly behavior and hatred of restriction. They produced a rich variety of milk but their rebellious nature made them nearly impossible to domesticate. Any attempt to place them under control would cause them to become abusive and, as a result, they were left to roam the countryside. Such behavior is typical of a people whose primary desire is self-gratification.

The pre-occupation with selfish interests manifested itself in other forms of selfish behavior (6:4,6a). An

obsession with pleasure led them to drink wine from bowls instead of cups and the use of expensive ointments aided in their desire for recognition. While they were apathetic in their spiritual lives they were enthusiastic in their fleshly pursuits. They continued the practice of seeking the best for themselves while giving God the leftovers. With self-seeking comes a callousness to the needs of others. Amos rebukes them for not being grieved for the affliction of Joseph. His brothers were content to eat their lunch while he languished in the pit (Gen. 37:25) and the self-centered individual will seek his own pleasure while those around him perish.

It is interesting to note that these people had not forsaken their habit of worship. Twenty years later (Isa. 1:10-17) they would still be going through the motions of worship but without a true heart for the things of God. Amos casts a stinging rebuke at such meaningless activity (5:21-23; 6:5) and singles out their worship music as symptomatic of their shallowness. The music they used was for themselves; not for God. Their real concern was entertainment and not edification and God was not pleased with their "performances". Nearly 300 years ago, Matthew Henry had commented on this passage; "Here is a warning to all those who think to please God by elaborate musical services in His house; while they do not take heed to worship Him in their hearts and obey Him in their daily lives".

God continued to deal with His people in grace and mercy. His Word through Amos and then His hand of chastening were loving attempts to bring them to repentance, but they hardened their hearts to His ministrations (4:8-12). Their pleasures brought no satisfaction (v.8), their labors brought no fruit (v.9), they lost their children and their reputation (v.10). Even when God showed them mercy (v.11), the goodness of God did not lead them to repentance. Finally God brought the worst possible famine upon them; a famine of hearing the words of the Lord (8:11). The Word they despised at the start was taken away from them at the end. It is a sad day when the clear preaching and teaching of the Word of God cannot be found because it has been forsaken by a people who prefer their own desires.

The progression of these sins is noteworthy. Beginning with a light view of spiritual things, they progressed to rebellion against constraints, the adoption of meaningless worship, self-indulgence, insensitivity to God's dealings, and finally being left without the Word of God and alone with their selfish pursuits.

WHAT IS THE CURE FOR THOSE "AT EASE IN ZION"?

Had Amos been afflicted with the "resource fever" of the 20th Century, he may have been tempted to recommend the latest seminars, books, or self-help programs for those in need of personal revival. Thankfully, the farmer of Tekoa was not prone to encourage God's people to pull themselves up by their own boot straps. His exhortation to the people to recognize God's standard (7:7-9) is fitting today. God sets the standard of what is holy, right, pure, and acceptable. Man must measure what he does by the plumbline of God's Word. God's invitation to a naturally self-centered people is to look away from your self and your selfish desires and seek Him (5:4-15). Seek God's presence and power; desire His righteousness, pray for His blessing. Quit looking for places and programs. Search Him out! Desire Him! He alone is sufficient to meet every need of His people. ☐

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From APOSTASY page 10

is sad that our justice system in America is one of the worst in the world today. Singapore probably has a much better justice system than we do. Do you know what justice is? It's protecting the innocent person from those who are set upon evil. Justice is the protecting of the folks who are not breaking the law and who are abiding by the laws of our city, state, and Federal Government. The practical effect of our laws presently is to protect the guilty. Now, I understand that a man is innocent until he is proven guilty, but let us speed up the judicial process and punish the guilty person. Justice as carried out these days is a joke. Every bill passed by Congress in this century, that was supposed to help the poor, has in fact, helped the rich, and that without exception. There never has been a bill passed in Congress to help the

From REVIEW page 9

Biblical Counseling movement (pp 23-56); the methodology & compromise of the movement (pp 73-118); the integration of psychology and the Bible and brief exposes' of the leaders

Eph. 4:11 makes no mention of Biblical Counselors as "gifts" to the Church. Preaching is God's method of giving His counsel.

pioneering the "Biblical Counseling" movement of the late 20th century (pp. 119-162); as well as Scriptural reasons for rejecting the "manual approach" of biblical counselors (pp 164-168) and the biblical counseling movement as a whole (pp. 168-191).

The Bobgan's make a strong case that Ephesians 4:11 makes no mention of

"meeting together for personal ministry" (p. 79, also pp. 78, 80, 87, 89, 190, 191). Hebrew 13:7 & 17 teach that the pastor has been given the authority to "rule", the responsibility to "watch for your souls", and the accountability before God to be faithful in this calling. The Bobgans seem to assume that "professed" believers are fit to minister and give mutual spiritual care (p. 191). Such an assumption is naive. Many a church has split after meetings for Bible study and edification because "professed" believers had differing ideas of interpretation of Scripture. The preaching of the Word of God by godly pastors is God's method of meeting spiritual needs and caring for souls.

We recommend this book, trusting that the information given concerning the biblical counseling movement will move hungry believers to cast aside the rubbish that is passed off as truth and embrace the all-sufficient, satisfying Word of Christ.

You can order a copy of this book from:
EastGate Publishers
4137 Primavera Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Note: It is distressing that many Fundamental Christian colleges, universities, and seminaries have started "Biblical Counseling" divisions within their Bible departments to provide counseling training for their preacher boys and lay-persons. In essence, they have communicated to their students this message: Studying Theology, studying the glories of Christ, learning the great doctrines of Scripture will not prepare you to care for the sheep God will entrust to you. You must first take classes in biblical counseling and psychology in order to prepare you "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Eph. 4:12). □



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poor or to give justice to the deserving. Why is that? It is because our system is corrupt. The wealthy are the only ones who can afford the representation necessary to beat the system. Expensive trial lawyers work all the angles and loopholes for the rich, while the less fortunate, whether guilty or innocent, have to take whatever is handed out.

GOD'S JUSTICE

Justice is a joke today, but when Jesus comes to reign you will see true justice. You will see the wicked punished quickly. The poor, the downtrodden, the fatherless, and the widow will receive true justice. We must stay with the Word of God. We must anchor to the Scriptures. In every area, morally, politically, and socially, we must be concerned with being *biblically correct*. The moral, political, and social correctness of our day is out of touch with *Thus saith the Lord*. □

Biblical counselors as "gifts" to the Church in the age of Grace. (pp. 68-72, 78) They also point out that the Scriptures emphasize teaching, not counseling (pp. 66).

There are, I believe, some weaknesses in the Bobgans' book. One imposing weakness is that there is no mention of the importance of the pastor's call to "preach the Word", which the Scriptures indicate as primary. (II Tim. 4:1-5; Romans 10:15; I Corinthians 1:18, 21, 23; 15:11; II Cor. 4:5; Acts 20:27; I Tim 2:7). Preaching is God's method of giving *His counsel*. The primacy of preaching does not seem to be as important to the Bobgans as ministering to people and teaching.

Another weakness is the Bobgan's concept of "the pastor". Their view of the pastor is a weak one at best. The Bobgans place a great deal of emphasis upon Christians, within the local church