



# The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, FOUNDING EDITOR

*“Projecting the Light of the Word of God on the Issues of the Day”*

## A Biblical Perspective of Missions and the Pandemic

By Rev. Tom Gibbons

Executive Director of Gospel Mission to South America

Preached at Grace Bible Church March 6, 2022

**Continued from last issue:**

**WE MAY BE PRESSURED...**  
*But we're not distressed; PERPLEXED...But we're not in despair*

**WE MAY BE PERSECUTED**  
*But we're not deserted*

One who is **persecuted** is aggressively pursued like a hunter pursuing a catch. It means to be hunted down with haste; vehemently sought; pursued to be overtaken.

While I am not aware of any of our missionaries being targeted with persecution in relation to the pandemic, certainly all were affected by government mandates. Whether knowingly or not, or specifically targeting the Church, it did affect their ability to carry on the activities most basic to the wellbeing of the church.

**Whether or not a government has had malicious intent toward the church, the enemy certainly has.**

*And he's sought to detain ministry, divide the church, discourage the saints, and dishearten God's servants during the past 24 months. He would have us feel isolated and abandoned.*

Paul knew what it was to be persecuted, **but he did not know what it was to be deserted (forsaken)** by the Lord.

Neither do we. **No matter how forsaken we may “feel”, that is all it is: a feeling.**

Paul had the abiding conviction that the same God who permitted persecution in his life had never left his side; never left him in the lurch; never deserted or abandoned him.

Jesus told His disciples in John 15:20, *Remember the word that I said unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you...*

Do you remember God's promise in Hebrews 12:5-6? *“I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”*

What a comfort this should be to us.

Persecution should not surprise us, **the thought that He has abandoned us, that should surprise us.**

The promise and fact of His presence should also embolden us to preach Christ.

In Acts 4, when Peter and John were questioned by the religious leaders for teaching and preaching the resurrection, they were impacted by their boldness (v13).

They had no recourse against them because they could not deny the healing of the lame man (ch3) who was standing there with them.

So, the religious leaders threatened them and commanded them, not once, but twice, not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus (v17-18; 21).

Peter & John prayed v29, *“Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant us unto they servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word... and they spake the word of God with boldness.” (vv29-31).*

They did not pray for personal safety or political change...they prayed for boldness.

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## Editor's Desk

by Pastor Tod Brainard

### Shall We Surrender?

I recently read A. W. Tozer's booklet, **Culture**, a compilation of Tozer insights preached at his church in Chicago on the culture of the 1950's. As I was reading, Tozer's emphasis upon **not adjusting** to the changes of culture was poignant. His argument was strong and convincing. Tozer wrote that Jesus Christ was the most maladjusted man on the planet during His time on earth. He did not adjust his belief system to His times or the culture surrounding Him. He remained very much out of step with the culture and in step with His Father's will. Yet in His maladjusted position, Jesus Christ was the most influential figure in His time. Tozer then asked the question, **"Shall we surrender to the adjusters?"** We are repeatedly told by religious leaders within our orb that if we do not adjust to the times, we will lose our relevance. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, if you adjust to the times **away from the principles and truth of the Scriptures**, you cease to have power with God and power with humanity. In addition, you lose your moral authority and your relevance to the culture.

I John 5:4-5 states, **"For whosoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world (cosmos – the world's modis operandi), even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"** Our overcoming the world's system of operation, its culture, and its narrative is not about **adjusting to it**, but **adhering to the Word of God and standing upon its foundation**. Why are so many voices telling us that we must change with the times, we must adjust to how others are doing "Christianity," we must be willing to adopt the music, the dress, the attitudes, the methods of Contemporary Christianity. To do so is to lose and to lose in a big way. Do we not understand that

overcoming and having victory is through faith in Jesus Christ and His Holy Word? The overcoming is not made possible by adjusting to the culture, but by standing with Christ on His firm foundation.

Follow Tozer's comments for a moment, **"We must believe the words that say, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God" (Revelation 2:7). "He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death" (2:11). "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne" (3:21). We are not dumb sheep running over the precipice because other dumb sheep are running over it. We see the precipice – we know it is there. We are listening to the voice of the shepherd, not the voice of terrified sheep. The terrified, intimidated sheep are going everywhere. I stand solidly and protest this."** *Culture*, p. 26, Moody Press, 2016.

We need a modern reformation! We need to return to the belief that our forebears had who gave us the great preaching of doctrinal truths. They were not idiots or fools but wise saints who knew what they were talking about. **The modern "Christian" adjusters need to stop bowing at the altar of change.** They desperately need to get back to the unchanging BOOK OF BOOKS, The Holy Bible. **Let us stop allowing ourselves to listen to that which will modify our faith, practices, and beliefs, water down our Gospel and dilute the power of the Holy Spirit.** We must say, **I will not surrender!** Ω

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# The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, (1924–2006) Founding Editor  
Pastor Tod Brainard—Publisher and Editor  
Mr. Ludwig Opager,  
Mrs. Doris Peppard, Dr. Adam Watt  
Contributing Editors  
Layout—Mrs. Brenda Whitney

Published Quarterly by Grace Bible Church  
6331 Chestnut Street, Milton, FL 32570  
E-mail us at [Issues@theprojector.org](mailto:Issues@theprojector.org)  
Visit us on the Web at [www.theprojector.org](http://www.theprojector.org)

Phone: (850) 623-4671

*The Projector* is a fundamentalist publication that seeks to "project the light of the Word of God on the issues of the day." It desires to honor Christ by articulating a clear testimony for Biblical separation from error in these last days as God's answer to the deepening apostasy of the visible Church.



(Continued from page 1 - A Biblical Perspective)

Jesus' words to his disciples at the end of the Great Commission in Matthew 28:20 **are for people like us in times like these:** "... *lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.*" His presence comforts us and give us boldness.

**WE MAY BE PRESSURED... But we are not distressed; PERPLEXED...But we are not in despair; PERSECUTED... But we are not deserted WE MAY BE POUNDED Cast down (v9) ...But we are not destroyed**

Thrown down; prostrated; pounded. It is used symbolically of being dejected, despondent, discouraged, or dispirited. I cannot imagine how Paul felt when it seemed the church in Corinth had turned on him.

**There is pain and hurt in ministry...**there has been some during the pandemic because of carnal infighting over masks, vaccines, and mandates.

When you faithfully serve the Lord, sooner or later you will suffer a good pounding. *Ministry does not unfold in the realm of ease and ideal circumstances.*

We are engaged in a real spiritual battle. There is a real enemy who is waging a real war. That is why Paul told Timothy to "*preach the word; be instant in season, out of season...*" (2 Tim. 2:4). We do not do ministry because it is the right season. That is why Peter wrote to those facing intense persecution, "*Be*

*sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*" 1 Peter 5:8

**The pandemic has been a satanic pounding. There has been discouragement and disappointments.**

Have you felt that at any time? Have you felt cast down? Paul did when he thought of being rejected by the Corinthians, but he did not let it destroy him. Know what? Whatever you or your ministry have suffered related to Covid does not have to destroy you either.

To be **Destroyed** is to be completely, even violently eliminated; to utterly perish by a miserable end; it means to be gotten rid of and implies permanent or absolute destruction; to be canceled.

Guess what, the pandemic has not cancelled the work of Christ or His Church. *We are the only ones who can cancel His working through our lives.* We are here today by the grace of God as a living testimony that, despite the pounding, we have not been cut off or abolished or gotten rid of.

It is not wrong to feel cast down, but it is wrong to stay that way; it is wrong to wallow in it and let it destroy us to the point that our effectiveness for Christ is cancelled.

*The adversity we endure is our delivery unto death for Jesus' sake (v10), and the "but nots" (not distressed, despaired, deserted, destroyed), are the manifestation of*

*the life of Jesus in our mortal flesh.* That is why Paul concludes like he started, **...we faint not...** (v16), we do not lose heart or give in to cowardice; we do not become desperate.

Whatever adversity is imposed on our outer man, our inward man may be renewed day by day. That was Paul's testimony (v16). What is ours? He considered the adversity he suffered to be a **light affliction, which is but for a moment...** (17).

I thought the pandemic would pass, that all would be normal soon. They said two weeks...it has been two years. I do not know if we will ever see the normal of two years ago, but that cannot change our ministry for Christ.

We cannot wait for this to blow over; for things to be "ideal" again. Jesus is not waiting He is building His Church! When Paul was thrown in prison, Jesus did not stop building His church. In Phil. 1:12 he said, *the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel.*

**Jesus is not building His church despite the pandemic; He is building His church IN the pandemic.**

**We can be pressured, perplexed, persecuted, and pounded, but we do not need to be distressed, despaired, deserted, or destroyed.** Ω



Pray for the ministry  
of **The PROJECTOR!**

# Proverb Practicals

by Ludwig Opager

Proverbs 12:28, **In the way of righteousness is life;  
and in the pathway thereof there is no death.**

This proverb is a contrast between the way of righteousness and the way of unrighteousness. By saying “in the way of righteousness is life” then it is by inference that there is a way of unrighteousness and death. God does not complicate things and therefore we see two ways of life. It’s as simple as that! Jesus said in Matt 12:30, **“He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.”** So, there is no middle ground, for you are either righteous or you are unrighteous, and it all depends upon your standing with Christ.

Now we know from Scripture that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God for there is none righteous, no not one (Romans 3:10). We know that in the human heart dwelleth no good thing. So, what man calls righteous has no standing with God

for He says according to his standard of righteousness that we have none. Therefore, righteousness is an attribute belonging to God alone and cannot be attained by any good work or effort of man.

The Apostle Paul said in Phil. 3:9, **“not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.”** So, all righteousness is based upon Christ and can only be had by faith in what He has done for you. Any righteousness you have that is acceptable to God is imputed to you because you have bowed the knee to Christ and received Him as your Savior. Only because of this transaction are we seen as righteous in the eyes of God and are now prepared to live in the presence of a holy, pure, separated, loving God, who, through Christ, is our

righteousness.

Righteousness then is not defined by righteous acts. Righteousness, simply put, is right standing with God. God defines what right standing means, and He has said it occurs only through faith and dependence upon His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Now with this right standing righteous acts will come but they are only righteous because of this relationship with God through Christ.

In Proverbs 21:4 we are told: **“An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.”** Why is plowing wicked? It is wicked because it is not done in Christ. It is not done for the glory of God; it is not done by one who is in a righteous standing with God. God speaks clearly that no matter what we do as a natural man is not acceptable to Him.

Isaiah 64:6 is boldly clear about this when He says

*(Continued on page 5)*



about the natural man's righteousness: **"we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteous nesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."** Satan has the world convinced that righteous acts make one righteous, but this is the Lie to keep people from the gift of righteousness that only comes by the grace of God. That gift only comes from God to those who receive his Son for with His Son comes His Son's righteousness.

So righteous acts can only follow being clothed in the righteousness of another, the righteousness of Christ for with that righteousness comes a new heart, a heart that is equipped to do righteous acts in God's stead. We are created in Christ Jesus unto good works. Good works apart from Christ are not good works as we have seen in the plowing of the wicked proverb.

Religion only deals with that which can be seen. Religion is what the Pharisees preached for their goal was to have men conform to certain acceptable and well-defined

behavior. It is a thinking that produces hypocrites for what is on the outside is not that which exists on the inside. God tells us in Jeremiah 17:9 that: **"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"**

This is a profound truth to grasp for He reveals that we may know our true condition before Him and cry out for help.

Christianity continues to be enamored with this idea of righteousness through outward manifestation of an inward void. If we genuinely believe that righteousness comes from the person of Jesus Christ, why do we think to promote righteousness by legislation? Sometimes we are so concerned about making laws for people to conform outwardly to certain standards, but Christ has given us a mission and that mission concerns the inward. That mission concerns imputed righteousness, not the self-righteousness brought about by conformance to a standard of behavior promoted by law. It is so easy to put on the robes of the Pharisees and make

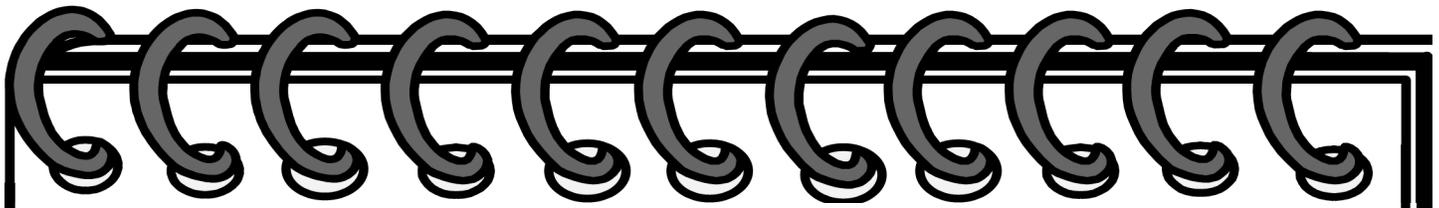
significant efforts to legislate changes in social mores and customs and behaviors instead of doing what Jesus told us to do; that is the preaching of the Gospel. For it is the Gospel of Christ to which Paul gave his life and said in Romans 1:16, **"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."**

The only thing men can affect is the outward for what man can know the heart. We are exceptionally good at applying makeup to man's problems, band aids to man's sicknesses, but God gets to the root of man's problem which is his heart to do evil. Therefore, as God's agent it is a waste of time to engage in the cover up business, when we should be fully engaged in the Gospel preaching business and reaching people with God's salvation, the provision of a new heart. Ω

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year, issue, topics and authors.



*Teaching Tips*

*by Doris Peppard*

## Lines

Lines are Biblical! Consider the training God gave to Moses regarding how the Children of Israel were to enter into the Land of Promise, Consider how God led Joshua to march the people around the walls of Jericho, Consider the meticulous instructions given to Noah concerning bringing animals onto the Ark!!! All these incidents were not haphazard. There were exact instructions given so that “all things be done decently and in order.”

Lines involving children may remind you about Noah’s gathering of the animals! Plans must be made in advance! This is something you cannot “wing” and hope it goes well. Take the time to create and organize your plan of action.

Teaching children to form and maintain good lines is a vital part of their education! When children learn to make a proper line, they learn self-discipline which in turn aids maturity. Line education begins with creating your plan in your mind. Visualize how you want your lines to function. You cannot simply say, “Line up.” NO!!! Your class will need to be taught how you want them to line up. You, as the teacher, are responsible for this teaching. If your class has horrible lines, it is entirely your fault. Accept this responsibility and your classes’ lines will be proper.

Characteristics of good lines include

1. Orderly movement from student desks to the line
2. All noses and toes should always face the front of the line
3. NO TALKING
4. Eyes looking forward
5. Students walk respecting the personal space for the child in front
6. Students should learn to walk down hallways without touching the walls or other students.
7. Do not wave or attract attention while in line.
8. Question asking by students should be very limited in the line to reduce disruption of movement from one place to another. Save the question/answer time for the classroom.

When these things happen, it is a beautiful thing! Just think about all the self-control your students will obtain! It is valuable! This self-control will provide you with an organized classroom with students ready to learn. Children should not be robotic – they are not in the military. They should be relaxed while under your control.

You must teach your students exactly what you want, practice it, and then maintain it throughout the school year. Your due diligence cannot ever be turned off. You will enforce it on the first and last day of school. Keep your voice very quiet in the hallways and only speak to your class if necessary.

Line instructions should happen in the classroom – either before your class lines up or upon their return! After the first couple of weeks, you should not have to use your voice in the hall. In fact, the best lines I’ve ever seen were accomplished without the teacher even saying one word to their students. The teacher had taught the students to take visual cues – nodding of head, finger signs, etc.

This type of instruction is not cruel or stifling your student’s creativity. It allows them to blossom and grow toward becoming more disciplined and ready to face the challenges this world will throw at them. Self-control will set the child up for future responsibilities and opportunities.



# *Stars of the Morning*

By the late "Aunt Carolyn"

## The Abandoned Pup—A True Fox Tale



Poor little creature! Routed from his soft, warm den, he was left to die by the roaring blur of speeding traffic on the busy highway. The unfortunate mother fox, for reasons only she knew, had determined to move her pups from their softly lined nest. Tenderly, she picked the little fellow up by the nap of his neck and carried him in her mouth toward her new underground hole, but coming from the quiet safety of the underbrush and woods, she was unprepared for the terrors of man's civilization and treacherous, rushing vehicles. She darted across the highway trying to escape to the other side, but her unpracticed senses misjudged the speed of the oncoming car. It came so close that the draft nearly sucked the terrified mother right under its wheels. Somehow, she escaped, but in her terror, she dropped her precious cargo by the highway and fled for her life.

The children had seen the whole episode on their way to the radio station to sing for the children's broadcast. It all happened so quickly, as they passed by in the church van, no one thought much of it. Perhaps the mother would come back and rescue her darling.

An hour later, the singing, Scripture verses, Bible quiz, and Gospel story complete, the children bounced along the highway in the van rolling home, but they had not forgotten the incident. Surely the mother would have come back by now. Surely the pup would not still be there—but they just had to look. Begging the pastor to drive slowly, they strained at the windows for any sight of the little fox.

"There! There it is!"

"Oh, please, Pastor, let's get him!"

Now, no driver stops quickly beside a busy four-lane highway unless it is an extreme emergency, and no one simply picks up wild foxes, but they did! Carefully, the pastor slowed and managed to stop beside the road, and backed up to the scene of the

trouble. Insisting the children wait in the van, he went out to see about the deserted little orphan.

There lay the poor little creature. His mother, wild with fright, had not dared return to the danger scene. The baby was in desperate need. Only a couple of weeks old, his eyes barely opened, he lay trembling, helpless to protect himself from the dangerous traffic or from the merciless fire ants that could viciously attack his precious little body.

His rescuer came with hands of kindness and mercy, but the fox knew only distrust, and his instinct of self-preservation caused him to hiss and recoil. With careful touch, cautious to avoid those needle-sharp teeth, the pastor gathered up the little orphan, saving it from sure destruction.

The children were delighted with the new treasure, but none would venture a hand to pet the little fellow. Even at such an early age, his wild ways cautioned them to a hands-off policy.

Ah, he was precious and cute, but only his little gray coat was soft. Everything else about him was sharp! He had a sharp, gray muzzle; sharp daggerlike teeth; sharp pointed ears; and sharp little claws. Obviously, this furry baby could not be left in the care of a child, so home with the pastor he went.

A box with comfortable bedding was prepared, and the little fellow was kept in a quiet, dimly lit place to avoid his being frightened. Gentle hands held and fed him with an eye dropper every few hours. The warm milk seemed to satisfy and soothe him, but when those hands returned to pet or feed him again, they were greeted with the same feisty growl and rejection.

He outgrew the eye dropper and soon took solid food. He outgrew the box-bed and had to have a cage. He outgrew the freedom of being loose in a small area and had to have a small, red, studded harness and

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(Continued from page 7 - Stars of the Morning)  
always kept on a leash.

As pretty and curious an attraction as he was, the silvery fellow could not be trusted to be a friend to the children who delighted to see him. After all the efforts to protect him, to provide for him, to show him attention and affection, it seemed he would not be really tamed. He learned to respect his keeper, but that keeper could not afford to relax his vigilance. Foxy would growl and snap and bite with little or no provocation. As months, passed, it became evident that Foxy would never be satisfied in captivity regardless of the good intentions of his keepers. He was wild, and it was in the cover and freedom of the wild woods that he belonged.

It was with some remorse, yet with confidence that the pastor made the lonely trip into the woods, unfastened the red harness, and pulled it off. The nervous animal

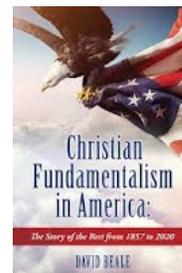
took a few slow steps and then with a few sharp barks darted into the underbrush and disappeared into the forest.

That was the last that was seen of him, but Pastor knew Foxy would manage very well. He was old enough now to make his own living. He would find the kind of fare they like best—moles, rabbits, mice, birds, insects, even berries and other fruit. The farmers had better make sure their chicken coops were in good repair lest Foxy would make off with a nice fat hen! One thing was sure, Foxy was cunning enough that any adversary would have a challenging time “out-foxing” him!

Ω

**-Continued Next Issue**

## **Review of Christian Fundamentalism in America**



The book **Christian Fundamentalism in America** (2021) by Dr. David Beale should be read by every believer who desires a well-documented review of the theological heritage of Fundamentalism, as

well as the current trends shaping the future of the movement. The volume is a combination of church history and Fundamentalist apologetic, giving insight into the lives of those who have been faithful to the cause of Christ, as well as those who have dipped the banner. I am confident that you will be blessed and challenged by it. It is available online through venues such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, etc.

Dr. Bud Steadman,  
Executive Director **Baptist  
World Mission**