

The PROJECTOR

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

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, Editor

P.O. Box 643, Milton, Florida 32570

VOL. 8, NO. 3

MARCH, 1979

United States and Canada — 1 Year \$4.00
Foreign — 1 Year \$6.00

Play It Safe

By Dr. Bob Jones Sr.

My friends, I have tried to make it clear all along that we must get back to the Bible. Do you know we've gone away from the Bible? People come to me and say, "So and so." I say, "Well, the Bible says, 'So and so.'" And they say, "Well, I know, but I saw this and it was the most wonderful thing I ever saw in my life." Well, you might see something that looks very wonderful to you, but you might be mistaken about it. You are not to judge things by how they look to you; you must judge things by what God says about what you see. If we could just get that idea over clearly, I think it could be one of the most important lessons ever given. If you check things by how they look to you, you are going to get into trouble.

Suppose, as someone said one time, your doorbell rings and you go to the door. Suppose there is a beautiful angel standing there, who looks like a girl about 16 years old with beautiful rosy cheeks, flowing hair, and a white robe. You say, "Oh, come on in, you wonderful angel." Suppose you bring this person into your home thinking you're bringing in an angel, but you find out later that that angel you saw was not a heavenly angel at all but was the devil transformed into an angel of light. The devil transforms himself into an angel of light! You wouldn't know an angel if you saw one. If an angel walked into your house, you wouldn't recognize the angel. All you know about how an angel looks is by



what the artist has shown. The artist has made angels look like girls sixteen-or-so years old with beautiful flowing hair. That's the conception of an artist; that's not the teaching of the Bible. The Bible teaches that angels are sexless, neither male nor female. We are going to be in eternity like the angels. There is going to be no male and female in eternity, no marrying or giving in marriage. All right, if I saw a person who said, "I'm an angel,"

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PART TWO of a two-part series

Pseudo-fundamentalism

PASTOR KENNETH BECKER, CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH, Columbus, Ohio

We were careful in the first segment to define Pseudo-fundamentalism as a major weakness in the doctrine and practice of separation. Many men, who call themselves Fundamentalists, who oppose New Evangelicalism and Modernism, who have been spokesmen for the Fundamentalist cause, are now considered Pseudo-fundamentalists for the one major reason — a demonstrated weak-

ness in matters of separation.

Who are these men? and what are the supposed weaknesses? As we attempt to answer these questions, let us be extremely careful to remember that the issue is not the men, but the weaknesses in separation as manifest by certain men.

The Pseudo-fundamentalists conflict has primarily raged among prominent Fundamental leaders: the evangelists, educators, pulpiteers. Their contentions in private have now been aired publicly. Many outside observers suspect they are

struggling for leadership or prominence, but also inaccurate as to the nature of the conflict.

The first evidence of dispute developed between Dr. Bob Jones and Dr. John Rice, two long-time friends and spokesmen for Fundamentalism. Many, when they learned of dispute between the two giants, silently deplored and dismissed it as irrelevant to today's Gospel issues.

Far from being irrelevant, the Rice/Jones conflict was the Dred Scott case of Pseudo-fundamentalism.

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EDITOR'S DESK

The lack of discernment among some men known as leaders in Fundamentalism is very disturbing. I can understand how someone could be led astray by depending on the recommendation of a fellow preacher with credibility, or of supposing someone was sound, who in fact was a false prophet, if they made a sincere effort to cover up their weird and peculiar beliefs, but I can't understand men endorsing a man like Johnny Todd having heard even one of his tapes. The inconsistencies of his claims and charges; the wild statements with no proof or way for them to be proven, and the exaltation of man rather than Jesus Christ, should cause a pastor who knows the Word to at least have questions about the man. If there are questions, we should have the questions answered before we endorse or have the man speak to our people. Of course, if no questions were raised by Fundamentalists after listening to one of Todd's tapes, then I suppose we are in worse trouble yet.

I must commend Christianity Today for the excellent service rendered in their February 2nd, 1979 issue. Although this paper could in no way be determined to be in the Fundamentalist camp, yet a thorough job was done in exposing the fakery and fraud of Johnny Todd. This information is not secret, and most of it could have been available to the Fundamentalists who have endorsed Todd, if they had only done a little research when their hearts undoubtedly told them to beware.

It is time that we as Christ's under-Shepherds were more careful about the many voices crying to be heard. When the "red flag" goes up in our mind or heart, let us be careful and give God, not the Devil, the benefit of the doubt.

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Matthew 24:24,25.

Letters To Editor

Dr. Hobbs:

I have been receiving your publication, The PROJECTOR for the past few months and I have come to appreciate it and the stand you take. I do not know why I started receiving it but am sending a check for 2 subscriptions this year. Keep up the good work.

Rev. R. B.
Prairie du Chem, WI

Dear Dr. Hobbs:

If you and others like you would spend as much time fighting the Devil as you do Dr. Jerry Falwell and others like him, it would be a better world to live in. It must be nice that you are the only one right with God.

If what Falwell is doing is of God, you can't do anything about it anyway. If it is not, it will come to nought. You can save paper and postage by just taking our name off your mailing list. I am sick of reading about Christians fighting other Christians.

We sit out here trying to win a lost and dying world while you guys sit back there and fight among yourselves. The Devil certainly has gotten some good people diverted into some strange battles.

Thanks but no thanks.

Sincerely yours,
R. K. K.
Waipahu, HI

Dear Brother Johnson,

Thank you so much for your letter dated December 20th, and for the copy of "The Projector" that I requested. I found it to be very informative, to say the least. There are still many questions that I have about Johnny Todd and just how dependable he is. I hear reports about what he is saying as much as pertains to the occult and their plan that lies ahead. It is claimed by some that Todd is correct on this account. I have not personally researched this. If you have any further, or recent information on this, I would appreciate hearing from you.

The above is a side issue for this letter. The main reason for writing is to enter my subscription for "The Projector" for one year. Many things contained in the Nov-Dec issue would be too hard for some folk to take, but I praise God that there are still men who are not afraid to call the shots the way they are and not cover things over with a sweetener just to appease the conscience or make people happy. It grieves my soul just to know that there are men who know what must and should be done, but are too afraid that they

might offend someone. Might we depend ever so much on the strength and power of the Spirit, lest we be come as some are.

In His service,
R. A. C.
Union, ME

Dr. Hobbs:

In his article in your February issue, entitled "Separation from Brethren," page one, Mr. John Ashbrook committed a grievous error uncommon among those gifted with "rare discernment" (a quality attributed to him by the editor). He attempted to judge a fellow believer's spiritual status on the basis of his physical appearance, political stance, and profession.

Paul Stookey, former member of "Peter, Paul and Mary," gave "no evidence of conversion," said Mr. Ashbrook, citing Stookey's "scruffy-looking" appearance, "left-wing, protest songs," and remaining in the field of the performance arts as support for this conclusion.

Stookey, however, has publicly professed Christ as his Savior. Many of his songs are about his new relationship with Christ. His latest has made secular charts nationwide, and is, in my opinion, a tremendous witness to unbelievers about the reality of God and the indwelling presence of Christ.

One of Satan's jobs is that of "the accuser of the brethren." Anyone else who fulfills this description had best take a second look at his allegiances. The Bible explicitly condemns judging according to physical appearances. The "right" political view occupies no space in Christ's teachings, or anywhere else in the Bible. A man does not have to be a "right-wing conservative" to be a Christian, hard though it may be to believe. Furthermore, nowhere in the Bible are certain professions, aside from the obvious exceptions of prostitution and the like, said to be out of bounds for the Christian. Indeed, I feel that Stookey, using his God-given talents, has been a greater witness for Christ than The Spotlight, with its apparent tactical strategy of dividing the Body of Christ, ever has been or ever will be.

A word of loving admonition both to Mr. Ashbrook and The Spotlight: You all owe Mr. Stookey, the readers of your paper, and the Body of Christ an apology. Please use your resources to build up and bring together, not tear down and "separate," before the Lord Jesus takes those resources away.

Sincerely,
L. S.
Fullerton, CA

Enclosed with this letter was a card which read:

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The PROJECTOR

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Dr. Dayton Hobbs



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David Johnson

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

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Peter Fox

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The PROJECTOR is published monthly except July and December by Gospel Projects, Inc., Post Office Box 645, 611 Chestnut Street, Milton, Florida 32570, U.S.A. Subscription rate is \$4.00 per year (10 issues). Copyright 1979 by Gospel Projects, Inc.

Gordon Sears Family

The PROJECTOR takes great delight in recommending Evangelist Gordon Sears to the fundamental churches across America. The ministry of Brother Sears and his family blends quality music with strong emphasis on the home and family. This is most refreshing and helpful in a day of deteriorating musical standards and disintegrating home life. The Sears family is a living testimony to God's faithfulness when children are reared in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. As Rev. Sears says, "If we fail as parents, we have failed in the most important area of our lives."

Sons Warren, Jonathan and Carl form a trumpet trio. The eldest son, Jerry, has recently joined the family and plays the euphonium along with his brother Carl. The father, Gordon Sears, is a pianist, baritone soloist and a sound fundamental preacher of the Gospel. Twelve-year-old Ruth Ann joins her brothers when the family sings together as a group. Evangelist Sears may be contacted by writing him at P.O. Box 3291, Chattanooga, TN 37404.



Placement Service

TEACHERS WANTED - 1979-80 - Girls' P.E. and Girls' Coach, Boys' P.E. and Boys' Coach, Science and/or Social Studies. Good working conditions. Quality school, 360 student K-12. Calvary Baptist Christian School, 631 South Dillard St., Winter Garden, FL 32787.

TEACHERS WANTED - Elementary Teachers, Secondary Teachers (English; Girls' & Boys' Phys. Ed. with academic subject). Parsippany Christian School, P.O. Box 165, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Phone: 201-539-7012. Harold Wolcott, Prin.

TEACHERS WANTED - Dedicated, separated Christian teachers needed on all levels in Independent Baptist School using A Beka Curriculum. Write: Emmanuel Christian School, P.O. Box 1606, Elizabeth City, NC 27909.

TEACHERS WANTED - Teachers with at least two years' experience for positions High School Boys' Physical Education, High School Bible, High School Math (Algebra/Geometry), Middle School English, High School English. Call or write: Arlington Baptist School, 3030 N. Rolling Road, Baltimore, MD 21207, (301)655-9300.

The IRS Has "Done It Again"

Dr. Robert J. Billings

The IRS, in their typical, arrogant, bureaucratic way, has now decided to promulgate their "Proposed Revenue Procedures" without a Congressional hearing. Their target date for putting these regulations in force is the end of February. In a highly secretive move, without telling any of us in the Christian school movement, they called in a few representative groups and began re-writing the proposal.

One of these groups is the Council for American Private Education (CAPE). This group claims to speak for 90% of the Christian schools! They receive some of their funds from HEW. They are cooperating with the IRS on our behalf. But they do not speak for us!! To tell the IRS that they speak for 90% of the private schools is a boldfaced lie! Other groups have also folded to the pressures of the IRS, i.e., the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church, the Hebrew Day Schools and the Seventh Day Adventist Schools. I understand that the Catholic schools are waiting for the conclusion of this "bargain" between the IRS and the above named groups to negotiate a surrender of their own.

When asked why they by-passed our Christian schools, the IRS replied that we offered nothing of substantive value in re-writing the proposal. Of course not! We don't want them re-written, we want them dropped!

TEACHERS WANTED - Traditional school expanding to grade 10 needs upper grade English and History teacher as well as 3 elementary teachers. Positions available in August 1979. Please contact Herb Jones, Calvary Baptist Academy, RD 1, Box 170, Clymer, PA 15738. Phone: 412-254-9411

TEACHERS WANTED - for High School and Elementary positions for 1979-1980. Write: Principal, Lewes Christian Academy, P.O. Box 25-P, Lewes, DE 19958.

TEACHERS WANTED - School connected with fully separated church (men's hair, women's dress, etc.) will need the following around the 1st of August 1979: (1) Music Teacher to handle school music program and church choir; (2) Two elementary teachers; (3) Full time Phys-ed and Athletic Director who can coach soccer (brand new gym - fall 79); (4) One High School social studies teacher. School will enroll 200-250 in fall. Church has soul-winning emphasis. Contact Pastor Don Smith or Mr. Ed Davis, P.O. Box 925, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

TEACHERS WANTED - Teachers needed for growing Christian school: Kindergarten, first, third, fourth, sixth, Secondary Math, History, Science, English Contact: Carl E. Fennell, Sumter Christian School, P.O. Box 1855, Sumter, SC 29150.

TEACHERS WANTED - Husband and wife teachers needed for 79-80 school year in Alpha-Omega program. School is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Zionsville, Indiana. One or both with music ability. Send resumé to First Baptist Church, 75 N. Main, Zionsville, IN 46077

POSITION WANTED - Principal of Christian School would like position for 79-80 school year in sound, fundamental Christian School that desires high academic and spiritual standards. Ten years experience in Christian Education. Seven years experience on the Administrative level, mostly in the Secondary (Jr./Sr. High) area. Write to Placement Service, P.O. Box 643, Milton, FL 32570.

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Pseudo-fundamentalism

The same issues which are disputed elsewhere today were debated between them — in a constrained and gentlemanly manner — since the 1950's. At that time, Dr. Rice was slow to abandon the Billy Graham bandwagon; and forceful letters were exchanged with Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., on the subject. Finally after Graham's London Crusade in 1959, Dr. Rice capitulated to the Fundamentalist position against Graham's modernistic sponsorship. Even then the gap on separation between the two dear comrades of evangelism was noticeable. Since attention was focused upon the Billy Graham issue, they appeared to be together except for minor differences; but this appearance belied the real disagreement, which finally had to break into open conflict 15 years later. The 15-year truce was unfortunate, in that it clouded the real issues of separation and allowed large armies of followers to be polarized around divergent separation viewpoints under the name of Fundamentalism.

Dr. Rice, with all due respect to the great soul-winning patriarch, can be considered the father of Pseudo-fundamentalism, because of his prolific writings which have developed and widely propagated his separation viewpoint. Some of these views are now being parroted by other prominent Fundamentalists, but their utterances often trace back many years to Dr. Rice himself.

In a sermon preached at a Bob Jones University chapel in 1959, Dr. Rice expressed what can now be considered the platform of Pseudo-fundamentalism as it concerns the doctrine of separation. Under the topic "Born-Again, Bible Believing Christians Should Co-operate When Possible," he notes:

The Bible does not say we all ought to get in one big super-church. No, no. Not organic union, but a loving understanding and loving fellowship and loving co-operation with people who are of like mind about Christ and the Bible and soul winning is proper. (Emphasis mine).

Here is his criterion for fellowship separation among believers: 1) the deity and work of Jesus Christ; 2) the inspiration and inerrancy of the Bible; 3) an agreement and zeal in soul winning. Later in the message he excludes fellowship with 4) Christians in gross sin, and 5) those

who strive and divide about lesser matters.

While these may be acceptable criteria, they leave a hole in the wall of separation large enough to drive a truck through. His view on separation in 1959 is essentially his view today; it is cruel to say, as many have, that his convictions have deteriorated through advancing age.

Fundamentalists on both sides agree that minor doctrinal emphases are poor grounds for division, but disagree on whether separation is one of these minor doctrines. The Pseudo-fundamentalist, who would consider separation as a comparatively minor viewpoint, falls into many inconsistencies when he tries to keep the fellowship criteria broad.

When asked if he could fellowship with a man who stays in the Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. Rice wrote: "If a man can preach the whole truth, can support only what he ought to support, can oppose anything he ought to oppose;...if he has fellowship in the Convention and if he supports only those things he feels certain will please God, he might stay in."

This cannot be a systematic presentation of separation doctrine; it has too many ifs in it. But it is a positive example of determining separation doctrine by circumstances, which we discussed in Part I. Absent from this key message on separation was any reference to I Corinthians 15:33, II Thessalonians 3:6,14, Romans 16:17, and other prominent separation texts. Pseudo-fundamentalists today, in imitating this precedent, are also frequently as shoddy in developing a separation teaching.

More recently a dispute has been publicized between Dr. Jack Van Impe, the foremost Fundamental evangelist on the scene today, and certain Fundamental leaders. In his November, 1977, Crusade Newsletter, Dr. Van Impe proclaimed in screaming headlines that he is a Fundamentalist and has not abandoned the Fundamentalist cause. Many uninitiated were taken back and wondered what was going on. Many of his faithful supporters and prayer warriors were not aware that Dr. Van Impe had developed an emphasis on what he calls "uncompromising love." This came about through a nagging dissatisfaction with certain Funda-

mentalists who would not participate in his crusades because of the presence of compromisers. At first, he made clear efforts to exclude well-known compromisers. Eventually compromisers slipped in more frequently as his campaigns grew. As his umbrella stretched further, he became more provoked at the Fundamentalists who were protesting the fellowship with compromisers than at the compromisers who were crashing the fellowship of Fundamentalists. So the Newsletter struck back at the Fundamentalist issue-raisers with the contention: "The major problem presently existing among fundamentalists ... is that scores of good fundamentalists are being falsely branded as neo-evangelical."³ Since the term pseudo-fundamentalist was not yet coined, the term neo-evangelical was the closest representation that Fundamentalists at the time could find.

It is well known that Dr. Van Impe complained, both in his message at the World Congress of Fundamentalists in Edinburgh and the Sword of the Lord Conference in Detroit in 1976, that too many side issues are dividing Fundamentalists. The side issues involve, almost without exception, questions of separation. Here again separation practice is being developed in an emotional, argumentative, experiential atmosphere, rather than from doctrinal teaching.

Dr. Van Impe can claim responsibility for identifying the opposing sides in this struggle. This was done by soliciting endorsements and publishing their responses. Endorsements came from Dr. Bob Sumner (GARBC evangelist and editor), Dr. David Otis Fuller (retired GARBC leader and spokesman for the King James Version-only issue), Dr. Charles Wagner (GARBC seminary president), Dr. John Rawlings (prominent Baptist Bible Fellowship pastor), Dr. David Cavin (President, BBF), Dr. Greg Dixon, Dr. Jerry Falwell, Dr. W.E. Dowell, Dr. Cecil Hodges, Dr. A.V. Henderson, Dr. R. Herbert Fitzpatrick, Rev. Carl Baugh (all prominent regional leaders in the BBF), Dr. Lee Roberson (Tennessee Temple Schools), Dr. Tom Wallace (President, Southwide Baptist Fellowship), Dr. Gerald Fleming (leader in World Baptist Fellowship), Dr. Jack Hyles (Hyles-Anderson College), Dr. John R. Rice (Sword of the Lord), Dr. Jack Wyrzten (Word of Life), Rev. Robert L. Gray (IFCA President), Rev. Emmett Pope (IFCA leader), Dr. Clinton Branine (Pres-

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Teaching Tips

by Alice Ann Smith

Unusual Sources



Are you alert to the many sources which are available as teaching aids to junior and senior high school teachers? I was recently made aware of some of these inexpensive sources which complement the text book and lectures in such classes as history and economics.

For example, a recent article in The Reader's Digest entitled "What Really Causes Inflation" takes a very complex subject and condenses it into a five page, easy to understand article which is economically sound. The article takes three myths about inflation and analyzes them from a conservative position. The author then goes on to explain what the cause of inflation is and even explains in layman's terms how money is created by the Open Market Committee of the Federal Reserve Board.

This article is available from Reader's Digest at a nominal cost. A reprint in the hands of each student for reading as a homework assignment prepares them for a class assignment of outlining the article. The teacher then reviews the subject, adding additional thoughts himself as the students are being prepared for a quiz.

Other articles of historical significance are available from time to time in the length mentioned above or in the form of a book in condensed version. One of these, which we use in our American History class in senior high, is the story "The Lusitania" by Colin Simpson. Along with the account of the Lusitania in our textbook, this updated information is read in class as a supplement to the text. At test time, this reading supplement is reviewed along with the text chapter.

For the junior high history student who always seems to finish his work too soon and still gets an "A", extra reporting can be done from such an article as Night on Fire by John Evangelist Walsh, which appeared in the July 1978 edition of the Reader's Digest. While the teacher may not be able to take the time to give all the details surrounding those famous words, "I have not yet begun to fight," a student can read this condensation and give a

ident, Indiana Fundamental Baptist Fellowship).

These who have endorsed Dr. Van Impe, I believe, are the men who should be watched with caution as this issue matures. By their endorsements they have become identified, wittingly or unwittingly, with Pseudo-fundamentalism. And through their circles of influence, we can tell which Fundamental fellowships are now being influenced by Pseudo-fundamentalism.

On a broader scale, this same conflict over separation issues has surfaced in all the Fundamental fields of endeavor during the past 15 years. For example, the Bible church movement has long struggled over the separation question. In the late 1960's, Pastor William E. Ashbrook and his pastor son John led the Bible churches in Ohio in separating from the national Independent Fundamental Churches of America (IFCA). The issue was separation — or more accurately, the degree of separation as set forth in the Scriptures. Several IFCA regionals have been prodding the national headquarters through the years for a tighter separatist stand. Recently the IFCA national offices had a polite housecleaning of sorts to tighten their position, but many within the ranks still are not aware of nor concerned about these issues.

The mission board structures also reflect the same fight on separatism. The IFMA (a fellowship of the prominent independent, faith missions) half-heartedly faced the separation issue in the 1950's. Dr. J. O. Percy, then Executive Director, sought to strengthen the faith mission ranks with a clear-cut position. He failed. Now most of those missions are in flagrant New Evangelicalism.

In their place, God raised up a new groundswell of separatist mission boards. Now some of those same boards, who have experienced remarkable growth, are faltering over the same issues that so recently

written or oral report for the benefit of the entire class.

One caution regarding reprints in secular magazines may be given. While profanity is becoming increasingly acceptable in the world, it is not acceptable to God's people. Be careful not to assign an article until you have read it carefully to check for profanity and philosophy.

brought themselves into existence. Separation issues were not once-for-all-time settled, after all.

The independent Baptist movement is one of the remarkable stories of our time. This author remembers the time 20 years ago when the whole state of South Carolina could not find more than half a dozen struggling independent Baptist churches. Now there are close to 100 of them, and many have been blessed with huge attendances. The same phenomenon appeared in almost every state of the South. This independent movement coalesced into the Southwide Baptist Fellowship, which was born to represent a regional testimony for independence and Fundamentalism through their common separation from New Evangelicalism and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Peace reigned in the SBF, despite normal disturbances, until the annual meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1976, when two prominent speakers who clearly were not Fundamental were featured on their program. Strong separatist men in the SBF got up in arms. The South Carolina fellowship threatened to withdraw, as did other pastors. The issue was separation, as in the other major disputes of the past 25 years. The result is that an old separatist fellowship, called the Fundamental Baptist Fellowship, has been revived by the same strong-standing pastors, who led their churches out of the Convention a few years ago, for the purpose of strengthening the separatist position.

TROUBLE IN THE FIELDS

All the Fundamental fields, in fact, are fighting tares. This is true within the structure of educational institutions, Fundamental fellowships, mission boards, and local churches. The Fundamental fields are never quiet, and they have been bothered more than ever during the past 20 years. The fight for the faith once for all delivered to the saints is not over, and God's people will wage a losing fight if they do not soon settle the issue of Scriptural separation. For if we ignore the Scriptural antidote to evil, that evil will inevitably poison everything. "A little leaven leaveneth a whole lump." (Galatians 5:9)

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The Other Side

with Dave Johnson

Christian Law Breakers

Over the past years, the subject of civil disobedience among Christians has been the topic of many sermons and written articles in Christian periodicals. Some have taken the position that Christians ought to obey all laws which the governments of our land institute. Others seem to have the idea that they can decide for themselves which laws they like and dislike and use that for their criteria for obedience.

The Bible teaches neither of the above views. Christian people need to know what God's Word does teach on this subject and they must also know how to apply this teaching in a practical way. Otherwise, Christians will find themselves in one of two undesirable positions. Those who believe we are to obey all laws of government will be aiding this world system in setting up the government of the Antichrist. Those who obey only the laws which they like, or are "sensible," are not only violating God's Word, but in many cases are doing harm to their testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Few would disagree that Romans 13 is the primary portion of Scripture from which we learn the proper relationship between the Christian and the government. This portion of God's Word was written by a man who had spent a good many days in prison for being a law breaker. This in itself should prove that Christians are not to obey all laws. Let us examine these first few verses of Paul's revelation concerning this important subject.

The apostle teaches us that the powers that be are ordained (approved and permitted) by God and we are to be subject unto these higher powers (government). However, we learn that on at least one occasion (Acts 5:29), Peter and the other apostles said, "We ought to obey God rather than men." They said this while they were in the process of disobeying the "higher powers." We know from this passage that Romans 13:1 cannot be teaching that we are to obey the government at all times and in all matters.

God never violates His Word. He never gives a power which is inconsistent with His Word. When governments or individuals take powers (authority) which are inconsistent with or in violation of God's Word, they are acting

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Play It Safe

I would say, "Well, something is wrong about that, because the Bible says that an angel is sexless and there is no marrying and giving in marriage in Heaven and we are going to be like angels over there." And then I say, "Well, what could this be?" Well, the Bible says the devil transforms himself into an angel of light. Now, if I were not sure, I would ask this angel some questions. I would say, "I want to ask you something. What would you say about Jesus Christ? Is He the Son of God?"

"Well," the angel might say, "He's the Son of God," because he or she (whatever you call an angel) might be compelled to say, "Yes, He is the Son of God."

"Well, was the Son of God born of a virgin?"

The angel might hesitate and say, "Well, no, no, He didn't have to be born of a virgin."

"But the Bible says He was; the Bible says that Jesus was born of a virgin."

"Oh," the angel says, "It doesn't matter."

"Well, something's wrong with you! Do you think He was God manifest in the flesh?"

"Well, no, no, that couldn't be. Well, He was divine. You're divine, and so are we, you see. We're both divine. Of course, He discovered His divinity."

"Now, wait a minute," I say, "Something's wrong with that. That's not what Jesus Christ said. I have a Bible, you know, and my Bible says that Christ said, 'Before Abraham was, I AM.' (John 8:58) He said, 'He that hath seen

me hath seen the Father.' (John 14:9), and 'If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.' (John 8:24) Something's wrong with you. You're trying to fool me. You're trying to put something over on me. You're not an angel!"

I'm trying to get you Christian people to understand in this day that the Word of God is a real issue. We have to face this issue. Is the Bible the Word of God? Can I depend on what the Bible says? A man may say, "The Bible contains the Word of God." Well, which is the Word, and which isn't the Word? The man says, "Well, this over here is the Word of God, and this back here is not the Word of God." I meet another man and he turns around and tells me a different story. He says, "This is the Word, and that's not the Word." All these voices begin to mingle together until you have confusion, and there is something wrong when there is confusion like that.

I told a fellow the other day, "You know, I've made a lot of mistakes in my life, and I'm awfully sorry about it. I'd like to go back and live a better Christian life than I've lived, but," I said, "You know one thing about it, I never got my business jammed. My business has never been jammed." Now, I hope I know more today than I did when I began to preach at the age of thirteen I've been down this road a long time, and I've been observing things and I've observed all the confusion in the world.

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as men and not as ministers of God. All laws are not with God's authority. For example, abortion laws permit and protect murder, which is a violation of God's Word. Therefore, we know that these laws are not with God's authority.

Romans 13:2 tells us that if we resist the laws, we are resisting God. But this can only mean that we are not to resist laws which are consistent with God's Word. If a law is inconsistent with God's Word, we are to resist it. For example, a law which forces us to send our children to Satan's schools for their education would be inconsistent with God's Word.

In this same verse, we learn that the penalty for resisting God's ordinance is damnation. Surely, this would not be the penalty for resisting a law concerning "gay rights."

The next verse, Romans 13:3, tells us that when rulers are consistent with Scripture, they are a terror to evil. If rulers became a terror to good works instead of evil, as in the case of Lester Roloff, we can assume that they are inconsistent with the Bible. A proper government will praise those who do good works and punish those who do evil works. When the reverse is

the case, the government is out of line with Scripture, is acting as man instead of God's minister, and should be resisted.

In the early years of our nation's history, the circuit rider was both judge and preacher. As judge, he would wear a black robe and sit in an elevated position before the people and make judgements based on the same book that his sermon came from. This man understood that he was the minister of God to the people for good. The judge was called "your honor," not because he was an honorable man, but because he spoke on behalf of God. As minister, his job was to carry into effect the Word of God.

Judges today still wear a black robe, sit in an elevated position before the people, and go by the title "your honor," but I am afraid that many judges and most of the people have forgotten that he is supposed to be "minister of God to thee for good."

As Christians, we must not be afraid to resist powers which are inconsistent with God's Word; however, we must guard against rationalizing and justifying in our minds the disobedience of laws which we simply do not like.

FOCUS



BY
PETER J. FOXX



ON RELIGION More About Johnny Todd

The Johnny Todd controversy is like a bad dream that will not go away. This self-proclaimed converted witch has wreaked havoc with churches across the country through the wide acceptance he has received among Bible believing congregations. He has succeeded in making many well-known preachers and their people look exceedingly foolish. Todd's influence has reached such epidemic proportions that even Christianity Today devoted space for a major article in the February 2nd, 1979 issue. Several facts about Todd are

substantiated in that article:

1. Johnny Todd has a history of marital instability and sexual perversion. He has been married three times and divorced twice. His wives include a girl named Linda (1968), Sharon Garver (1973) and Sheila Spoonmore (1976). In the mid-1970's, Todd operated an occult organization known as The Witches Caldron. The parents of teenage girls complained to police their daughters were morally corrupted by Todd. The witchcraft initiation rites were said to be carried out in the nude and one girl confessed that Todd forced her to have oral sex with him. Todd pleaded guilty to contributing to the unruliness of a minor and was sentenced to six months in the county jail. Christianity Today reports several other charges of sexual perversion, including his impregnating of the sister of his second wife Sharon Garver.

2. Johnny Todd has a history of crime. A felony warrant was issued for his arrest in New Mexico for passing a bad check. He was arrested in Columbus for malicious destruction of property in 1968. The State of Ohio currently has a warrant for his arrest plus a judgement against him of \$22,000 in a defamation case.

3. Johnny Todd has a history of drug abuse. He was treated for a drug overdose at an army installation in

Maryland in 1969. Sharon Garver testifies Todd used drugs throughout the years she was married to him.

4. Johnny Todd's supposed conversion in 1972 has not produced a change in his wicked and unstable lifestyle. He has continued to be active in occult practices. Two of his marriages and many of the charges of sexual perversion and drug abuse are subsequent to his claim of the new birth.

5. Johnny Todd's statements are wild and irresponsible. He identifies President Carter as the Antichrist and says the President receives his orders directly "from the Rothschilds." He claims John F. Kennedy is still alive and that he has personally visited with him. Todd claims to have personally witnessed the stabbing of a young girl by Senator George McGovern in an act of sacrifice. He terrorizes Christians by saying the Illuminati are going to torture and murder their children.

It is important to ask ourselves why so many fundamentalists have been and continue to be so easily victimized by this false teacher. In the same issue of Christianity Today, an editorial appeared admonishing Christians for their gullibility. It stated:

And what of the Christians who have been accepting Todd and his message? Realizing how they allowed themselves to be misled, they might become aware of how their defective love for brethren with whom they disagree made them easy prey for someone like Todd. One can disagree with distinctive charismatic doctrines, with political decisions of President Carter, or with the nature of certain religious music without blaming it all on witches.

We can learn too from the response to Todd. Some of us are altogether too gullible -- too quick to believe negative reports about those with whom we disagree, and not quick enough to believe substantiated negative reports about people who tell us what we were already inclined to accept. Many unscrupulous individuals take advantage of gullible Christians who would not be duped by a Jim Jones, but then give credence to the claims of a John Todd.

The blame for fundamentalist gullibility cannot rightfully be attributed to militancy, or standards, or obedience to the doctrine of separation. These qualities serve to strengthen believers, not weaken them. I suggest the reasons for the lack of judgment and discernment are more accurately attributed to a lack of sound Bible teaching and a lack of proper balance in the lives of preachers and their followers. Christians who are not grounded in the truths of the Scripture and are fed a constant diet of spectacular evangelism are sitting ducks for the sensationalism of the Johnny Todds.

We might as well face the fact that lack of discernment is an indication

WE DUMP OUR FRIENDS TO PLEASE OUR ENEMIES

During World War II, we dumped Chiang Kai-shek in favor of the "agrarian reformer" Mao Tse-tung. The older generation will remember General Marshall's statement that with one stroke of the pen, he disarmed 40 of Chiang Kai-shek's divisions.

We dumped Saigon in favor of Hanoi, and even went so far as to acquiesce in the murder of Diem, even if we did not suggest it;

We settled for a divided Korea when we might have reunited that country if we had followed MacArthur's advice;

We dumped Laos and Cambodia, the latter to the most cruel genocide known in the modern world;

We dumped the patriot Mahailovic in favor of the Communist Tito;

We dumped Nagy and his freedom fighters in Hungary in 1956, when a little gesture of support might have kept the Russians from returning. It could have sparked resistance all over the Communist world that might have swept the evil away;

We dumped Batista, a strong supporter of the United States, in favor of the Communist Castro;

We dumped the Panama Canal;

We dumped our late friend, Tshombe, leader of Katanga, a western-educated Christian who wanted to be on the side of freedom, in favor of a left-wing government in Katanga;

We are now dumping our strong friends in Rhodesia and South Africa in favor of our strongest enemies;

We are now in the process of dumping Taiwan in favor of Red China. The free Chinese have given a convincing demonstration of their superiority over the Red Chinese.

We have a long record of dumping our friends to please our enemies.

We are about to run out of friends, while the number of our enemies increases and grows stronger. Can anyone imagine a more short-sighted policy?

Book Review

Inflation Crisis

The Inflation Crisis and How To Resolve It by Henry Hazlitt. Arlington House 1978, hardback, 192 pages, \$8.95.

I was introduced to Hazlitt's Economics in One Lesson several years ago. Since that time, I have used his

works in all of my teaching of economics and related subjects. Hazlitt is the Dean of the Free Market Economists and his latest book on inflation should be read not only by economics teachers, but by school and church business admini-

strators, and anyone else who has the responsibility of managing inflated money. Unlike so many economists, Henry Hazlitt writes in such a way that the practical aspects of economics are easily understood.

This book consists of twenty-four chapters. The first twenty-two deal with the inflation crisis and the last two deal with how to resolve it. Without giving all of the details, I will tell you that Mr. Hazlitt suggest a "private gold standard" as the only way to get out of the monetary mess in which we find ourselves. This idea is based on Article I, Section 8 of our Constitution which gives Congress the power to coin money and prohibits the states from coining money. Hazlitt contends that the Constitution does not prohibit individuals from doing so. With private gold coins in competition with government "slugs," the government would be forced to compete with gold coins of their own.

From a strictly "economics" point of view, Mr. Hazlitt is unquestionably correct in his assumptions. However, without understanding the spiritual aspects, Mr. Hazlitt does not know exactly where we are heading in the "last days." A "one-world" system is being planned by Satan, and we as Christians must oppose every phase of this system. The economics battle is actually a spiritual one which unsaved economists do not understand.

DJ

From p. 5

Pseudo-fundamentalism

The Parable of the Tares exposes the trouble spot specifically as evangelism, the tilling of the field. Indeed, it is so today. A super-evangelism has been forced upon Fundamental churches. Pastors and people alike are being shamed into a church program that features a forced and continuous harvesting. If a farmer lived in a climate that allowed year-round agriculture, what kind of fool would he be if he chopped up his land into 50 plots and planted a new portion each week, cultivated a portion each week, sprayed a portion each week, harvested a portion each week, broke up new ground each week, prepared for planting each week — in short, performed 50 different plots each week? Does it not stand to reason that some necessary jobs will get slighted and eventually the farmer's efforts will be stricken with disaster?

This is what is happening in the present super-evangelism movement. While a temporary season of forced harvesting has been enjoyed, something drastic has been slighted. That was the teaching of separation. As a result, the churches are not mature in the Word and many Christians are asleep in the field of Fundamentalism.

Another problem with Fundamentalism is the current pressure on reaping. Acts chapters 2, 8, 10, etc., do not reflect this pressure to win souls. The sinner was allowed to come under deep Holy Spirit conviction before he cried out, "What must I do?" Nobody forced him into a quick, perfunctory decision. The job was done right.

Today we are preaching a shallow, sentimental Gospel to hurry and get everybody saved — right now.

We are forcing decisions, regardless of the degree of Holy Spirit conviction and preparation. As a result, the fields are over-worked, the plants under-ripened, the fruit under-matured. In order to maintain this kind of farming, something will be slighted. Indeed, Scriptural separation is being slighted.

Pseudo-fundamentalism, in conclusion, comes through the evangelism that does not follow common sense, Scriptural principles of sowing and reaping. Short-sightedness in method is producing a short standard in doctrine. Separation doctrine is not the cause, but the cure. We must have a revival of separation in our churches — a separation unto the Gospel (Romans 1:1), a separation from sinners (Hebrews 7:26), a separation from the world (II Corinthians 6:17). This is the only way to be assured of the right sowing method, and the right kind of cultivation in the Lord's field. Then if we will stay awake and keep contending for that precious faith, we can keep the devil's tares out of the small fields God has entrusted to us.

1. Dr. John R. Rice, "Christian Co-operation and Separation", p. 5, *Sword of the Lord Foundation*, 1959.

2. Dr. John R. Rice, *op cit.*, p. 7.

3. Dr. Jack Van Impe, "The Jack Van Impe Newsletter", p. 3, November 1977.

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From p. 7

Johnny Todd

of spiritual immaturity. Children are captivated by spectacular sights and sounds and are stimulated through their emotions. Paul said that when he was a child he spake as a child and understood as a child but when he became a man, he put away childish things. Mature believers do not live on the basis of the sensational or the emotional but rather judge all things carefully by the Word of God. If certain fundamentalists learn from their misplaced trust in Johnny Todd, perhaps it will be worth the embarrassment that such an allegiance has brought.

Fundamentalist gullibility is not restricted to Johnny Todd and witchcraft. Every new gust of wind seemingly drives some of the brethren off course. Some become captivated with a Bill Gothard, others with an R. B. Thieme, or a Peter Ruckman, or the latest shooting star that darts across the sky. False teaching and false teachers will be with us until Jesus Christ returns to rule. We had better feed upon the Word of God and become satisfied and settled with Jesus Christ. Let us not bring shame and reproach upon the Saviour's name by allowing ourselves to be deceived by the many pseudo-messiahs of our day.

Stars of the Morning

By "Aunt Carolyn"

Peril On Ice



On a bitter, cold morning, nearly a hundred years ago, the little frontier river town was bleak and deserted. Despite the damp, raw wind and stinging sleet, everyone had bundled up as tightly as possible, left the warmth of their homes, and were gathered in a crowd of panic and terror down at the river bank, anxiously watching, waiting to see what would happen next in the perilous, icy flood. Everyone in the whole town was there. I say everyone -- everyone except Matt Corbin. But then, who was Matt Corbin? Why should it matter where Matt Corbin was? Who cared whether or not he knew of the town crisis? No one. Absolutely no one! Matt Corbin was a nobody, and it mattered not at all to anyone whether he lived or died, least of all whether he was with the other townspeople, whatever was going on. Matt was the poorest boy in town. He really had no home and nobody to care for him. Three or four years before, Matt's parents had died in the epidemic, and Matt was left an orphan, utterly destitute. Other children in such cases were sent to the poorhouse to be cared for or were bound out to someone as a sort of servant. But not Matt. He refused to go to the poorhouse or to become a bound boy. He refused to take charity. He would work. He would pay his own way. He declared he could take care of himself! And sure enough, by working hard at odd jobs, sawing wood, rolling barrels on the wharf, picking apples, weeding gardens, or doing whatever job was offered him, he managed to eke out a living, such as it was. At least he usually got enough to eat and some clothes to wear. He slept in an old warehouse shed, where the owner had given him permission to sleep if Matt would act as a watchman for the place.

This morning, in his effort to make enough money to buy a little food to keep soul and body together, Matt had been out since daylight in Mr. Grisard's woodshed sawing and chopping wood. That's how it happened that Matt knew nothing of the tragedy at the river. But then, what did it matter? Nobody figured Matt counted for anything. Why bother to tell him?

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At last Matt finished the pile of wood and went up to the owner's house to collect his pay, but no one was there. Up and down the street he went, but the town was empty. At last, he looked down a cross street and saw the crowds in the distance gathered at the river bank. What could be wrong? Matt ran; he ran as fast as he could to find out what had happened. Why would such a crowd be at the river in this terrible weather?

Nobody paid any attention to Matt, but his sharp ears soon learned what the excitement was all about. Tom Martin, a fisherman, who also ran the ferry boat from their town to the one on the other side of the river, had been drowned in a foolish attempt to row his ferry skiff across the stream. The ice that had blocked the river for the past two months had broken a little and begun to move the day before. Martin and his wife and baby were on the other side. Early that morning, the ice had been jammed temporarily about a mile above the town, leaving a channel fairly free for a little while.

Martin had thought this was his chance to make it and started across with his wife and little child. It was a horrible mistake. The river was rising rapidly, and before Martin had gone any distance, the ice broke up. There was no way to escape. The boat was caught and crushed in the ice. The father was drowned, but his wife, with the child in her arms, clung to the wreck of the boat and was carried by the icy current to a low-lying island in front of the town.

What a tragedy! There stood the poor, helpless woman out on the frigid island, drenched by the icy water, shivering in the bitter cold wind, separated from all earthly help. All her cries for help were drowned out by the thundering crash of the ice floes and the howling of the wind, and now the island was nearly under water as the great swollen river rose relentlessly. In an hour or two the river would sweep over the whole island, and the great fields of ice would crush the woman and baby and carry them to a horrible death.

The poor woman with her baby stood half-frozen and alone there on the quickly disappearing strip of land. Her pitiful cries for help could not be heard through the whistle of the winter wind, but when at last she held up her poor little baby toward the people on

the bank in a silent, piteous plea for help, all their hearts agonized for her. Many desperate suggestions were made for their rescue, but none gave any hope of success. It would be impossible to launch a boat. The vast fields of ice, two or three feet thick and from twenty to a hundred yards in width, were crushing and grinding down the river, turning, twisting, and sometimes jamming, sometimes drifting apart, leaving wide open spaces between. A man might as well go out in an eggshell as in the strongest rowboat in such a raging river.

There was nothing that could be done. There was no way to help. The woman and little baby would surely perish in that icy, watery grave. Women wept and hid their faces from the hopeless sight. Human sympathy they could offer, but human help was out of the question. Everybody on the river bank agreed on that -- everybody except Matt Corbin.

Without a word to anyone, Matt disappeared from the crowd. Half an hour later, someone pointed upstream and cried out, "Look there! Who's that? What's he going to do?"

Looking that direction, the people saw someone in the distance up-river standing on a field of ice. He had a big farm basket strapped upon his shoulders, and in his hands he carried a huge plank.

As the ice field on which he was standing neared another, the boy ran forward, threw the plank down making a bridge of it, and crossed to the further field. Then he picked up his plank and waited for a chance to repeat the action. As he came drifting down the river working his way with his plank, every eye strained to see him. "Look!" someone cried. "Look! It's Matt Corbin! He's trying to cross to the island!"

A great shout went up from the crowd as the people realized what a heroic attempt Matt was making, but a hush fell just as quickly as they realized the extreme danger he was in.

What a boy he was! It was obvious that he had laid his plans wisely and well, but, oh, it was impossible! There was no way he could succeed. He would surely be drowned and crushed between the ice. Now not only the woman and child would perish, but Matt would, too!

The ice was moving rapidly . . .
(To be concluded next month.)

From Page 6

Play It Safe

When I was a boy, there wasn't any confusion. Every fellow knew where he was. When a man witnessed to a sinner, he would say, "Well, I'm as good as some of your church members." He didn't claim to be a Christian if he wasn't. He didn't say he was all right, he just said he was as good as the rest of them. Back in those days, the fellows that I would deal with would say, "Well, I'm doing the best I can, but I guess I'm not a Christian." He wasn't a Christian. A fellow knew he was a Christian or he knew he was not a Christian. Sometimes when he was a Christian, he hesitated to say so, because he was afraid he wasn't good enough to say it. He sort of hesitated and drew back and said, "Well, I'm a Christian. I'm trusting Jesus." When you gave him a message on assurance, he knew he was saved.

Many a time, a fellow would come to me and say, "I hope I'm a Christian. I've trusted Jesus." Then I didn't say, "Well, do you feel happy?" Now, I think a Christian ought to feel happy, but to feel happy doesn't make you a Christian. So I would turn to the Bible and say, "Well, now, have you accepted Jesus?"

"Yes, I trust Him. I know I can't save myself."

"Well, have you received Him?"

"Yes, I've received Him."

"Well, you have Him, don't you?"

"Yes, I have Him."

"Well, if you have Him, Jesus said that you have life. That's eternal life. You're saved." And I showed him the Word. He was happy because he knew by the Bible that he was saved. I learned long ago that the only way to do God's work was God's way. Paul told Timothy to preach the Word. The Bible says,

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable." (II Tim. 3:16) There isn't any problem in life that you can't go back to the Bible and get an answer to it. If you want to know how to run your business, God says, "Put Me first." If you want to know how to run a home, God tells you how to run a home. He says, "You, Man, you are the head of your family; you're the priest over your own house. You ought to be ashamed of yourself not to be a man of God." What did He tell the wife? He told her to obey her husband. He told you men to treat your wives right, too, and He told both of you to bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Yes! Yes, the Bible is all right. There is nothing wrong with the Bible if you will just get down to the Word and check your conduct by the Word of God.

Well, somebody says, "Sometimes I don't understand the Word. I don't know exactly what to do in a situation." You don't want to do something wrong, do you? No! Well, you don't have to. Don't do it then! The Bible makes it plain that if I'm in doubt about how to live along the road of life, when I come up to a point where I just don't know what I should do about a certain business proposition, I don't do anything until I do know what to do. I don't have to do wrong. Suppose I just wonder if I could go to a certain place where I have an invitation, and I wonder if it's the sort of place to which I should go and what should I do about it. Then I say, "I'm going to be safe about it, and give God the benefit of the doubt."

Somebody said, "Do you think it's wrong to do so and so?" Let me tell you something -- if you wonder if it's right, it's wrong for you to do it until you settle it. You say, "I wonder if I should do so and so?" Then don't do it until you know whether or not you should.

The Bible is the most practical, sensible book in the world. You might make a great mistake. You might wonder if a gun is loaded and say, "I'm going to point a gun at that boy and just pull the trigger," as if you were going to shoot at him in fun. But you had better make sure that gun is not loaded before you do that. You don't have to do that. You don't have to scare the kid with a gun. You don't have to play that kind of trick on somebody. Play safe! See about that gun. Don't fool around with it! That's the principle that holds in life. Yes, give God the benefit of the doubt. Anything that is not right is not of God. And if you go ahead and eat meat, the Bible says, that has been offered to idols and doubt whether you should eat or not, you are condemned anyhow. Check everything by the Word of God.

Let's just get down to earth and to the Bible and ask God to open our eyes and help us to see and give us spiritual

discernment. I've been astonished in my life, as I've gone along the way, to see how many humble saints have such wonderful, spiritual understanding. How they could see things! Sometimes, I got my greatest assistance from people who didn't claim to know much. They didn't know Greek or Hebrew. I've seen some who had to read slowly and spell out some of the words, but they were seeking the truth. Did you know that if you want the truth, you can have the truth? "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God." (John 7:17) If you will to do the will of God, if that's what you want, if that's the supreme, dominant desire in your life, you can know the will of God. The trouble with most of us is that we want to do something and try to pull God over on our side. I saw a woman not long ago who wanted to marry a man who had quit his first wife without any Bible ground, and she was trying to sell herself on what a good fellow he was. She was trying to get around the Bible to do what she wanted to do. That's exactly what's the matter with you. The man who doesn't want to get around the Bible, wants to live up to the Bible and will get his Bible down and study and follow it if he's a born again Christian. He will be able to solve the problems of life as he meets them, and he will give God the benefit of the doubt when necessary. If the road isn't clear to him, he won't go down the road until it is clear. Now, let's learn to check everything in life by the Word of God, and we will stay out of trouble.

Fundamentalists

by Bob Jones, III

The Fundamentalist is the most misunderstood and, in some cases, the most abused breed on the face of the earth. As the end of time draws nearer, his position is going to be even more greatly misrepresented. His person will be challenged and his message scorned because of an increasing number of people in our land who claim to believe the same message he preaches and to embrace the Christ of his message but who do not adhere to the same standards of separation from worldliness, spiritual prostitution, and compromise as does the Fundamentalist. The Fundamentalist's standard is a Biblical standard, a reasonable standard, a Christian standard, and a Spirit-blessed standard. There are men who speak somewhat the same language as the Fundamentalist, but who do not carry out their ministry by the same strict standards. In the eyes of the world, therefore, the Fundamentalist is a curiosity, and extremist, a fanatic, a person who should be more tolerant and more akin to those who claim to preach the message he preaches but do not draw the lines of separation from unbelief that the Fundamentalist draws.



A LOOK AT THE BOOK

BY DR. BOB JONES, CHANCELLOR
BOB JONES University

This is a day of "miracle thrills." Often "religionists" on television and in pulpits say, "Expect a miracle. Let God's power work a miracle in your life." The trend seems to be that of convincing people by miracles, although many of the so-called miracles are fakes. Miracles and "signs" do not convince thoughtful people, and dependence upon them does not please God. He wants His children to walk by faith, not by sight. "Without faith," Scripture says, "it is impossible to please God." I have been amazed at the reaction of some people to the claims that Noah's ark has been found on Mount Ararat. Some people say, "I hope that it is the ark, for it will convince everybody that the Bible is true. Wouldn't that be wonderful?" My friend, I do not need the ark on Ararat to prove to me that God's Word is true. I do not need the evidence of sight; I walk by faith, and faith will become sight when I see Jesus. In Scripture I have found the One Who sticks closer than a brother and the One Who guides me into all truth.

In this world we will never have perfect sight; but, thank God, we can have faith that takes hold of Jesus and never lets go regardless of circumstances. How much better it is to have faith than to see wonders! How much more wonderful it is to behold Him by faith than to stand on a pinnacle of fame and look out over rich lands that belong to us; for the man of faith sees a Holy City, New Jerusalem, with heavenly mansions prepared for all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Sight can deceive, and things you see with the natural eye can deceive. The world is full of mirages. Sometimes desert travelers see palm trees, springs of water, houses, and flowers where there is only desert sand. Sometimes these travelers die in chase of mirages in which there is no water to quench their thirst. So is it with people of the world who go about seeking the things of the world. The Lord expects of us an eye single to His glory, not the attitude of always chasing rainbows and mirages.

Middle-Of-The Road Men

The middle-of-the road man is the theological menace of the 20th century. He has been a danger-driver; to his influence may be attributed the triumph of infidelity in the denominational camps. His vote has been the balance of power, and it goes almost uniformly

to the theological leftists. . . The middle-of-the road man commonly mistakes compromise for discretion. . . Thirty years ago, on the rapid rise of modernism, we believed that many of these people were self-deceived and did not intend to be companions in the destruction of the Faith and the distress of the true church; but as time has moved along and the results of modernism have become increasingly evident, it seems impossible that an intelligent individual should not realize that . . . The middle-of-the road man will tell

you in private conversation that he accepts all these (the fundamentals), but when there comes a showdown in the Convention, he uniformly votes with the opposition and consequently disclaims the Faith which he himself has professed, since he is easily the balance of power in popular assemblies. On that account, the middle-of-the road man is a greater menace to his denomination than is the modernist. Believers can meet the modernist in the intellectual forum and worst him in debate, but that fact avails little since the victory and the argument are wrested by the popular vote. That is why the middle-of-the road man menaces the very life of the true church.

Dr. W.B.Riley

From p. 2

Letters To Editor

Dear Projector:

The enclosed letter is intended for publication, in spite of the fact that it is not from a fan telling you how great the paper is and asking for another year's subscription.

L. S.

Editor's Answer

Dear Mr. S.:

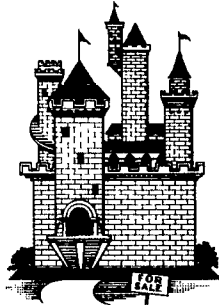
I found your letter of February 5th very interesting, especially the little card attached stating that your letter was intended for publication, indicating that we did not print letters that were critical of the paper.

You stated that John Ashbrook in his article, "Separation From Brethren," "attempted to judge a fellow believer's spiritual status on the basis of his physical appearance, political stance, and profession." I agree with Brother Ashbrook that when an individual today has a "scruffy-looking" appearance, produces "left-wing protest songs," and remains in the world using his talents and religious themes to stuff his pockets, he has given ample evidence as to where he stands. This is as much the fruit by which we are to know the true condition of people as anything else. The Bible does not condemn judging the physical appearance, as a matter of fact, it says that only God can look at the heart, and that we can only go by what we see. The Bible simply states that man looks on the outward appearance; it does not condemn man for doing so.

I appreciate your calling our paper The Spotlight rather than by its true name. I would just as soon people did not know you read The Projector.

Sincerely yours,
Dayton Hobbs
Editor

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