

The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, EDITOR

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

VOICE OBEDIENCE The Only Scriptural Discipline Part II

By Dr. Dayton Hobbs

John 10:27 — My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

In our previous article we established the Biblical basis for God's discipline of His children; that is, voice obedience or the immediate, complete and voluntary obedience of His followers the first time He speaks to them. It is very important for us to know what God's standard is in any area. It is important for parents to know; it is important for teachers and administrators to know; and it is equally

important that the child should know the standard God has established. Of course, God's standard is always perfection no matter what the arena; whether it be the matter of personal morality, conduct, speech, entertainment, dress, reading material, music, etc. We as His children agree that His standards are right, and good, and inflexible. Were it not for the fact that the perfect Son of God provided perfection for us by the shedding of His sinless blood upon the cross of Calvary, we would be unable to stand before the Holy God of the universe. We are perfect in Christ, accepted as such by God the Father, but this does not prohibit the Father setting before us perfect standards for our walk in Christ.

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GOD CALLS IT TREACHERY

By Rev. Paul Smith

"The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). What a clear portrait God gives of the depraved human heart!

THE OLD MAN

A fundamental truth of Scripture is that the human heart is one hundred percent evil. We must understand that not one human being, born of sinful parents, has ever had a heart with any good in it. Contrary to what some may believe, God says the heart of man is totally depraved and can never be reformed however well it is educated or well nurtured. It will never become good. We need to know that the old nature will always be the old nature. It will always be depraved. It will always be evil. Sin will never be eradicated from the flesh in this life. (Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8).

THE NEW MAN

Now when we come to repentance, put our faith exclusively in the Lamb of God who shed His blood on Calvary, and are regenerated by the Holy Spirit we become sons of God by this new birth. (John 1:12). We have sins forgiven and are justified before a righteous God, Who gives us a divine nature. The righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ is imputed to our account. We are wonderfully reconciled to God and can then call Him, "Abba, Father". Oh, what grace that God would extend such mercy to lost sinners! (Romans 5:8; II Corinthians 5:21; Titus 3:5).

THE CONFLICT

Here's the crunch... We have the new man, which is born of God. We are His creation. We are His workmanship. The new nature cannot sin, but the old man, the old nature, the flesh, the old heart still remains and is still totally corrupt, entirely evil, depraved, and can do nothing but sin. (1 John 2:29; 3:9). So now we have the old and the new creation, which are contrary to each other. Galatians 5 speaks of the conflict of the flesh that "lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh" (Galatians 5:17). It is very important to understand that the Lord Jesus has destroyed sin's

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EDITOR'S DESK

Three Divisions of Mankind

Matthew 24:38,39 - For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Matthew 7:21-23 - Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

The way that we most often divide the population of the earth is either saved or lost; however, a more accurate division would divide the lost into two groups, that is, the professed believers and the Christ deniers: those who lay no claim to believing faith at all. This is a very important distinction, especially if we are going to understand the Apostasy and those who make up its ranks.

THE REMNANT

Webster's 1828 Dictionary — "Residue, that which is left after the separation, removal or destruction of a part." The Remnant is always identified as the true believers at any period of time in the Scriptures. Their numbers are always small, and they are hated in every dispensation by those who reject the truth of God.

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The Projector



EDITOR
Dr. Dayton Hobbs

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(Continued from page 1 - Treachery) dominion over us. The old, corrupt nature is now crucified with Christ and not to be served. The sons of God are not now bound by sin. (Romans 6:1-6). Romans 7 makes it clear we are to mortify the old man, for in the flesh "dwelleth no good thing" (Romans 7:18). Paul writes in II Corinthians 4:16, "though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." While the conflict continues we actively put on the new man "after the image of Him that created him" (Col. 3:10).

WARNING

The Bible is equally clear in warning about deceiving oneself and pretending to be living by the Holy Spirit with a new nature when, in fact, the flesh and the devil still rule. This continued misrepresentation of the heart is a very serious problem that will result in eternally fatal consequences. This is precisely today's problem... **Phony Christianity and Disloyalty to the Lord Jesus which is Treachery.**

Many church congregations are in the grips of Satan's tragic deception. Many churches which were once Bible believing, Gospel preaching churches with straight down the line testimonies are now little more than clubs where people gather periodically to receive something from a leader who has a similar vain expectation. Some churches are like hospitals where people get their

weekly treatment and go home feeling good until next Sunday. Partying, drinking, dancing, gambling, extended holidaying, worldly cruises and time consuming sports have sadly become the norm for these people. There are congregations where the preacher sits on his stool and leads the *discussion* because the young people dislike preaching. He says he would '*rather reach than preach*'. In fact, he does neither. During this time these folks enjoy their coffee and doughnuts while the noisy band is drumming and the people clap their hands giving God praise in the 'sanctuary'. **Baloney!** This display is irreverent, insincere, and an exercise of the flesh. These "Cappuccino and Christ" circles have little need for a hymn book, for the younger generation doesn't care for the good old hymns and would rather sing the repetitious 'contemporary' songs and "rap" choruses. For the most part, we have become so callous to spiritual truth, our "threshold of perception" has risen so high that it is impossible for many to see the proliferation of evil within our own walls.

APOSTASY IS TREACHERY

Apostasy is feigning what one is not, thus betraying the Lord Jesus which, according to Scripture, is treachery. Treachery is making an agreement with God and feigning

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Absolutes

God deals in absolutes; He never sets a flawed standard for us to observe. He does not deal in imperfections, disfigurements, spots or stains but in perfection, saying to His children, "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16). What then are we to do? God has set a standard before us that in this present body we are unable to reach, but as the poet, Robert Browning, said, "A man's reach should exceed his grasp or what's a heaven for?" One thing is for sure, we are not to lower the standard and thereby claim obedience, as I am afraid many do. Failure to be able to reach God's standard should create in us an humble and contrite heart, which God promises He will not despise (Isaiah 57:15).

The High Jump

"When I was much, much younger, I used to compete in some track events, one of which was the High Jump. I don't recall ever finishing first in the high jump at a track meet, but I did enjoy the competition. My problem was that they kept raising the bar an inch or two after each round of jumps until I could no longer clear the bar, which, I might add, was the same problem that all the other jumpers encountered. Doesn't that seem strange? Why would they keep raising the standard and thereby continue to eliminate jumpers until only one was left? Obviously, it is not the intention of wise Christian School administrators to see how many students can be eliminated by the application of unrealistic and ineffective standards; however, there is another very important lesson that we can learn from the sport of high jumping: the bar always moves in only one direction during the competition and that is UP! I have never competed in a competition where they kept lowering the bar until all the participants could clear it without knocking it down. Standards should only move in one direction: UP! As the day in which we live becomes more and more like the days of Noah, we must "lift up" a standard,

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Exposing Error: Is it Worthwhile?

by Dr. Harry A. Ironside
(1876—1951)

Objection is often raised—even by some sound in the faith—regarding the exposure of error as being entirely negative and of no real edification. Of late, the hue and cry has been against any and all negative teaching. But the brethren who assume this attitude forget that a large part of the New Testament, both of the teaching of our blessed Lord Himself and the writings of the apostles, is made up of this very character of ministry—namely, showing the Satanic origin and, therefore, the unsettling results of the propagation of erroneous systems which Peter, in his second epistle, so definitely refers to as "damnable heresies."

Our Lord prophesied, "Many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many." Within our own day, how many false prophets have risen; and oh, how many are the deceived! Paul predicted, "I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch." My own observation is that these "grievous wolves," alone and in packs, are not sparing even the most favoured flocks. Undershepherds in these "perilous times" will do well to note the apostle's warning: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We love The PROJECTOR and appreciate your unwavering stand. It's good to know there are still some strong, faithful Christians around. When we're finished reading The PROJECTOR we pass it on to someone else. Thank you for your ministry in our lives. PA

I appreciate the work you and your staff put in to producing The PROJECTOR. It is no small task. My reading time is at a premium so I try to keep up with those publications that the others are quoting or that are not simply reprinting what another publication has said. The PROJECTOR is one of these.

May the Lord bless your faithful labor for Him. Although the Fundamentalist crowd seems to be shrinking, it's good to know there are still the "7000 that haven't bowed the knee to Baal."
SC



LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Greetings in our Savior's name. I appreciate receiving The "PROJECTOR" each month. You take a solid stand for the Word of God and for the Lord Jesus Christ. I enjoy reading the timely and informative articles. May the Lord continue to bless and use the ministry of The PROJECTOR for His glory. IL



I minister in Green River, WY, a small town in SW Wyoming. We have a small Christian school of about 50 students. I really appreciate The PROJECTOR. There are some great gems. I am grateful that somehow I ended up on the mailing list. Keep up the good work. WY



I enjoy receiving The PROJECTOR. I appreciate the information to share with my congregation. Keep up the good work. May God continue to bless The PROJECTOR. NC

NC



(Continued from page 4 - Stars)

Walking back to the house amid bursts of laughter and a few hounces of joy, Jenny said, "Well, I know where my hat is now!"

"Yes," replied Mother. "It must have fallen off your head and down into that space sometime when you were playing. I suppose Mr. Whiskers, I mean Mrs. Whiskers, thought that old familiar hat was just the place for her babies."

Mother slowed her step and spoke, "Jenny, if we are this happy about little kittens being born, it is no wonder that heaven rejoices when a new soul is born into the kingdom of God."

Jenny was quiet. She knew what it meant to be saved, but it was hard to explain "new birth".

Mother sensed her question and continued, "Jesus said, 'Ye must be born again.' He did not mean that you were born as a baby in the hospital again. He meant that in your heart you have a total

change of attitude; you are sorry for your sin, repent of it, and turn to Christ for forgiveness and salvation. The Holy Spirit gives you a new, clean spirit. He gives you a new nature. He makes you a new person on the inside. You can then grow as a Christian through faith in His Word. You can serve Him now and be ready for Heaven when He calls."

That made sense and sounded good to Jenny. She wanted to understand God's Word. She wanted to do God's will and be what He wanted her to be. She did not know if that would lead her to the mission field like her sister or where. For now, she had plenty to do just keeping up her schoolwork, piano practice, and chores. And for now, she guessed she would just have to borrow her brother's extra ball cap until Mr. Whiskers, I mean Mrs. Whiskers, and the kittens outgrew their nest!

[Dear Young Reader: Have you been "born again"? Have you repented of your sins and put your faith in the blood of Jesus, which He shed for you on the cross? "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).] Ω

(Continued from page 2 - Divisions of Mankind)

THE OPEN REJECTORS OF TRUTH

The Scriptures identify these but give very little attention or instruction to them other than their need to repent and believe. They profess no faith; they are the wicked who often prosper in this world and "there are no bands in their death" (Psalm 73:4).

THE APOSTATES

These are the professors of religion who claim a place among the beloved, but, in fact, are nothing more than the *professors* of faith, not the *possessors*. Hiebert says, "An apostate is not one who gives up his profession of being a Christian, but one who forsakes the truth of the Christian faith." I might add that apostasy is always in the heart, which according to Scripture is "deceitful above all things and desperately wicked..." (Jeremiah 17:9).

THE BROAD WAY

The broad way of Matthew 7 is occupied by these Apostates. They profess to be on "the way" but, in fact they are on the broad way that leads to destruction. This broad way has a broad gate, the gate of weak evangelism with no repentance required. There are false teachers along the broad road, who add the deceptive practice of wearing sheep's clothing. The trees along the broad way are corrupt and provide no worthwhile fruit. The travelers along the broad way, when asked, give great swelling words of testimony to their wonderful works, their mighty miracles,

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sincerity, while at the same time being disloyal to Him. Foul as Hell is, I believe Hell is defiled by betrayers of the grace and love of God extended to us through the Lord Jesus being full of grace and truth. Understand that the apostasy that is so widespread in churches today is not the turning back of the saved or the loss of the elect but rather the deception by Satan planted in the hearts of people who consider themselves to be sons of God when they are not. I think there is nothing worse before God than when one indicates with a show of sincerity his love for God but in his heart of hearts owns no love and treacherously acts out his unfaithfulness and disloyalty. These are people feigning Christianity while betraying the Lord Jesus Christ with rebellious, unbelieving, and uncommitted lives. William Cowper wrote, "The treacherous smile, a mask for secret hate".

BIBLE EXAMPLES OF TREACHERY

The sons of Jacob feigned their loyalty to their father as they continued their scheme of hatred. (Genesis 37).

Jezebel showed her deception and treachery in dealing with Naboth and his sons in procuring the vineyard. (1 Kings 21:8-13).

King David exposed his evil heart deceiving loyal Uriah with a feigned interest while planning a mass murder. (2 Samuel 11:11-17).

Jeremiah referred to Judah's harlotry and her disloyalty to God, after His care and concern to give them every opportunity to respond in genuine love, as "treacherous". (Jeremiah 3:20; 5:11).

Disloyalty to our fellow man is a serious issue, but to have an insincere relationship with Almighty God, Who knows the hearts of men, is quite another situation.

John, Chapter 13 gives the ultimate example of apostasy and betrayal of

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Teaching Tips

by Doris Peppard

HOLIDAYS!

(Cont. From Last Issue)

Synopsis: Christian teachers should prayerfully use every circumstance as a teaching opportunity to help students be aware of God's Hand in all the occurrences of life. Holidays should especially be viewed in this way. "Keep it simple; keep your academic schedule moving; and prepare ahead of time" are rules of the road. Last issue covered suggestions for Labor Day, President's Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving. Following are others for consideration.

- 5) **Christmas Day** — Teach only the true reason for this season. This is one of the most difficult celebrations to communicate and guide, because the children have been so bewitched by the commercialization of this holiday. Christian School teachers need to continually point children to the birth of the Christ Child and its necessity in our salvation. You can also use this season to help children understand the importance of giving rather than receiving. Look for ways they can give: library books for their school library, love offerings for their school's needs, gifts for missionaries or the needy. It is also important to learn to give of themselves—of their own time, attention, and effort to help others. Help elderly people clean their yard or house or do their shopping. Visit convalescent homes. Spend time talking with the older folks, asking questions, showing interest in their lives. This means much to the elderly and certainly broadens the children's horizons. Visit shut-ins at home—take along some cookies, read the Scriptures aloud for them, wash their dishes, sweep their porch—teach the children to look for ways to be a help and blessing. Life is too short to live for self, and this truth is best taught early by example as well as instruction.
- 6) **Mother's Day and Father's Day** — These holidays are usually celebrated at home, but Christian teachers can help students learn what the Bible standard is for Mothers and Fathers. They should learn and practice the meaning of "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee (Ex 20:12).
- 7) **Memorial Day** — This special holiday commemorates those who have given their lives in defense of our country. Read about memorable battles. Discuss how many died and how they were killed. Let students tell of such persons in their own family. Make the purpose and meaning of Memorial Day real to students!

There are other holidays during the school year, but they lack a historical or biblical heritage. You may choose to celebrate or mention them, but the "rules" will still help you maintain purpose, order, and control. Keep in mind that these holiday celebrations help students make treasured memories they will take with them through life. We want those memories to be of things that are right and Christ-honoring — sweet memories, not bitter or selfish, — so your extra praying, planning, and preparation will be richly worth it.



Proverb Practicals

By Ludwig Opager

Proverbs 11:25 — The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Can you believe that God has given us a proverb about a fat liberal who is all wet? Liberal! Fat! We don't find ourselves much akin to words like these. In our day, "liberals" are considered those folks who support give-away programs and fund welfare and handouts. Christians declare, "Don't call me a liberal; I'm conservative to the bone." Not only are we mortified by the word, "liberal" in this proverb, but we also come face to face with the "fat" word!

No Fat!

Fat is not a welcome word in today's culture, which daily declares war on fat. "Get the fat out!", "Check the label for the fat content!", "Be fat, ruin your health, and die early." We are told to buy *low* fat butter, milk, meat, and even *no* fat products. "Down with fat!" But this proverb says, "The liberal soul shall be made fat." Who wants to be fat?

Be careful! If God's Word says we should be liberal, we should want to be liberal, and if fat is a by-product, we should want to be fat! Take heart, it is not a bad thing to be liberal or fat in the Bible sense.

The Bible word, "liberal", means blessing, present, or gift. This proverb is not talking about a person who simply gives money away; it is talking about a person, who is a walking blessing, a soul of giving, a soul, who by his actions blesses others. This soul is a blessing to be around and causes others to increase. This is a giving soul, a gift to others for their benefit.

The Giver

How does fat enter the picture? How does this soul of blessing become fat? This has nothing to do with the appearance of the body but everything to do with the spiritual condition of the soul. The picture is of a soul who continually blesses. He is a giver, but by being a giver something comes back to him and that something is what the Bible calls fat. It is from a

word translated to anoint, to set apart, to satisfy.

So the liberal soul, who gives out, is a satisfied one, because he is committed to being a blessing, a giver, instead of a taker. As a giver, he is made fat and content. He does not want to go on a diet but desires the fatness of God.

The Receiver

As he continues to give of himself and his means to others, he continues to receive this good "fat" and is blessed with the contentment that comes from being a liberal soul. The blessings he bestows on others return to him multifold.

Those who preach, teach, witness, or otherwise share the Word of God, often insist that while their listeners may receive a little shower, they themselves get a downpour. They learn the lessons and receive blessing by their study in preparation for watering others with the Word of God. Those who minister, who water in this way, are more refreshed by their preparation than can ever be received by the hearers in the short time of instruction.

The Reward

The lesson is this! God desires us to be a blessing to others, and He will return blessings to us. His returns may come in a different form; they may come immediately or later. God gives us seeds for sowing. There is no blessing in holding on to them. We sow, we water, and God gives the flowers. The flowers are a great return on the seeds in a packet. Paul said, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase" (I Cor. 3:6).

"Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days" (Eccl. 11:1). God may even give you cinnamon rolls! Teach others and you will be taught tenfold. Help others and you will be helped. Comfort others and you will be comforted.

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FOCUS ON RELIGION



Word Power

By Tod Brainard

A few years ago I came across a statement by Dr. Frank Sells that I recorded in the fly-leaf of my Bible. It reads, "Man's words lack convicting power, but God's words are filled with convicting power." Though simple, the weight of that statement has worked to strengthen my own personal appreciation of the verbal inspiration of the Bible.

Man has always tried to soften and emasculate the meaning of God's words so as to remove the sting and convicting power. For instance, men often use the word "alcoholic". Is that a Bible word? No! What is the Bible word? It is "drunkard". Man's word is "alcoholism", God's Word is "drunkenness." In my opinion there is not one ounce of convicting power in the word "alcoholic"; however, there is compelling force in "**drunkard**".

Now, it is possible to be excessively concerned about using only the words of Scripture and miss better words that convey a clearer translation. There are many good words that may be used in some cases to better translate the Hebrew, the Greek, and even the English Bible; however, that being said, I think there should be a strong consciousness concerning the use of and the recognition of the convicting power of God's words.

Here are some examples of God's Words versus man's words:

God's Words

Steal
Lie
Abomination
Disobedience
Converts
Deny yourself
Preach
Pride
Slothful, Sluggard
Rod

Man's Words

Borrow, shoplift, appropriate
Fib, misstatement, spin
Alternate lifestyle
Self-assertion
Inquirers who need to be led
Self-acceptance
Moralize, lecture, challenge, counsel
Self-esteem, egotism, self-love
Unmotivated, day-dreamer
Paddle, Belt, strap

Recently, while supervising our church operated baseball program, one of our coaches called me over to the fence where his team was practicing. He asked for some advice about his son who was posing some discipline problems at home. He began the conversation with the exclamation, "I whip him every night with a belt and he still misbehaves!" Immediately I responded by saying that he was using the wrong instrument. I told him that God never promised to bless the use of a belt. I then asked the coach what God had said in His Word to use as an instrument of chastisement. His eyes grew to the size of saucers and then he answered rather quietly, "A rod". I then took the time to explain the meaning of the word "rod", which in the Hebrew is "choter", a sprout, a tender young shoot that grows from a stump or the ground. (In the South we call it a "switch". I am not sure what they call it in the North.) After a few minutes of conversation we parted, but my coach friend went away with God's word, "rod", on his heart and mind rather than his own word.

This is a perfect example of the convicting power of God's words over man's words. When we use our own words we are stepping out on our own as to their power and effectiveness. When we use God's words we have the divine power of God behind them and their effectiveness will be much greater.

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(Continued from page 8 - Word Power)

Always be aware as you read and study your Bible to note *how* God states truth. We need to hold fast to sound words as a safeguard against dangerous ideas, shallow commentary and weak applications.

"Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus" (II Timothy 1:13). Ω

(Continued from page 3—EXPOSING ERROR)

Ghost hath made you overseers." It is as important in these days as in Paul's—in fact, it is increasingly important—to expose the many types of false teaching that, on every hand, abound more and more.

We are called upon to "contend earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints," while we hold the truth in love. The faith means the whole body of revealed truth, and to contend for all of God's truth necessitates some negative teaching. The choice is not left with us. Jude said he preferred a different, a pleasanter theme—"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 3,4). Paul likewise admonishes us to "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

This does not imply harsh treatment of those entrapped by error—quite the opposite. If it be objected that exposure to error necessitates unkind reflection upon others who do not see as we do, our answer is: it has always been the duty of every loyal servant of Christ

(Continued on page 12)



(Continued from page 5 - Treachery)

the Lord Jesus Christ by the infamous scoundrel, Judas Iscariot. Jesus had just washed the disciples' feet, including Judas', showing them the example of humility, submission, and loyalty. Notice, also, Judas had just eaten with them, affirming his friendship and loyalty to the Savior and the others, having already made a pact to betray the Lord to the enemy. (Luke 22:6). This, I think, is the pinnacle of evil, the depths of depravity, the complete rot found in the man's wicked heart! What treachery!

See how Judas grew worse under the perfect presence and teaching of the Lord. Satan must have deceived Judas into thinking he was not the absolute rogue he certainly was, so Judas "pursued evil" to his own death. (Prov. 11:19). Judas gives us every reason for hating sin and turning away from even the smell of the world.

REAL OR PHONY?

There is no life, no peace, no hope, no security, no joy to a deceived apostate feigning salvation and displaying a facade of spirituality. Dear friend, be sure of your heart before the Lord. Allow the Word of God to reveal your heart's condition without delay. Trust Him, love Him, and live for Him.

Praise God, there is "joy unspeakable and full of glory" to the children of God, the remnant, who truly love the Savior and openly disdain the world, holding the old flesh in the greatest contempt, for *unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation* (Hebrews 9:28). Ω

THE COWARD

*"You have no enemies, you say?
Alas, my friend, the boast is poor...
You've hit no traitor on the hip;
You've dashed no cup from perjured lip;
You've never changed the wrong to right;
You've been a coward in the fight."*

Charles MacKay

(Continued from page 3 - VOICE OBEDIENCE)

not try to maintain a level a few years behind the world's decreasing standards."¹

Substitute Standards

As we have previously stated, Voice Obedience is the standard God sets for His children: the immediate, complete, and voluntary obedience to His Word the first time He speaks. What a standard!! What are we to do then as parents and educators when children refuse to cooperate with us in an effort to have them respond to our voice? An option is not to resort to a non-Christian method that may bring about peace to some degree but is bound to reap a harvest from the flesh and not from the Spirit. Here are points to consider:

1. It will not be easy. Doing things right rarely is; however, as Christians, God's Word must be the standard.
2. This is primarily the responsibility of parents. It certainly will not be as easy to start this requirement after school age is reached as it would have been at the beginning, but with determination and patience it can be done. Any improvement in this direction will bring blessing to both parent and child.
3. Parents and teachers must cooperate in this effort. Teachers explaining voice obedience from the Scriptures to parents in special sessions should be a help. A Christian must use Biblical methods in order to claim God's blessing. Support by the home is vital to success in any area of child training and especially so in the matters of obedience.
4. Remember your authority is only in your word, your voice. It is not in a "paddle" (a non-scriptural instrument), or emotional outbursts, or threats. It is in your voice just as God's authority is in His Word. Don't use your voice foolishly. Say what you mean and mean what you say.

Sound Words

"Hold fast the form of sound words" (II Tim. 1:13a). Sound words are scriptural words, and obviously, unsound words are not scriptural. The scriptural word is "Voice Obedience", while the unscriptural words are multiplying with each new school year.

Unsound Words

1. Assertive Discipline: This is the brain child of Lee Canter, yet the primary thrust is man-centered. In this approach, the teacher is to maintain control by asserting himself, being stronger and more aggressive than the student; yet, the toughest penalty that can be imposed is a trip to the principal's office. First-year teachers learn to do that on the first day of school. One of the primary goals of Assertive Discipline is to build strong "self-esteem" into the students. Look up self-esteem in Webster's *New World*

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(Continued from page 10 - VOICE OBEDIENCE)

Dictionary and you will find it to be a synonym for pride or self-worth.

2. Discipline by Persuasion: The idea of persuasion is confined in Scripture to the effort to persuade among peers. Adults persuade adults; professors persuade professors; children persuade other children, but it is not a level playing field when adults with their superior intelligence and their accumulated knowledge gained by years of education and experience persuade children. That's how incest, child molestation, and other forms of the abuse of children take place. Children are to be told by the proper authority what they are to do and then do it.

3. Discipline by Rewards: Let's understand, rewards have their proper place in the classroom but not tied in any way to obedience. When a child has done work above and beyond that which was required, a reward is in order. Superior work on a project or assignment by a student may be deserving of a reward; however, a reward for proper behavior, I believe to be out of order. Proper behavior is expected, and a reward belittles the requirement. We reward animals for obedience and properly so, but children are not animals. They can know right and wrong and as creatures created in the image and likeness of God should be taught to do what is right without a reward.

4. Discipline by threats, force, or cruelty is obviously not a Christian concept and should always be avoided. Only crude and abusive persons

would consider this a choice, as only harm to the child could be the outcome.





5. Discipline by Peer Pressure might work in some situations when a child might be affected by the behavior of another child or group of children that he or she might desire to be a part of; however, on most occasions peer pressure is a blight, because it is very often used to entice a child toward wrongdoing rather than right.

The Secret to "Voice Obedience"

Voice Obedience is the only scriptural obedience that I can find in the Scriptures. The rod is the only instrument given in Scripture for the purpose of training the child in obedience. A "rod" is a growth or shoot sprouting from a shrub or stump of a tree, and it is obvious that in today's climate only parents can use it, and they must do it early. Parents should always work for voice obedience. Children will very quickly learn that behind your voice commands there is the power to bring pain. The beauty of the "rod" is that it comes in all sizes; very small, short, and limber for the younger ones, and larger, yet limber, for older ones. Used properly the rod or "switch" can be put aside for most children at a young age, and voice commands are all that is required. This kind of "voice obedience" training makes life at home and school enjoyable for all, the children, the parents, and the teachers and administrators.

¹Dayton Hobbs, *STANDARDS: Blight or Blessing* (Gospel Projects Press, Milton, FL 1988), p. 5.

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(Continued from page 5 - Divisions of Mankind)
and great preaching ministries.

FOUNDATIONS OF SAND

These are the ones who sat under Noah's ministry and perished in the flood. These are the ones who left Babel in small groups to inhabit the earth. These are those who perished when fire and brimstone rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah. These are those who perished in the wilderness having wandered forty years. These are the ones who were led into captivity to Assyria and Babylon. These are the huge majority of the Visible Church who will be left behind at the rapture to carry on their corrupted services at the behest of the Anti-Christ. Ω

(Continued from page 9—EXPOSING ERROR)

to warn against any teaching that would make Him less precious or cast reflection upon His finished redemptive work and the all-sufficiency of His present service as our great high Priest and Advocate.

Every system of teaching can be judged by what it sets forth as to these fundamental truths of the faith. "What think ye of Christ?" is still the true test of every creed. The Christ of the Bible is certainly not the Christ of any false "-ism." Each of the cults has its hideous caricature of our lovely Lord.

Let us who have been redeemed at the cost of His precious blood be "good soldiers of Jesus Christ." As the battle against the forces of evil waxes ever more hot, we have need for God-given valour. There is constant temptation to compromise. "Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach." It is always right to stand firmly for what God has revealed concerning His blessed Son's person and work. The "father of lies" deals in half-truths and specializes in most subtle fallacies concerning the Lord Jesus, our sole and sufficient Savior.

Error is like leaven of which we read, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Truth mixed with error is equivalent to all error, except that it is more innocent looking and, therefore, more dangerous. God hates such a mixture! Any error, or any truth-and-error mixture, calls for definite exposure and repudiation. To condone such is to be unfaithful to God and His Word and treacherous to imperilled souls for whom Christ died.

Exposing error is most unpopular work. But from every true standpoint it is worthwhile work. To our Savior, it means that He receives from us, His blood-bought ones, the loyalty that is His due. To ourselves, if we consider "the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt," it ensures future reward, a thousand-fold. And to souls "caught in the snare of the fowler"—how many of them God only knows—it may mean light and life, abundant and everlasting. Ω

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It is refreshing, in a day of maudlin sentimentality, to hear the clarion call of God's truth ministered so clearly and lovingly in *THE PROJECTOR*. This is a generation in which Norman Vincent Peale and Robert Schuller's influence has made profound inroads into our fundamentalist circles. Having had the privilege of sitting under Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.'s influence in the last years of his ministry, how thankful I am to see the unapologetic exposition of God's inerrant Word being planted as an ensign against the ego-centric exercise of pseudo-liberty so often propounded by many in our churches today. May our precious Savior continue to bless and encourage as you "earnestly contend for the faith." OH

(Continued from page 7 - PROVERB PRACTICALS)

God knows just how and when to return the benefits and blessings to fit your need!

The Heart

God's one condition is that you give in faith according as you purpose in your heart. "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7). The heart is the key. The heart is the blessing valve we open or close. Give, but don't give grudgingly or of necessity. Don't give to keep from feeling guilty for not giving. The only return on that kind of giving is simply freedom from guilt, but it will never bless others or return blessings to you!

Don't attach strings on the gift expecting something in return from the one to whom you give it. Let God give the return, the return that satisfies, that makes fat and brings contentment. Never shun liberality and the fatness of God! Ω