

The PROJECTOR

DR. DAYTON HOBBS, EDITOR

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

The Earth, The Battlefield in Prayer

by S. D. Gordon (1859-1936)

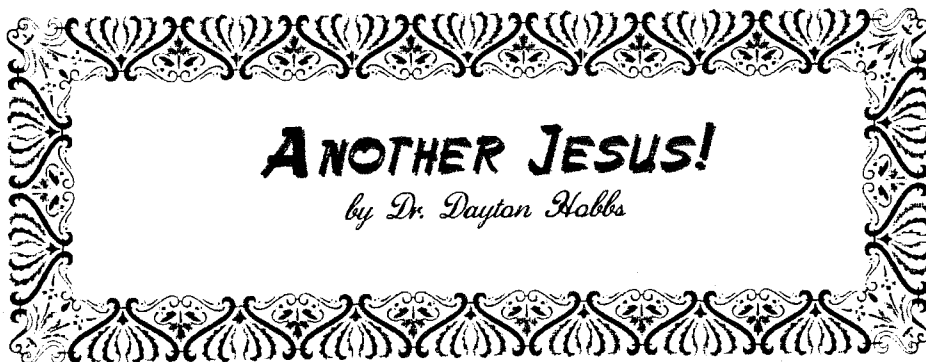
PRAYER A WAR MEASURE

THIS WORLD IS GOD'S PRODIGAL SON. The heart of God's bleeds over His prodigal. It has been gone so long, and the home circle is broken. He has spent all the wealth of His thought on a plan for winning the prodigal back home. Angels and men have marveled over that plan, its sweep, its detail, its strength and wisdom, its tenderness. He needs man for His plan. He will use man. That is true. He will honour man in service. That is true. But these only touch the edge of the truth. The pathway from God to a human heart is through a human heart. When He

came to the great strategic move in His plan, He Himself came down as a man and made that move. *He needs man for His plan.*

The greatest agency put into man's hands is prayer. To understand that at all fully one needs to define prayer. And to define prayer adequately one must use the language of war. Peace language is not equal to the situation. The earth is in a state of war. It is being hotly besieged and so one must use war talk to grasp the facts with which prayer is concerned. *Prayer from God's side is communication between Himself and His allies in the enemy's country.* Prayer is not persuading God.

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ANOTHER JESUS!

by Dr. Dayton Hobbs

"For [you seem readily to endure it] if a man comes and preaches another Jesus than the One we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the [Spirit] you [once] received or a different gospel from the one you [then] received and welcomed; you tolerate [all that] well enough!" (II Cor. 11:4 AMP).

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ" (Gal. 1:6,7 KJV).

THE MODERN JESUS

THE JESUS SO COMMONLY SPOKEN OF and preached in the majority of pulpits across America and the world today is a creation of Satan. The Christian religion of our time is in the depths of apostasy, all the while filling radio and television (and now the Internet) with multiplied thousands of hours weekly of corrupted confusion called Christianity. To hear them, it would seem that revival is sweeping—or at least is about to sweep—us into the millennium. "Give me a break," to borrow a popular expression of our day.

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SATAN'S JESUS

The Jesus created by Satan is not offensive to sinful man. This Jesus promises life without a cross, prosperity without pain, and all the pleasures of this world plus the glories of the next. This Jesus, as the Lord Jesus Christ of Scripture, saves, keeps, and satisfies one's every need without the rejection, and self-denial essential in a Biblical walk of faith. This Jesus gives power to resolve all marital and family relationships, psychological disorders, and basic youth conflicts, all without dying to self or losing any worldly friends or relationships. There is no requirement by Satan's Jesus for his followers to separate from worldly pursuits and pleasures, from carnal friends and questionable entertainment; and, as a matter of fact, he often puts his approval upon that lovable Nashville sound (Christian lyrics required occasionally) and the best of Branson—especially Lawrence Welk and Andy Williams. Old hymns filled with sound doctrine are replaced with contemporary music by Satan's Jesus, and microphone sucking is an art to be cultivated, especially in conjunction with some mushy, big orchestra sound track.

Satan's Jesus proposes programs for all the disenfranchised of society—programs other than the fiery, Spirit-filled

preaching of the Word of God. "Reprove, rebuke, and exhort" have been removed from the vocabulary of the men who proclaim Satan's Jesus. This Jesus of Satan is designed to attract crowds and cause phenomenal church growth without ever making these worshippers feel uncomfortable in their sins or uneasy about their souls' lost condition.

SATAN'S JESUS AND TEENS

This modern Jesus is especially attractive to the teens of our generation. The Scripturally untaught and fun-loving teens need not be concerned about serious service for the Lord Jesus Christ of Scripture. They need not get serious about their testimony and service in their local church and school (often with a Christian title), for they can take a mission trip each year and remove any guilt they might have accumulated from their poor performance the rest of the year. But, if a mission trip is out of the question, then a week at a Christian camp closed out by the traditional putting of the fagot on the closing camp fire with a resolve to go back home and do a better job next year—which in my experience with teens (45 years) generally means another year like the last—is the answer to their guilt.

A COFFEE AND DOUGHNUT JESUS

This modern and accommodating Jesus often adds coffee and doughnuts to the Sunday morning agenda as an added incentive to encourage participation in the Sunday School hour, some actually taking the goodies to class to munch on during the lesson. This "come on" might also help the usually tardy ones show up on time.

THE JESUS OF SCRIPTURE

Let the Jesus of the Scriptures speak for Himself:

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it" (Matt. 16:24,25).

"If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my

disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:26,27).

"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you" (John 15:18,19).

I don't want to sound unkind, but what is going on in most of the evangelical and fundamentalist churches of today just doesn't match up with the Lord Jesus Christ of the Word of God. It is my opinion that by and large we have sold out the offense of the cross for popularity and numbers.

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Man's sinful heart hasn't changed; Satan hasn't changed; the world hasn't changed; God hasn't changed; the Gospel hasn't changed; and the Lord Jesus Christ hasn't changed. It is the preaching that has changed. The church has changed, and our attitude toward the world and sin has changed. We have filled our churches with unsaved church members, and the poor saints who remain are so starved for the sound preaching of the Word of God and the singing of the great old hymns of the faith that they have very little strength left. Our pulpits are no longer stations of power but podiums where idealistic, man-conceived concoctions flow forth.

REVIVAL?

Biblical, Scriptural revival is absurd and out of the question in such an environment as this. The primary need in many churches is life, not revival. The primary work of the pastor, as well as the evangelist, has to do with the saints. The gifts to the Church of the men listed in Ephesians 4:11 are "for the perfecting [equipping] of the saints, for the work of the ministry [service]" (Eph. 4:12). Jesus' instructions to Peter need to be adhered to when He said to him, "Feed my lambs" and "Feed my sheep" (John 21:15-17). In my humble opinion, we've concentrated too much upon buildings, crowds, and entertainment, and too little upon the building up of the saints in the Word of God. ☪

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LETTERS



to the EDITOR

I have enjoyed getting The PROJECTOR and I don't believe I've missed any issues since the first one. Its message has always been clear—no middle-of-the-road positions. You do your homework and hold everything up to the light of the Word of God. Thanks for a job well done.

NE

Thank you for the wonderful article on the Brownsville revival and its relation to Finney's methodology.

IL

Thank you for *The PROJECTOR*. I can't tell you how many ways it blesses me. I read it from beginning to end.

ME

I have read with great interest your article "Brownsville, Finney, and Revival" in the spring issue of *The PROJECTOR*. It is an excellent and helpful review of this doctrinal error. You have in a very concise way enabled one to understand the false and empty experience of many of the modern day meetings.

Thank you for your faithfulness to the task. Keep up the good work.

NC

I appreciate your willingness to stand for truth no matter the cost. May your tribe increase.

PA

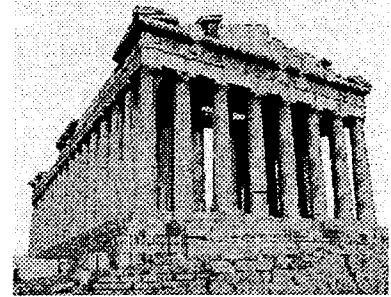
Thanks again for "Holding the line" when most (even many fundamentalists) have fuzzy lines at best! I appreciate your sending me The PROJECTOR. I also share it...

West Indies

I have just finished reading your article "Brownsville, Finney, and Revival" in the current edition of The PROJECTOR. I want to commend you for a very well written piece dealing with this prevalent problem of our day. I am determined to have a church where the gospel alone is preached as it has been, where we continue to stand for the truth, and trust the Holy Spirit to do his work. Your timely article makes me even more determined. Thank you!

TN

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FOCUS ON RELIGION



to


**Biblical
Confrontation**
by Tod Brainerd

The Editor's Desk

BANDWAGONS

Beware of bandwagons! I would especially warn young preachers to beware of jumping on every bandwagon that passes by, for most of them lead to confusion and trouble. Stick with the tried and true. If the solid, sound preaching of our forefathers was successful to the building up of the saints and the reaching of the lost, why change? Why give up the great old hymns of the faith, full of instruction and sound doctrine, for watered down, contemporary music and very little Biblical doctrine?

CONFORM OR TRANSFORM

The work of the Church is the work of transformation, not conformation. Paul instructed the Romans (Rom. 12:2) to "be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." Transformation takes a converted sinner and, by the grace of God and in the power of the Holy Spirit, transforms him into the image of Christ. Conformation develops a weak, mushy, spineless instrument for the devil: one with no spiritual insight or understanding. Young people conformed in this fashion look for professions that bring good financial returns and a large portion of the "good life." Transforming young people into the image of Christ is a much more difficult work. Your success rate will drop sharply, but the end product is worth it: a young person whose first love is Christ and whose response to His call is, "Lord, what would you have me to do?"

Conforming builds crowds and financial success without trials and battles. Transforming builds saints with character and conviction, willing and prepared to take on all of Christ's opponents. Which type of ministry do you desire? ☪

ELISHA WAS AN INCREDIBLE MAN OF God. He was the faithful servant of Elijah from a teenager until early adulthood who "poured water on the hands of Elijah" (II Kings 3:11). This important servant training set Elisha in good stead for the tough work required of a prophet of God.

Later in Elisha's ministry, which spanned nearly 52 years, an event is recorded that challenges the student of the Word of God to take a second look. The event was an eye-to-eye confrontation with Hazael, chief of the armies of Ben-hadad, King of Syria.

Confrontation

And Elisha came to Damascus; and Ben-hadad the king of Syria was sick; and it was told him, saying, The man of God is come hither. And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease? So Hazael went to meet him, and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy son Ben-hadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this disease? And Elisha said unto him, Go, say unto him, Thou mayest certainly recover: howbeit the LORD hath shown me that he shall surely die. And he settled his countenance stedfastly, until he was ashamed: and the man of God wept (II Kings 8:7-11).

The rest of the account reveals the wicked plot of Hazael to kill Ben-hadad and assume the throne of Syria which he accomplished rather quickly after his confrontation with Elisha.

Conviction

Notice verse 11: "And he [Elisha] settled his countenance stedfastly, until he [Hazael] was ashamed." Here is a

literal translation compiled from the writings of Hebrew scholars: "He fixed his eyes and set them sharply upon him, so that the piercing look produced shame and made Hazael's countenance fall."

Here we see the prophet Elisha in a whole new light. We find a prophet, a spokesman for God, staring down an ambitious and treacherous man: a man who had already conceived the idea of murdering his king. As the intense glare of the man of God came to bear, the guilty conscience of Hazael made him shrink and back away from the scrutiny of the eyes of the man of God.

Why did God record this eye-to-eye confrontation in detail?

There are no accidents in what has been given to us in the inspired Word of God. "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope" (Romans 15:4). Face-to-face confrontations are not enjoyable, but they are necessary for the good of both parties concerned. Elisha could have simply delivered his message to Hazael and gone home. Instead, he delivered his message and then with his aging eyes peered into the very soul of Hazael. That intense gaze shook Hazael. The ability to look another person in the eye and cause him or her to be brought face-to-face with their sin or failure is a virtue that needs to be developed by those who occupy a place of authority, whether parent, pastor, or teacher. Eye-to-eye confrontation is fast disappearing, I am afraid, in the average church and home. We tend to shy away from confrontational situations. Jeremiah was told by God, "Don't be afraid of their



faces!" Eye contact is vital in our interactions with others. God said in effect, "Jeremiah, look them in the eye and give them My Word!"

Elisha's gaze did not stop Hazael from his wicked plot, but Hazael was stopped for that moment in time and checked by the man of God. Hazael's conscience was stirred and the shame of his sin was exposed for what it was, and Hazael left on his way without excuse. Elisha was light and salt before Hazael. That is all that a Christian can be in any period of time.

How did Elisha use his eyes?

1. *He fixed his gaze (vs. 11).* Elisha locked his eyes on Hazael's eyes. There was no looking away on the part of Elisha. He peered right down into the soul of Hazael. This is important! Eye contact is important in the teaching and training of children. No instructions should be given to children until eye contact is established. Eye contact is especially important in confrontational situations.
2. *He timed his gaze (vs. 11).* Notice, "until he was ashamed." Time is an important element in the use of the eyes. The amount of time may vary according to the response desired. Elisha took his time in dealing with the hard-hearted Hazael.
3. *He said nothing.* Words may interrupt the intensity of the moment in the early stage of face-to-face confrontations of a serious nature. Sometimes the one being looked upon will begin to express repentance and contrition for sin without a word being said from the onlooker. This has been true in some of my dealings with children and young people in face-to-face confrontations.

What do the Scriptures tell us about the eye?

Job 16:9—*He teareth me in his wrath, who hateth me: he gnasheth upon me with his teeth; mine enemy sharpeneth his eyes upon me.*

Psalm 11:4b—*His eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.*

Psalm 32:8—*I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.*

Psalm 104:32—*He [God] looketh [lit. cutteth the eyes] on the earth, and it trembleth.*

Proverbs 20:8—*A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes.*

Jeremiah 24:6—*For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land.*

Amos 9:4—*And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good.*

Luke 22:56—*But a certain maid beheld him [Peter] as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said, This man was also with him.*

Acts 3:4,5—*And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.*

Acts 13:9—*Then Saul ... filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him [Elymas the sorcerer].*

It is obvious from these verses that the eye plays a very important role in affecting souls and gaining the attention of those upon whom the eyes are directed. The eye may communicate evil such as rebellion and hatred. However, the Scriptures indicate that the eye has a positive and proper role in confrontations between God and His Creation, God and His children, man and man, parent and child.

What then are the products of eye contact in confrontational situations as illustrated by Scripture?

1. *Piercing eye contact should produce introspection in the one being examined.* This is what Elisha

accomplished with Hazael. Elisha's eyes tried the conscience of Hazael and produced shame and embarrassment.

2. *Eye contact should produce a level of fear.* When God cuts His eye upon the earth, the earth trembles. I can personally testify to the fear that struck my heart on many occasions during my childhood when the piercing eye of my mother came to bear on me. My mother could bring about remarkable improvements in my behavior without a word being said. Some may not like this aspect of eye-to-eye confrontations; however, fear is beneficial. It often prevents us from doing things that are foolish or harmful.
3. *Eye contact should scatter away evil.* If a king can scatter away evil with his eye, we certainly should put it to work in our homes and schools. The word *scatter* used in Proverbs 20:8 means "to break apart that which was once unified."¹ Close supervision of situations can keep many problems from developing and disperse pockets of evil that are joined together (i.e. cliques). Teachers should especially develop this aspect of the use of the eye in the classroom.²
4. *Eye contact should give guidance and direction.* Many a time as a child, my mother's piercing eyes communicated important guidance as to simple instructions or proper behavior when words would have been inappropriate or impossible at the moment. The development of the eye in this regard is essential in the training of children. Elisha's eye-to-eye confrontation with Hazael is worthy of study. It illustrates the important use of the eye in face-to-face confrontations. The practice of the use of the eyes is to be developed by pastors, Day and Sunday School teachers, and mothers and fathers. If it were important enough that God would record such an event in the life of Elisha in the Scriptures it must then be important enough for our instruction.

¹ William Wilson, *Wilson's Old Testament Word Studies*, MacDonald Publishing Co., McLean, VA. n.d. p. 371.

² Dayton Hobbs, *Classroom Discipline A to Z*, Gospel Projects Press, Milton, FL; 1986, pp. 81-82. Q



Proverb Practical's

by Ludwig Opager

*A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.
Proverbs 28:17*

THOSE NOT BELIEVING in capital punishment have not the right view of God or man, for many of them believe that man is God, or becoming God, and not the highest creation of God, created in His image and likeness.

Listen to Genesis 9:6—*Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.*

The image of God is what is at stake and to attempt to destroy His image is an abomination to God. Only God is capable of giving life and only God can say when a life is to be taken. Capital punishment does not have as its purpose the deterring of crime. It should promote the fear of God in hearts that are not too hardened, and this—the Fear of God—will deter crime.

Man's responsibility is to project God's image clearly. That which He reveals of himself is to be perfectly revealed and not distorted. He made man in his image and in so doing reveals himself to man. And that image is not to be tampered with, without severe penalty. Are not the wages of sin the death penalty? Sin distorts the image of God and death is the penalty for those who distort the image of God. Therefore the command to Noah: "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man." All are to operate under this universal law. To ignore it brings the condemnation of God upon a society.

Numbers 35:33 is a principle of God that applies to all nations. "*So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it.*"

Our land is defiled by the blood of victims whose murderer's blood still warmly flows in their veins. God, in Numbers 35:31, told his people Israel: "*Moreover ye shall take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death: but he shall be surely put to death.*"

No payoffs or plea bargains for murder, no substitutes, no life sentences, no rehabilitation, no satisfaction. Our land is defiled because we allow murderers to live. You see, God's image is at stake!

Gen. 1:26—*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.*

Human beings were created by God to fulfill His will. He intends for His plan to be carried out using man as an extension of himself. As a face is revealed in a mirror, so we, as the image of God, are to reveal God. We have unique qualities that image the nature of God that sets us apart and above all other created beings. Humans are self-conscious, have a sovereign will, have individual personalities and responsibilities. God made each of us, a person in the likeness of God's person. Nothing else in all creation can be called a person. Only persons have self-awareness and God-awareness. Every human being is an original, for God is not in the copy business. He leaves that to man.

God in his infiniteness reveals himself in each unique human being, and murder of any human being by another is a distortion of His image. Since men's hands and feet are an extension of God, to kill man is to stay God's hand; it is to stay God's feet from going in His stead. God commands those who murder be put to death because of what God is, and not what man is.

In God's scheme of things we are to be about our Father's business and for anyone to interfere with that plan is to interfere with God's will for His image.

God's word is complete. He has instructions for all, including those who do violence to the blood of any person, those who murder. Flee to the pit, run to the grave! Quickly yield to the punishment that God commands. Do not fight the just result of your deed. Murderer, you bring about your own death. Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein! Murderer, the right thing to do is to yield to God's will for your act.

And then this proverb gives a reasonable admonition to us. We are told not to help or support the murderer; we are told not to stop the murderer from his just penalty. Christians are not to stand in the way of God's will in this matter, and His will is for Civil Government to shed the blood of a murderer. We are not to plead for him; we are not to solicit a pardon for him; we are not to demonstrate for him or to do anything to hinder his just punishment.

God's word is true!



Music— is Not Always Music

by the late M. R. DeHann

*"LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY IN ALL WISDOM;
TEACHING AND ADMONISHING ONE ANOTHER IN PSALMS AND HYMNS AND
SPIRITUAL SONGS, SINGING WITH GRACE IN YOUR HEARTS TO THE LORD."
COLOSSIANS 3:16*

One of the alarming signs of the times is the invasion by the world and popular music field into the realm of religious and sacred music. Recording companies have begun to "package" devotional songs—adapting them to the swing-beat and syncopation of the bar-room. One "big time" producer claims that secularizing sacred music is "the greatest new groove since rock and roll." As a result of this type of music of recording business, Gospel music is now being sung in night clubs, taverns and dance halls across the land. All of this is a symptom of deterioration—of the breakdown between the sacred and the secular.

Even more serious than the use of Gospel music by the world, however, is the growing evil of using worldly music in our evangelical circles! Gospel music is designed to teach the Gospel (See Colossians 3:16). The jazzing of sacred music by gospel comedians is nauseating and regrettable. Why don't we stick to the "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs" of Ephesians 5:19? I know I shall be accused of being an old-fashioned, moth-eaten, archaic sourpuss, but we still believe that the Gospel should be presented in song, as well as sermon, in a reverent and dignified way in harmony with the majesty and seriousness of its message.

If the music in our churches has no real message in it, why sing it? We cannot stop the world from using and debauching Gospel music; but we can stop the world's music from being used in Christian churches.

The Secret of Endurance

by W. Arnold Long, Pioneer Missionary to Australia

The disciples who slept from sorrow and weariness in Gethsemane were warned by the Lord to "watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation." He knew how critical was the position and how merciless the enemy.

We once saw a young man fall to the ground in the midst of a fierce fight. As he fell, his head already badly hurt, a nulla descended with terrible force. But with equal swiftness his own weapon was raised with both hands just above his head, warding off the blow that might have been fatal. This enabled the missionary of the Gospel to reach him in time and extricate him before more harm could be inflicted.

Our enemy is implacable and cruel beyond the realization of many Christians. He will strike at any time. If we should be weakened by

sorrow, or sick at heart for any other reason, this enemy will not scruple to press in with his fiercest attacks. We cannot relax our guard at any stage of the journey, even to the last steps. This enemy will not hesitate to attack little children, a point also overlooked by some. We have the instances of Moses preserved among the bulrushes, of Joash in the temple, and of our Lord removed to Egypt from the wrath of Herod. We must watch over our little ones who cannot defend themselves. We must watch over the fleeting opportunities to witness for the Lord and to do anything that may be possible to serve Him.

Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come ... Blessed is that servant whom his Lord when He cometh shall find so doing." (Matt. 24:42, 46).

Tenor.

Alto.

Quintus.



Laudicean Leaven

by Dr. Fiddle, D.D.
(to be read with tongue in cheek)

"How to Have a Revival"

Dr. Fiddle has noticed the great interest in revival that exists in churches today. Because he is a firm believer in giving the people what they want, Dr. Fiddle undertook to find the best and most efficient ways to have a revival and make your church the focus of attention in your community.

Dr. Fiddle began by researching the subject of revival. In the olden days, when people had more time, the practice was to wait for revival to come down from heaven. These people were willing to pray all day and sometimes all night for days on end in their patient quest for revival. *This is both tiring and time-consuming.* Another thing that he discovered was that these periods of prayer combined with a concentration on God's Word produced deep conviction of personal sin. *This is not good for people's self esteem.* The result of all this was a people who were not amused by the things of the world but, instead, found some strange delight in reading the Bible, listening to preaching, and praying even more. *This is boring,*

Dr. Fiddle has a better idea.

Hire a preacher who can stir people's emotions. (Or learn to do it yourself with Dr. Fiddle's book, *Make 'em Laugh, Make 'em Cry, Make 'em Feel Religious.* Free for a gift of \$100⁰⁰.) Make sure the preaching doesn't contain deadening doctrine and moldy orthodoxy.

Use exciting music, especially simple choruses, to get the people involved. Make sure to keep the special music lively and entertaining.

When the invitation is given, make sure that some of your members go forward every time; especially if they're the emotional type. This will encourage others to follow them to the altar.

Finally, tell everybody that you're having a revival. Do it repeatedly. They will start to believe it and their faith will spread to others.

You'll find these methods are both effective and produce the instant results that people demand while not interfering with their lifestyle.

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Teaching Tips

Doris Peppard

SAME OLD, SAME OLD

First year teachers have one asset going for them: they are fresh! Seasoned teachers have many assets going for them but can easily fall into the trap of staleness. There is a tendency to do the same things the same way year after year. While a rut is good for following schedules, patterns, and good habits, we should freshen up our hearts, ideas, and materials.

The very best teachers teach because they have a heart for children. If you are teaching for any other reason, ask God to give you strength to change your attitude. Children need to be loved, and they know if their teacher is genuine or not. A teacher who puts her whole heart into her ministry is a blessing to the pupils, their parents, and the school. This type of teaching is "strength consuming." Prayer and Bible study are the only ways to revitalize your heart. Vitamins can help your ironpoor, tired blood; but the Holy Spirit working in your heart can give you the strength to teach your class. Lamentations 3:22-23 states, "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

In one of his "Chapel Sayings," Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., said, "You can borrow brains, but you cannot borrow character." Some of the best ideas come from those who have been "down the road before" in the classroom and in administration. These warriors have fought battles for Christian education that have given us liberties which we now enjoy. They have written helpful, challenging books, pamphlets, and articles sharing their expertise and experiences. One good way to refresh our teaching is to read, study, and borrow worthy ideas from others. We must be aware, however, that many modern resource books contain humanistic methods and ideas. These must be recognized and avoided. We must be sure our content, methods, teaching tools, and aids are Scriptural.

Materials need to be renewed every year. Using the same bulletin board year after year is dull and boring and should rarely occur. Simple changes such as making new letters, putting a different slant on the theme, reversing the characters, etc. can make an old board new. Children, you know, love new, bold, colorful bulletin boards. Try to be creative and allow your personality to show through. Do not be afraid to let your students know the "real you." They will respect you more if they see you as a genuine person who cares for them. Making new materials for your classroom and keeping the environment fresh and vibrant is very important. Resist, oppose, fight the "lazies," and allow your classroom to be a place your students are eager to attend and to show to their parents and others.

The 1998-99 school year is waiting to happen. Let us determine to make it the best year yet. There are students to be taught, loved, and nurtured! We must give our best efforts in this new year. We are serving God and have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our pupils! We should long to hear God say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."



continued from cover

It does not influence God's purpose. It is not winning Him over to our side; never that. He is far more eager for what we are rightly eager for than we ever are. What there is of wrong and sin and suffering that pains you, pains Him far more. He knows more about it. He is more keenly sensitive to it than the most sensitive one of us. Whatever of heart yearning there may be that moves you to prayer is from Him. God takes

the initiative in all prayer. It starts with Him. True prayer moves in a circle. It begins in the heart of God, sweeps down into a human heart upon the earth, so intersecting the circle of the earth, which is the battle-field of prayer, and then it goes back again to its starting point, having accomplished its purpose on the downward swing.

THREE FORMS OF PRAYER

Prayer is the word commonly used for all intercourse with God. But it should be kept in mind that that word covers and includes three forms of intercourse. All prayer grows up through, and ever continues in three stages.

The first form of prayer is *communion*. That is simply being on good terms with God. It involves the blood of the cross as the basis of our getting and being on good terms. It involves my coming to God through Jesus. Communion is fellowship with God. Not request for some particular thing; not asking, but simply enjoying Himself, loving Him, thinking about Him, how beautiful, and intelligent, and strong and loving and lovable He is; talking to Him without words. That is the truest worship, thinking how worthy He is of all the best we can possibly bring to Him, and infinitely more. It has to do wholly with God and a man being on good terms with each other. Of necessity it includes confession on my part and forgiveness upon God's part, for only so can we come into the relation of fellowship. Adoration, worship belong to this first phase of prayer. Communion is the basis of all prayer. It is the essential breath of the true Christian life. It

concerns just two, God and myself, yourself. Its influence is directly subjective. *It affects me.*

The second form of prayer is petition. And I am using that word now in the narrower meaning of asking something for one's self. Petition is definite request of God for something I need. A man's whole life is utterly dependent upon the giving hand of God. Everything we need comes from Him. Our friendships, ability to make money, health, strength in temptation, and in sorrow, guidance in

difficult circumstances, and in all of life's movements; help of all sorts, financial, bodily, mental, spiritual—

come from God, and necessitate a constant touch with Him. There needs to be a constant stream of petition going up, many times wordless prayer. And there will be a constant return stream of answer and supply coming down. The door between God and one's own self must be kept ever open. The knob to be turned is on our side. He opened His side long ago, and propped it open, and threw the knob away. The whole life hinges upon this continual intercourse with our wondrous God. This is the second stage or form of prayer. It concerns just two: God and the man dealing with God. It is subjective in its influence: *its reach is within.*

The third form of prayer is *intercession*. True prayer never stops with petition for one's self. It reaches out for others. The very word intercession implies a reaching out for some one else. It is standing as a go-between, a mutual friend, between God and some one who is either out of touch with Him, or is needing special help. Intercession is the climax of prayer. It is the outward drive of prayer. It is the effective end of prayer *outward*. Communion and petition are upward and downward. Intercession rests upon these two as its foundation. Communion and petition store the life with the power of God; intercession lets it out on behalf of others. The first two are necessarily for self; this third is for others.

They ally a man fully with God: it makes use of that alliance for others. Intercession is the full-bloomed plant whose roots and strength lie back and down in the other two forms. *It* is the form of prayer that helps God in His great love-plan for winning a planet back to its true sphere.

SIX FACTS UNDERLYING PRAYER

It will help greatly to step back and up a bit for a fresh look at certain facts that underlie prayer. Everything depends on a right point of view. There may be many view-points from which to study any subject; but of necessity any one viewpoint must take in all the essential facts concerned. If not, the impression formed will be wrong, and a man will be misled in his actions. It clears the ground to assume certain things. I am assuming the accuracy of these scriptural statements. And I am glad to say I have no difficulty in doing so.

Now there are certain facts constantly stated and assumed in this old Book. They are clearly stated in its history, they are woven into its songs, and they underlie all these prophetic writings, from Genesis clear to the end of John's Patmos visions. Possibly they have been so familiar and taken for granted so long as to have grown unfamiliar. The very old may need stating as though very new. Here is a chain of six facts:

- First: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.¹ His by creation and by sovereign rule. The Lord sat as King at the flood.²
- Second: God gave the dominion of the earth to man. The kingship of its life, the control and mastery of its forces.³
- Third: Man, who held the dominion of the earth in trust from God, transferred his dominion to somebody else, by an act which was a double act. He was deceived into doing that act. It was an act of disobedience and of obedience. Disobedience to God, and obedience to another one, a prince who was seeking to get the dominion of the earth into his own hands. That act of the first man did this. The disobedience broke with God, and transferred the allegiance from God.



The kingship of the earth has been given to Satan by man.



in all of life's movements; help of all sorts, financial, bodily, mental, spiritual—



True prayer never stops with petition for one's self. It reaches out for others.





The obedience to the other one transferred the allegiance, and through that, the dominion to this other one.

The fourth fact [is] this: The dominion or kingship of this earth so far as given to man, is now not God's, for He gave it to man. And it is not man's, for he has transferred it to another. It is in the control of that magnificent prince whose *changed character supplies his name*—Satan, the hater, the enemy. Jesus repeatedly speaks of "the prince"—that is the ruling one—"of this world."⁴ John speaks in his vision-book of a time coming when "the kingdom (not kingdoms, as in the old version) of the world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ."⁵ By clear inference previous to that time it is [somebody else's] kingdom than His. The kingship or rulership of the earth which was given to man is now Satan's.

The fifth fact: God was eager to swing the world back to its original sway: for His own sake, for man's sake, for the earth's sake. You see, we do not know God's world as it came from His hand. It is a rarely beautiful world even yet—the stars above, the plant life, the waters, the *exquisite colouring and blending*, the combinations of all these—an exquisitely beautiful world even yet. But it is not the world it was, nor that some coming day it will be. It has been sadly scarred and changed under its present ruler. Probably Eve would not recognize in the present world her early home—earth as it came fresh from the hand of its Maker.

God was eager to swing the old world back to its original control. But to do so He must get a man, one of the original trustee class through whom He might swing it back to its first allegiance. It was given to man. It was swung away by man. It must be swung back by man. And so a Man came, and while Jesus was perfectly and utterly human, we spell that word *Man* with a capital M because He was a man quite distinct from all men. Because He was more truly human than all other men He is quite apart from other men. This Man was to head a movement for swinging the world back to its first allegiance.

The sixth fact is this: These two, God's Man, and the pretender-prince, had a combat: the most terrific combat ever

waged or witnessed. From the cruel, malicious cradle attack until Calvary's morning and two days longer it ran. Through those thirty-three years it continued with a terrificness and intensity unknown before or since. The master-prince of subtlety and force did his best and his worst, through those Nazareth years,

then into the wilderness,—and Gethsemane—and Calvary. And that day at three o'clock and for a bit longer the evil one thought he had won. And there was great glee up in the headquarters of the prince of this world. They thought the victory was theirs when God's Man lay in the grave under the bars of death, within the immediate control of the lord of death. But the third morning came and the bars of death were snapped like cotton thread. *Jesus rose a Victor.* For it was not possible that such as He could be held by death's lord. And then Satan knew that he was defeated. Jesus, God's Man, the King's rightful prince, had gotten the victory.

But, please mark very carefully four sub-facts on Satan's side. First, he refuses to acknowledge his defeat. Second, he refuses to surrender his dominion until he must. He yields only what he must and when he must. Third, he is supported in his ambitions by man. He has man's consent to his control. The majority of men on the earth to-day, and in every day, have assented to his control. He has control only through man's consent. (Satan cannot get into a man's heart without his consent, and God will not.) And, fourth, he hopes yet to make his possession of the earth permanent.

THE VICTOR'S GREAT PLAN

Now, hold your breath and note, on the side of the Victor-prince, this unparalleled and unimitated action: He has left the conflict open, and the defeated chief on the field that He may win not simply against the chief, but through that victory may win the whole prodigal race back to His Father's home circle again. But the great pitched battle is yet to come. I would better say a pitched battle, for the greatest one is past. *Jesus rides into the future fight a Victor.* Satan will fight his

last fight under the shadow and sting of a defeat. Satan is apparently trying hard to get a Jesus. That is to say Jesus was God's Man sent down to swing the world back. Satan is trying his best to get a man—one of the original trustee class, to whom the dominion of the earth was intrusted—a

man who will stand for him even as Jesus stood for God.

Jesus is the victor. Satan knows it, and fears Him.

Indeed a man who will personify himself even as Jesus was the personification of God, the express image of His person. When he shall succeed in that the last desperate crisis will come.

Now prayer is this: A man, one of the original trustee class, who received the earth in trust from God, and who gave its control over to Satan; a man, *on the earth*, the poor old Satan—stolen, sin—slimed, sin—cursed, contested earth; a man, on the earth, *with his life in full touch with the Victor, and sheer out of touch with the pretender-prince, insistently claiming that Satan shall yield before Jesus' victory, step by step, life after life.* Jesus is the victor. Satan knows it, and fears Him. He must yield before His advance, and he must yield before this man who stands for Jesus down on the earth. And he will yield. Reluctantly, angrily, as slowly as may be, stubbornly contesting every inch of ground, his clutches will loosen and he will go before this Jesus—man.

Jesus said, "the prince of the world cometh: and he hath nothing in Me."⁶ When you and I say, as we may say, very humbly depending on His grace, very determinedly in the resolution of our own imperial will, "though the prince of this world come he shall have nothing in me, no coaling station however small on the shores of my life," then we shall be in position where Satan must yield as we claim—victory in the Victor's Name. ☉

¹ Ps. 24:1.

² Ps. 29:10.

³ Gen. 1:26,28. Ps. 8:6.

⁴ John 12:31, 14:30; 16:11.

⁵ Rev. 11:15.

⁶ John 14:30.





Stars of the Morning

CODY STEPS IN

(Based on a True Incident)

by "Aunt Carolyn"

(Continued from last issue.)



thank you! Thank you for fighting off the dogs! Thank you for rescuing me! You're my hero!"

Cody answered in weak muffled tones, "Aw, it wasn't anything."

"Not anything?" Kay exclaimed. "If you had not come, those dogs would have torn me up; they would have killed me! I'd be dead! Oh, I didn't deserve what you did for me! You saved my life, and I love you!"

"Well, I didn't do much... Anyway, you're my sister, and I reckon I love you, too."

Slowly the story trickled out how Cody became worried about his sister when she did not "catch up with him" on the way to school as he had said, so he went back to see about her just in time to throw himself between Kay and the vicious dogs. Cody did not think much of it himself, but family, friends, and townspeople thought a whole lot about it! Before long Cody's story traveled far and wide, and no one was more proud of their hero than his sister, whose life he had saved.

What Cody did for Kay was wonderful, but it is just a small picture of what the Lord Jesus Christ did for you. You see, without Christ, you, too, are going the wrong way, your own way, the way that seems good

kinds of sins—lying, cheating, disobedience, bad language, stealing, loving dirty pictures and stories, etc.—but the basis of all sin is that we want our own way instead of God's way. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way" (Isa. 53:6). "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). The devil, like the vicious dogs, would destroy you to keep you from truth and salvation in Christ. "The devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour!" (I Pet. 5:8). But you do not have to be under the devil's command and suffer judgment. The good news is that Jesus Christ stepped in for you. He died on the cross of Calvary for you. Although He is the holy, perfect, sinless Son of God, He took on himself all your sin and the punishment for your sin. He suffered death for you. "For when we were yet without strength ... Christ died for the ungodly" (Rom 5:6). That is why if you turn to Him now by faith, repenting of your sin, trusting Him alone as your Savior, He will forgive your sin and receive you as His own child. "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12). As His child, you will want to go His way instead of your own. Jesus said, "I am the way" (John 14:6a).

Now you may say that you don't deserve all that Christ did for you. No, no one deserves salvation, but Jesus loved sinful man enough to die for us. A mother's or father's love, a brother's or sister's love cannot compare to God's love for us. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). And no earthly love can be compared to Christ's love for us, for "while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). Do not flaunt His love. Do not reject Him. He offers salvation and with open arms beckons you to come. Jesus said, "Come unto me" (Matt. 11:28). Come now! May God bless and help you to trust Him.



All eyes turned toward the waiting room door as it opened slowly. The doctor spoke privately with the parents for a few minutes. Kay held her breath, afraid to breathe and afraid not to. At last, Mother turned to her and smiled. That smile was worth more than tongue could tell! The news could not be too bad if Mother smiled.

"Come, Dear. The doctor says we can go in and see Cody now. You may be shocked at how he looks. He has been through a terrible trauma. He had to have one-hundred thirty-eight stitches plus a lot of other care, but he is going to be all right."

Kay gave a deep sigh. She, too, had been through an awful ordeal, but now the tears of grief and anguish turned to tears of relief and joy!

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"Now settle down, girl. We don't want to upset Cody."

"Yes, Ma'am. I — I'm okay," Kay assured Mother as she composed herself and straightened her face.

Quietly they pushed back the curtain where Cody lay in bed. There wasn't much to see of Cody for all the bandages. What wasn't bandaged was bruised, swollen, and scratched.

Kay could not help herself. She rushed straight to her brother, threw her arms around him and cried, "Oh, Cody, Cody,

enough to you, but like Kay's sudden encounter with the dogs, your way will take a sudden turn at some point. You will face the consequences for your sin, and if you continue in "your way," at the end of this life there will be eternal death—sure, dark, everlasting death away from God in the fires of hell. This is judgment for sin! "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). You may think that is surely a harsh judgment, but we just do not understand how serious, how bad sin is in God's sight. "Our own way," our own sinful nature, leads us into all other

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