

# The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, EDITOR

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

## THE BIBLE FATHER

By Dr. Dayton Hobbs

*Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? Or thy work, He hath no hands? Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begettest thou? Or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth? Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me. (Isaiah 45:9—11).*

### THE PROBLEM

Most child-rearing is, I am afraid, rather sloppy and without an agenda. The most important opportunity parents will ever have is approached in a "hit or miss" fashion. We plan our vacations in detail, we design our homes with the utmost care, we lay out carefully the pattern for a do-it-yourself project, and yet give very little thought to the procedure which God has laid out for the welfare of that most precious of possessions, our children.

### RESPONSIBILITY

The father has the greatest responsibility in this area. This is made plain in more than one place in the Scriptures. *My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law (teaching) of thy mother (Proverbs 6:20).* Father is to prescribe the curriculum, and the mother is to teach it, especially in the early years of the child's life. Authority in this area lies primarily in the hands of the father, while the mother, in perfect harmony with the father, faithfully instructs and supports the commandments of the father.

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## The Natural Christian Life

By the late DR. WALTER L. WILSON

The Christian life should not be a pumped-up thing, not something we put on, not a professional thing—but natural living.

There is a difference between works and fruit. Fruit is something that comes without any effort. Apples grow on the apple tree without any effort. Grapes grow on the vine without effort. Roses come on the bush with no effort. That is natural fruit, the thing we are all day long.

We read in James, "So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty" (2:12). It is what we do when we are free, when we can do what we please. If when in Buenos Aires you hunt up a bullfight, that is what you like. If you hunt up the saints, that is what you like. What we are is fruit.

Isaiah 58:11 says, "The Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones." That is because the corpuscles in our blood come from the marrow in the bones. When someone has pernicious anemia, it is because the marrow has gone bad, the bones are not fat. That is why Isaiah uses this expression.

### An Unfailing Spring

"And thou shalt be like a watered garden." Notice the words "thou shalt be." He is talking to each one of us. "...a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not."

That is the first aspect of this normal Christian life. "Like a spring..." There are a good many sizes of springs. Roaring Springs down in southern Missouri pours out thousands of gallons of water every minute, yet you can stand right beside it and not hear it. It is a quiet, flowing spring that makes a good-sized river—Roaring River.

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## Guest Editor's Desk

### Beware of the Theology Underlying Bill Gothard's Basic Life Principles Seminars

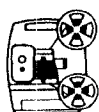
Bill Gothard, leader of the renowned Institute in Basic Life Principles seminars, is a popular speaker in many churches today. He conducts his seminars either in person or by videotape in a variety of Evangelical and even Fundamentalist churches throughout the United States. Gothard has amassed many faithful followers who would strongly object to any warnings given against any aspect of his ministry. Yet Fundamentalists should be aware of several theological and practical problems that exist in Gothard's teachings and institute programs, which are often ecumenical in scope and founded upon a combination of Gothard's faulty theology and human psychology.

One of the foundational problems with Gothard's teaching of which the believer must beware is his unbiblical emphasis on the Old Testament Law in the life of the New Testament believer. Gothard's undue and unbiblical emphasis upon the Law stems from his failure to either understand or accept the dispensational distinctives between Israel and the church. His misunderstanding, or rejection, of dispensational truth are revealed not only by his principles and theology but also by his misuse of Scripture to support his teachings.

In his advanced seminar handout titled "Appendix on the Place of Old Testament Law in the Life of New Testament Believers," Gothard makes it clear that he does not believe that keeping the Old Testament Law will save any individual. Yet he advances the idea that the Old Testament Law plays a vitally important part in the life of the believer who desires to fulfill God's will. He said Jesus "understood the continuing value of the Law in the lives of believers" and added, "The Holy Spirit will guide our daily lives by all Scripture, including the Law, and give us the power to obey His Word." He believes "the [Old Testament] Law is God's infinitely wise and masterful 'blueprint' for success in personal living, financial decisions, marriage, family, health and community life." Gothard plunges into great detail to explain his ideas, but he continually uses Scripture out of its proper, dispensational context or even edits the Scripture verses so as to force the text to support his own

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### The PROJECTOR



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Projector has been a blessing to me for a long time. I especially appreciate your willingness to stand alone for what is right, and the discernment God gives you to see error. Illness in the family delayed me in getting this sent, but be assured you are much appreciated. OR

We didn't quite make April "letter month", but do want to let you know that we've enjoyed "The Projector" for a long time. It's an encouragement to receive publications such as yours that continue to stand for truth and hold up God's Word as the basis for truth. Keep up the good work. IA

Thank you for your wonderful paper "The Projector". Thank you for publishing the truth. Keep up the good work for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. NC

Thank you so much for your inspiring paper. It has helped me a lot in my spiritual growth. Also, being able to put faces on most of the writers makes the reading more interesting. Enclosed is a gift to help towards the expenses in getting the paper out which is a great gift to each of us who receives it. ME

It has come to my attention that we are receiving four copies of your publication, The PROJECTOR. Due to today's high cost of postage it would be to your advantage to drop the enclosed address labels from your mailing list. We would like to continue receiving The PROJECTOR under the address of ... We do so enjoy each issue. Being that we have a Christian school we especially welcome the Teaching Tips article by Doris Peppard. In fact, we post it in our business office! Thank you for the good work you are doing. PA

I did not get a letter out to you last month as requested, but would like to say how much I appreciate "The Projector". Every issue received has had one or more articles of particular interest to me. Your strong Biblical positions on current issues within the church are very timely. The article in Vol. 29, No 2 issue just received by Ludwig Opener—"Let Not Man Put Asunder" is a good case point. It is very distressing to realize that the divorce/remarriage statistics among professed Christians may be significantly bolstered by unbiblical teaching (or absence of teaching) on this subject in many churches. I have been amazed at the number of heretofore "fundamental" Clergy of my personal acquaintance and "evangelicals" of national prominence who seem to follow interpretative principles with regard to this subject which are quite different than the principles employed with regard to other Theological subjects.

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## HANDLING FACE-TO-FACE CONFRONTATIONS

### PART IV

By Dayton Hobbs

#### The Confrontation

We do not seek confrontations with those we serve or with those we supervise; however, there are times when it is appropriate and should not be avoided. If a note or a spoken word of counsel does not produce the desired result, then further action probably is in order. Remember: Things don't settle; they get settled.

#### Confrontations With A Parent By The Teacher Or Administrator

At this point, I would like to set this proposed confrontation in the school environment. The principles I espouse are general and should be appropriate for other situations as well.

#### Plan Ahead

As a beginning teacher, an "Ol' Pro", or a seasoned administrator, you should understand that sooner or later, if you continue to work with children and their parents, a confrontation situation will arise. Plan ahead; learn a few principles that will guide you in your actions when that time comes. Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. said, "The wise man always prepares for the inevitable." Obviously, these principles must be used in confrontation situations before you come to trust them with confidence.

1. Problems are not resolved on the emotional level. Keep your cool and do not do or say anything to provoke or irritate, at least at the beginning.
2. Act; don't react. Don't allow yourself to be put on the defense. The person with the ball makes the points.
3. Keep good records. A file on students who are likely to be a problem is a must. Every disciplinary action or act of improper conduct should be recorded. A teacher or administrator who keeps accurate records has a much better chance of getting a positive response from a parent than one who speaks from memory without specifics.
4. Communication with your parents is a must. Don't get "buddy-buddy" or "palzy-walzy" with certain parents. You must have the confidence of them all. Build their trust in you by your fairness and tireless effort to do your best for each child. You must pull some parents in to yourself if you are to be successful with their children.

#### The Face-To-Face Meeting

The meeting may be asked for by the teacher, the school administrator, or the parent. Give yourself time to prepare; don't be pushed into an early meeting for which you are not ready. Take charge by setting the time and place for the meeting. You must have time to talk to others who may be aware of the situation,

especially if this confrontation is brought about by a student's misbehavior or because of some punishment meted out that has upset the parent. You may also need time to study previous problems in which this particular child may have been involved. Good preparation might well make the difference in enlisting this parent's positive support with the end result being success with this child rather than a withdrawal or expulsion. After all, that is the best outcome for which we could hope.

#### Let Them Talk-Talk-Talk

If the parent is upset and accusative concerning the treatment of the child, ask them to tell you their concerns. Encourage them to talk, and if they begin to wind down, encourage them to tell you everything, assuring them that you are listening and desire to hear the parent's side in the matter. Continue to encourage them to talk, for the more they talk, the more their emotions will be drained. Do not interfere or butt in even if the parent's statements are way off base. Your time will come later, and you will have plenty of time to give a clearer picture of the problem. If you feel they have finished and that their emotions are at least somewhat drained, begin to give the facts as you have ascertained them. If this gives rise to a new emotional outburst, just be quiet and let them talk again until they settle down. The point here is that we desire to calmly discuss the situation and come to a reasonable conclusion. Emotion removes reasonableness from any discussion, and no lasting conclusions are likely to be achieved when emotions hold sway.

#### Keep An Open Mind

The parent's position will very likely have some merit. You need to get at the truth, not just win an argument. In any case, you will very likely find areas in your school operation that need improvement. Don't close your mind. You can learn a lot in these confrontations that you would not otherwise find out.

#### Bring Things To a Conclusion

Problems left unsolved only fester and have to be dealt with again later. Be warm and approachable with a genuine desire to solve the problem and still keep the student. That is not always possible and you must recognize that. Be prepared for the worst and pray for the best. Whenever possible, and I have come to the conclusion that in most instances it is possible, let the parent make the decision to disenroll the child from your school if the matter comes to that. You may even suggest this as a possibility, especially if you have concluded by this and previous meetings that success with this particular child is very unlikely. Transfer of the child by the parents could avoid a more serious confrontation in the future. Today in Christian Education, it is especially true that we must be as "wise as serpents, and harmless as doves" (Matthew 10:16).

#### Opportunities

View confrontations as opportunities to solve problems that are bound to arise when people must deal with other people. Learn the techniques for handling person-to-person problems. The results can be very rewarding and effective in keeping our ministries right. I usually come away from such a confrontation with a sense of gratitude and profit, knowing that a problem has been resolved. Just remember, "Things don't settle; they get settled." Ω



# Stars of the Morning Jelly Beans!

## Part I

by "Aunt Carolyn"



"Cornelia!" It was a well-chosen, but quite an elegant and sophisticated name for such a sprightly little slip of a girl. No one ever called her "Cornelia" except Mother when she was rather angry with the child. Otherwise she was known as "Nell", other than when her father called her by his pet name, "My Little Nellie." She acknowledged them all except when her "precious" big brother taunted her with "Jelly-Nelly" or worse yet with "Jelly-Belly-Nelly!" Slim and nimble Nell plainly was not fat, but she could not tolerate Bubba's taunts. Infuriated, she screamed back terrible tirades and said harsh, mean words too awful for such a pretty child. "Pretty *is* as pretty *does*," Mother would scold. "Well, Bubba's surely not pretty looking or pretty acting!" Nell shrieked. "He ought to fall in a black cave and drown in a lake at the bottom, and get eaten by piranhas and spit out to the bats!"

"Nell! How do you even think up such horrible things to say? Be ashamed of yourself!"

But Nell wasn't ashamed. She flounced off to her own amusement. The swing in the big tree in the front yard was her delight. Higher and higher she rose, and with the back and forth rhythm of the swing she chanted:

*"How do you like to go up in the swing,  
Up in the air so blue?  
Oh, I do think it's the pleasantest thing  
Ever a child could do."*<sup>1</sup>

Charmed by the motion of the swing and the flow of the warm wind in her hair, Nell was blissful in her own little world. She paid no heed when Mother's voice called her to come help take the wash down from the clothesline.

*Up in the air and over the wall,  
Til I can see so wide,  
Rivers, and trees, and cattle,  
And all over the countryside."*<sup>1</sup>

The swing's motion seemed perpetual and so did Nell's dreaming. Her rapture was slightly jarred when Mother called again. She didn't sound very insistent though, so Nell let the summons pass and continued swinging.

Mother's call came again. Nell let the swing die down and come to a stop. She hopped out, but her eye caught a glimpse of the big pappy goldfish in the little pond in the corner of the garden. She skipped over to watch the golden beauty.

Inside, Mother was carefully scalding milk to make the children's favorite chocolate cake. She dared not leave it at the moment for fear the milk would boil over, so time passed again as Nell tossed food into the fishpond and watched the fish dart forward for their share.

Just then, Bubba came outside. "Hey! Jelly Belly

Nelly, what 'cha doing?"

"It's none of your business", retorted Nell, "And I'm not fat! You quit calling me Jelly Belly!" Nell was in an instant huff!

"Hey", Bubba answered. "Don't get mad! I just asked what you were doing. What's wrong with that?"

"You know very well what's wrong with that! You call me bad names all the time! I'm going to tear up all of your baseball cards and throw them in the trash and put sand and vinegar in your cereal, and..."

"Whoa! O! girl! You surely are snappy! Anyway, Mother called you three times. Didn't you hear her, or are you deaf *and* jelly belly?"

Nell turned to attack Bubba, but he was too quick for her and fled across the yard as if in terror, cackling all the way.

Nell was so mad she wished her brother had never been born. She shouted after him, "You're bad, and mean, and wicked! I wish you were dead with a knot on your head buried under a ton of *jelly beans*!"

At such a loud outburst, Mother appeared at the door.

"Nell!" she spoke sharply, "What's going on out here?"

"Nothing!" Nell's reply crackled. "Nothing is going on except Bubba is mean and ugly, and I'm going to divorce him, and disown him, and stomp him *full* of jelly beans!"

"Stop it, young lady! That will be quite enough! Come in the house at once!" Nell caught the tone of Mother's voice and obeyed immediately. Mother continued, "That hot temper and quick tongue of yours is going to get you in big trouble if you don't conquer it!"

"Yes, Ma'am", Nell replied, "But Bubba..."

Mother cut her off. "I'll tend to Master Bubba, but you had better get control of your tongue right now!"

The afternoon passed without further trouble, and the children's favorite part of the afternoon, snack time, came. "Whooo--oo!", Mother called. "Nell! Bubba! Snack time!"

Nell scrambled quickly from upstairs, and Bubba came bursting in from outside.

"Here I am! I'm ready!" purred Nell.

"Me, too!" announced Bubba. Both stood in anticipation at the kitchen table. The delicious chocolate cake they had smelled baking earlier was ready to cut! Ummm! They couldn't wait! One rich, lovely piece was cut and placed before Bubba. Nell thought it unfair that he should get the first piece, but she held her tongue. She waited but watched in amazement as Mother covered the cake and put the knife away.

(To Be Continued)

<sup>1</sup> From *The Swing*, by Robert Louis Stevenson



(Continued from page 1)

Bennett's Spring in Arkansas, about twelve feet in diameter, comes right out of the middle of a pasture. The water pours out in tremendous volume, but you can't hear it.

Then there is another little spring in southern Missouri about two feet in diameter, with water sweet and cold. We used to put our milk, butter and melons in it to keep them cold. Not long ago I went back to see the old spot. The spring was still running.

You see, the Lord expects us to be always giving out the sweet, lovely, precious things of God all the time.

Isaiah says, "...whose waters fail not." You can't freeze a spring over. You just can't keep a spring from flowing.

A fellow throws cold water on you: you just say, "Hallelujah!" You get a flat tire on your wedding day: "Hallelujah!" That is the normal life of a child of God.

You have a headache, or somebody comes and lives off you when you are already so poor you can hardly get enough for your own bread and butter, you just say, "Hallelujah!" Always sunshine and shadows. The living water flows in your heart. That is the normal Christian life.

You may be a quiet spring, like dear old Sophie the scrub woman in New York who was always giving out the Word. One day I went to the building where she used to scrub and walked up twenty-two stories of steps about twelve feet wide, to see that dear old woman.

She lived on a few cents a day so she could give the rest to missions. One day someone caught her giving the Gospel to a wooden Indian outside a tobacco store. Seeing him there, she thought he was a real man, so she started giving him the Gospel. It just flowed out of her soul.

Ask yourself, *Is anybody getting anything from me?* The magazine salesman comes to your door. The Lord sent him there to see you. But you say, "No, I don't want any magazines," and slam the door. Maybe you could have said something to win that precious soul to Christ if the spring were flowing. But you see, that morning your beans had burned, the furnace had gone out, the boiler had sprung a leak and there was no water.

The normal Christian life is the life of a spring whose waters fail not.

Did you hear about the woman who sang a solo? Someone remarked, "I sure enjoyed your music even if you did sing like a cow." The soloist replied, "Hallelujah! Nobody

but God can make a cow, and nobody but God can make a cow sing." The Lord wants it to be so nobody can throw cold water on us and make us stop.

### A Bubbling Fountain

First the spring, now the fountain—John 4:13, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again." You can write that over the top of everything in your life, no matter what it is.

As I was riding on the train to Des Moines I talked with a man and his wife whose baggage was covered with all sorts of stickers.

I said, "You friends have traveled a good deal, haven't you?"

"Yes, we've been around the world seven times. We're going home to get a little more money so we can go around again."

"Will you ever get satisfied with what you see in travel?"

"I think not."

"Then why don't you go to the One who does satisfy? Jesus Christ satisfies the soul and heart, something you will never get in travel."

I went in to congratulate a man whom I knew well. He had made a million and a quarter dollars on one deal but was as miserable as he could be. Something had gone wrong in his home. A round dollar never satisfies a three-cornered heart. You can write over the money, "He that drinketh of this water shall thirst again."

It might be the home. You can write over the home life, "He that drinketh of this water shall thirst again." What sorrows there are in many homes!

But the next verse says, "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

There is the fountain. This is something you can see—a geyser. Have you ever seen Old Faithful? It keeps spouting up. You can't hide it.

We used to have a fountain of sulphur water down in Missouri. You could smell it for blocks. The city tried to stop it up, but they couldn't.

Under my desk in Kansas City is a spring that was uncovered when the building was erected in 1881. The builder told me one day, "Walter, that spring is still flowing. We tried to stop it up. We threw pilings into it, put cement into it, but we could not stop its flow. Finally we had to lay another pipe from the spring to the Delaware

Street sewer."

A spring flows quietly, while a fountain makes a noise and can be seen. That is the normal Christian life, the life that reveals to everybody that you have been with Jesus and learned of Him.

I was once in a church in Pennsylvania. Every room was fragrant with perfume. I said to the pastor, "What do you pay to perfume this big building?"

"We get it for nothing."

"Well," I said, "lead me to that fellow. I would like to have him come to our church and perfume it."

The pastor said, "Well, I must tell you that nearly all my people work in a perfume factory."

Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of us brought the perfume of Heaven with us to our church? When we came in the door, we would know each one had been with Jesus and learned of the freshness of Heaven.

A fountain gives out. You meet somebody and he just knows you will have some good water to give him. The postman comes with a letter, and he knows you will have a sweet verse for him. You go to the beauty shop and sit under that dryer. What a wonderful opportunity you have to give the Gospel to everybody in that room! Tell them about hair in the Bible, what God says about hair and baldheaded fellows. Remember that a prophet was baldheaded. Some young people came up behind him and shouted, "Go up, thou baldheaded prophet."

One time on a train coming into Philadelphia I was sitting beside a baldheaded man. I asked, "Are you a prophet of God?"

"Mister, I have been called everything under the sun, but I was never called that. Why did you call me that?"

"Because there was a prophet in the Bible who was told, 'Go up, thou baldheaded prophet.' I thought you were going up someday and I could go with you."

"Mister, when I go, I'm going the other way. I'm wretched but don't know what to do about it."

I read him John 14:6, "I am the way"—the way up, and led him to Christ.

### A Flowing River

A fountain is always exposed and always going. Let people know about it. That is the normal Christian life.

In John 7:38 we read of the river. If there is a spring inside, there will be

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# FOCUS ON RELIGION

## FOUR GREAT NEW TESTAMENT MYSTERIES

by Tod Brainard

Recently in our local news there has been much ado concerning the protection of a rare species of beach mice indigenous to the panhandle beaches of Florida. The white beach mouse is said to be on the fringe of extinction and, therefore, protections should be in place to prevent the loss of this rare mouse. This, of course, has set off a wave of anti-mouse sentiment among local commercial contractors eager to make their millions by building high rise condominiums and hotels on top of the poor white beach mouse's habitat. It is certainly a slow news month along the Gulf Coast.

In this day it seems as if there are great dispensational truths of the Scripture which border on the same extinction as the Florida white beach mouse. The Bible colleges and seminaries that were formed around the turn of the century for the purpose of teaching and promoting the dispensational approach to Scripture have, by and large, moved away from that approach to a more popular line of theological interpretation of the Scriptures. This more popular line of interpretation is an attempt to make an "eschatological stew" with Dispensational and Covenant thought mixed together. This popular "New Dispensationalism," as some call it, does much to discredit the literal interpretation of the Scriptures.

The harness of denominationalism upon men and movements of our day has helped to lead to this major shift. Because it is the nature of men to think only inside the box of denominationalism, great prophetic preaching such as that of the great Bible conferences of the late 1800's is relatively unheard of today. Proper understanding of eschatology is essential to proper interpretation of the Scriptures. It should be a recurring theme of preaching today.

### Understanding the word *mystery*

The word *mystery* in the English language means something which is either unknown or unable to be understood. The word in the original language means "secret", something kept in silence. When a secret is disclosed it is then known and understood by all. There is nothing mysterious about these four truths revealed to the Apostle Paul and revealed to all who read God's Word. Each of these mystery truths present different aspects of God's program for this dispensation and specifically the purpose and future of the Church. It is worthy of note that Sir Robert Anderson, a great dispensational lay preacher of the late 1800's, wrote that the great mystery truths of the New Testament "though now revealed, are still unknown to the majority of Christians."<sup>1</sup>

### I. The Mystery of Iniquity

II Thessalonians 2:7,8

The mystery of iniquity spoken of in II Thessalonians 2:7 reveals the spirit of lawlessness that will prevail in the local church in the last days. This spirit of lawlessness in regard to the Word of God will culminate in the appearance and program of the Wicked One, which is the Anti-Christ (II Thess. 2:8).

To lessen or enhance truth in order to appease associations, denominations or any individual is lawlessness at its core. Confusion about the Rapture and the Second Coming of the Lord was the heart of why Paul wrote I and II Thessalonians. That confusion about future events was Satanic in origin and intended to confound true believers concerning the blessed hope of the Church. It was an early form of lawlessness. Paul went into great detail to clear up the confusion of these truths at the church of Thessalonica. It is worthy of much study today.

This mystery of lawlessness that Paul said was at work in his day has come to full growth at this time in history. Lawlessness is present in the local church in a variety of forms. Movements, such as Church Growth Methodology, the Biblical Counseling Movement, High Pressure Decisionism, Life-style Evangelism, Contemporary Christian Music, etc., all come out of groups that adhere verbally to the fundamentals of the faith and attempt to justify their teachings as being of God. Yet their teachings are indeed varying forms of lawlessness against the Word of God.

### II. The Mystery of the Rapture

I Corinthians 15:51,52; Revelations 3:10

C. H. Mackintosh wrote in his *Papers on the Lord's Coming*, "The great object of the enemy is to drag down the Church of God to an earthly level – to set Christians entirely astray as to their divinely appointed hope - to lead them to confound things which God has made to differ, to occupy them with earthly things to cause them so to mix up the coming of Christ for His people, with His appearing in judgment upon the world, that they may not be able to cultivate those bridal affections and heavenly aspirations which become them as members of the body of Christ. He would fain have them looking out for various earthly events to come between them and their own proper hope, in order that they may not be as God would have them-ever on the very

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*tip-toe of expectation, looking out, with ardent desire, for the appearing of "the bright and Morning Star."*<sup>2</sup>

This mystery relates to the future of the church at the coming of the Lord in the clouds. That some of His people will pass to heaven without dying is a truth not found in the Old Testament Scriptures. Because of this, the writers of the Westminster Confession generalized prophetic events in such a way as to exclude rapture truth. This has been the accepted view of prophecy for many denominations. However, such lumping together of things that differ in prophecy can only confuse the student of Scripture and discredit New Testament prophetic doctrine. The Rapture is the hope of the New Testament Church. It is the promise of deliverance from the wrath to come (I Thess. 5:9, Rev. 3:10).

### III. The Mystery of Membership in Christ's Body (Ephesians 3:4-6; 5:30, 32)

In this present dispensation believers are united to Christ in a special relationship as members of a body of which He Himself is the head. This membership of Jews and Gentiles united in Christ in a special relationship was not revealed in the Old Testament Scriptures as indicated by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 3: 5, *Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, and as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit...*

This membership is not man-made, for Christ is the head, and only those baptized by the Spirit into this body become members. Every believer is a member of Christ's body and, as such, has a definite and distinct ministry.

### IV. The Mystery of Reconciliation (Romans 16:26, II Corinthians 5:19,20)

The previous three "mystery" truths all are essentially for the believer in Christ. This last "mystery" truth is a truth for all men and women today. This is a "mystery" that we are to *make known to all the nations of the earth for the obedience of faith (Romans 16:26).*

Paul spells out this "mystery" in Colossians 1:26-27 after touching upon the vital doctrine of Reconciliation. He writes of this reconciling work of Christ in behalf of Gentiles stating, *"...the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you the hope of glory"*

Paul, in Romans 11, goes into great detail of the setting aside of Israel from their place as God's agent of evangelism. Verse 15 says that this "casting away" of Israel would be the "reconciling of the world". Sir Robert Anderson sheds light on this passage in the following: *In common with some other great truths of the Christian faith, Reconciliation has received but scant notice from theologians. Many a page might be filled with quotations from standard books which either misrepresent or deny it. But all attempts to oust it from our creeds rest, as Archbishop Trench declares, "on a foregone determination to get rid of the reality of God's anger against*

*sin." Sin not merely alienated man from God, it alienated God from man. A just and holy God could not but regard him as an enemy. But "while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son." And "through our Lord Jesus Christ" they who believe "have now received the reconciliation." "This great truth of Reconciliation will be sought in vain in the Old Testament Scriptures. The revelation of it, indeed, was impossible so long as the Jew held the position which he forfeited by rejecting the Messiah."*<sup>3</sup>

To the believer in this age is given the ministry of reconciliation ( II Cor. 5:18-20). We are Christ's ambassadors with a message, *"Be ye reconciled unto God!"* That is our ministry of outreach.

These four "mystery" truths are not a secret. They are truths to be cherished, taught, and believed. The devil has sought to derail these blessed truths from the hearts of God's people. Let us not be handcuffed by denominationalism and trendy theology in regard to the preaching of these important truths.

1 Sir Robert Anderson, *The Silence of God*, Kregel Publications, 1978 (originally published in 1907) p. 111

2 C. H. Mackintosh, *Papers on the Lord's Coming*, pp. 31,32 (as quoted by Gerald Stanton in his book, *Kept From The Hour*, Schoettle Publishing Co., Inc. Miami Springs, FL 1991, p.18

3 Sir Robert Anderson, *The Silence of God*, p.111,112.

Ω

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(Continued from page 2 - BEWARE)  
theology.

Fundamentalists should be extremely wary of any who teach that God requires the practice of the Old Testament Law or portions thereof in order to become successful in one's spiritual life. On the contrary, the apostle Paul tells believers that they are "delivered from the Law" and are "become dead to the law" (Rom. 7:4). He adds, "Now we are delivered from the law...that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter" (Rom. 7:6). The Law revealed sin (Rom. 7:7) and served as a "schoolmaster," pointing forward to Christ. The New Testament believer is to derive his instruction for "successful" living from the New Testament, realizing that the power to accomplish the obedience of faith comes from the Holy Spirit. Mixing law and grace inevitably results in the confusion of basic, theological principles. (An in-depth expose' of the teachings of Bill Gothard can be obtained from Biblical Discernment Ministries at <http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bdm/>).





## Teaching Tips

Doris Peppard

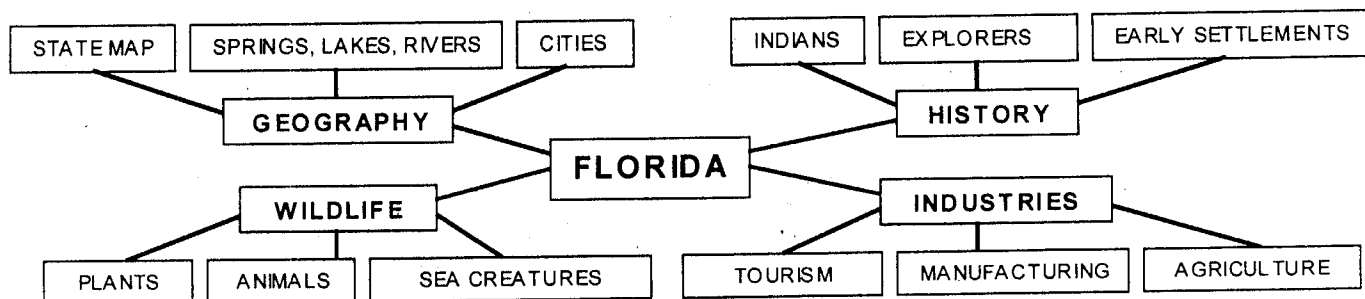
### TEACHING STUDY SKILLS

Most academic learning is taught through textbook or research book study, lectures, outlining, or classroom discussion. Teachers attend college to prepare themselves to instruct their students using these various methods; however, some skills must be taught by doing. Learning to drive a car, make a dress, build a birdhouse, or bake a cake are examples of the types of skills our students must experience to learn them. Parents are primarily responsible for teaching these skills at home. Some skills are directly related to the classroom, however, and teachers should purposefully determine to teach them to their students. Sometimes these skills are taught in a "hit or miss" manner. While bright students may "pick them up" that way, other students need purposeful instruction and practice to develop these skills.

**Alphabetizing:** This skill is usually taught in lower elementary grades only, but students in the middle grades through high school grades need practice in alphabetizing to the third and fourth letters of words. This skill sharpens our minds and is often needed in college and beyond in the research or organization of academic material or office, tax, and business records, etc.

**Dictionary work:** Most children (and grown-ups) spend too little time in a dictionary. I know "Spell Check" is wonderful, but learning to use and access a dictionary is an important skill for students. Some specific skills that should be taught using a dictionary are: use of guide words, pronunciation markings, syllables, spelling, use of best definitions, parts of speech, and punctuation. Teach your students the necessity of *living* with a good dictionary at hand!

**Information Web:** Not to be confused with World Wide Web, this is a useful study skill in writing. An Information Web can be used to help students organize their ideas before the writing process begins. This web also is extremely helpful when teaching students to do research for writing reports. Students can learn to organize their topics in an orderly manner. An information web helps young children learn outlining skills as they "see" their information leading from major topic to minor subpoints. Here is an example:



**Table of Contents:** Teach your students to use the information listed in the Table of Contents in their own text books. Library assignments may be given to find examples of extensive, profitable tables as compared to some less adequate or less helpful ones, so students can compare the difference. They might be asked to bring examples of good Tables of Contents commonly used in their homes or parent's workplace – recipe books, office or industrial supply catalogs, books listing calorie, carbohydrate, or cholesterol counts contained in foods, etc. Once the teacher throws them the bait of a few such ideas, students will take the bait and run with it, becoming more aware of this resource.

**Index:** This training is very valuable especially to older students. As they are required to prepare more reports and speeches, this skill will save time and help them effectively look up useful information pertinent to the subject assigned. A student who learns study skills well will always have an "edge" over other students. He will be able to use his time efficiently to organize his research materials as he moves toward becoming a self-motivated scholar. High school and college work goes much more smoothly and successfully for those who are prepared in the use of study skills.

**Thesaurus:** This resource - a treasury or storehouse of knowledge - is of utmost value to students in learning to express their thoughts in written or spoken form. It will build a broader vocabulary and bring more expression and interest to their work as they expand their range of synonyms and nuances of word meaning. Challenge your students to use this resource. After they have turned in a theme or paper in its near final draft, "dare" them to see how much they can enrich their thoughts, propositions, or arguments by using their thesaurus. Some may resist a little, but they will grow immensely in literary expression, especially the *bright* students.

(Perhaps the reader would like to use his own thesaurus to see what and how many words I might have used to express *bright* in the previous sentence!) Here's to better teaching!





# PROVERB PRACTICALS

BY LUDWIG OPAGER

## BIBLICAL AUTHORITY

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

Because kings of old had absolute authority to decide for life or death it was fearful even to be in the presence of a king. Even Esther, the queen, went into the court knowing that her life was at risk because anyone entering the court uninvited would be put to death except those to whom the king would extend his golden scepter. Esther loved God's people and she chose to go into the presence of the king in spite of the law's consequences, saying, "If I perish, I perish."

### Word of Authority

Living under that kind of absolute authority taught much about the power of the word. In our culture today, we do not know the importance of "word". Word is disdained in favor of feelings, emotions and image. When one's word is given, it is not given with the expectation that it will be carried out literally, but instead perhaps it may, hopefully it may, maybe something will result resembling the word given. Having little power behind the word ensures that the word is not elevated as it should be.

### Establishment of Authority

In order for anything to be established as true, the authority behind it must be clear. How does a little child know that the word of the father is to be obeyed except by the authority the mother communicates with the rod? A child's first primer on authority is a rod sized for his or her bare bottom. That switch is designed as the instrument of God to elevate the father's word as word to be obeyed. As an electrical switch turns on the light, so does a switch on the child's bottom turn on the light of understanding. The rod is designed to imprint in the mind of the little one that authority has power, authority has strength, authority has the

ability to enforce its will. Is not the father's will wiser than the will of a child?

### Responsibility of Authority

Fear of using authority is prevalent these days as if using authority is equated with being better than another, but that is the wrong idea of authority. There is an intense move toward the removal of inequalities and differences among men, and with this removal comes the belief that authority should also be equal. Authority, however, is not tied to equality, but to responsibility.

God, being responsible for everything, has all authority and all power to execute that responsibility. You cannot make someone responsible without giving them the authority to ensure that those responsibilities are carried out.

### Eye of Authority

Such is a king. A king is made to have great majesty in his countenance, wearing a crown and carrying a scepter announcing one who is greatly responsible and, therefore, has great authority. A king's eyes, as he sits on the throne of judgment, are to project that authority.

Authority is to be so respected as to promote truth and to condemn evil. We are to so fear the Lord, whose eyes *are in every place, beholding the evil and the good (Proverbs 15:3)*. This is the pattern to be observed by those in authority. Their eyes are to be in every place of their responsibility, beholding the evil and the good.

As the king, who sits in the throne of judgment, scattereth away all evil with his eyes, so, too, must anyone given authority by God develop the use of his eyes to project that authority.

David recorded the mind of God

when he wrote: *I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye (Psalm 32:8).*

The eye is a powerful device, and it is given to project authority. It is to be in every place beholding the evil and the good. Fathers, mothers, teachers, supervisors, and pastors are to project their authority with the eye condemning evil and promoting good.

*Supervision* means a vision that is super. SUPER VISION is the ability to see everything that is going on. Supervision means to behold the evil and the good and to act accordingly. A teacher who is a *seeing* teacher will have a class where evil will scatter and good will result. A seeing teacher, one who has eyes all around his/ her head, has less trouble in the class because evil loves to exist in a blind place. Evil looks for a place without eyes; it loves darkness and chooses not to operate where it is seen.

### Faith of Authority

Projecting authority with the eye can be done by a person who believes the Word of God. A person who does not use his God-given authority is a faithless person, for he refuses to use that which is given to carry out his responsibilities. A parent who refuses to use the rod shows faithlessness, for he/she rejects the tool that is to be used to project his authority and thereby elevate his word and eventually God's Word.

### Success of Authority

As the rod does its job, the eye takes over and projects God-given authority. Both the rod and the eye are given to insure success to those given responsibilities. Both are to be used in faith, believing that they are given of God. Ω



(Continued from page 5 Natural Christian)

a river outside; the water has to go somewhere.

John 7:37: "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."

Did you notice that all these verses are about Christ's Person? Christianity is involved with a Person, a wonderful Person, a marvelous Person, a Person who wins your heart, your life, you yourself.

"Let him come unto me"—not to my church, not to my doctrine, not to my philosophy. You can be absolutely orthodox in your doctrine and be as dead as a last year's bird's nest. It is one thing to believe the truth; it is another thing to be moved and stirred by that One who said, "I am the truth."

"Come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers..."

"He that believeth on me." Probably most of us in this place claim to be believers. Let's stop and each ask himself a question: *Are there any rivers flowing out of me?* A river for the saint, a river for the sinner; a river for those who are saved, a river for those who are lost; a river for the sick, sorrowing and suffering; a river for the little children, and a river for the aged ones; a river for the shut-ins, and a river for the businessman. "Out of his belly shall flow rivers..."

The belly is that part of the bowel where the food you have eaten is turned into chyme and chyle, an emulsion, and goes through the bowel wall into the blood vessels and becomes blood. I have never been able to find out for myself the difference in the wall of the belly. Why doesn't it go out of the first part of the bowel, the duodenum? I don't know. I know there is a place where the volume of food products goes right through the lacteals, the small blood vessels, and becomes part of us.

That is what Christ is talking about. You take in some of the Word and it fills you and thrills you, until you can't keep still about it. You look up and say, "My Lord, why didn't I see that long ago!" You can hardly go to sleep for the joy of it. It does something to your soul and you pour it out to others.

That is rivers of living water, not just some philosophy, not just some theology. You might know the difference between Daniel's ten toes and the meaning of the head of gold, belly and thighs of brass and all the rest of the book, yet be as dead as

you can be and never once help anybody to know the Saviour. The Lord wants us to have that peculiar, indescribable and indispensable function of the Holy Spirit upon us so, when we say something about our lovely Lord, it goes home to the heart of the one who is listening.

Now, stop and be honest with yourself. What kind of river flows out of you? A river is always flowing. I have lived in Kansas City since 1885 and I have never seen either the Missouri River or the Kansas River dry. I have seen them miles wide, but I have never seen them dry.

Let's be honest with ourselves. Is there a river? Not just one river: it says rivers—plural.

Did you ever notice the way Paul judged a person as to his value? In Galatians 2:6 he said, "These who seemed to be somewhat...in conference [conversation] added nothing to me." In other words, "the big shot, the big wheel, didn't give me a thing." That is the test Paul used: "What did I get from him?"

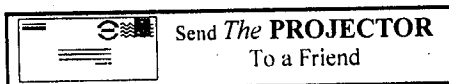
I meet one and ask, "How are you?" But before he can answer, I start telling him about my spleen, liver and my kidneys. My appendix is in and my tonsils are out. I tell him about my great momentum and sacroiliac. Before I get through, he doesn't want to hear more.

How foolish we are! We don't care much how the other person is, but we have to say how we are. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we always said something worth something? "The conversation added nothing to me."

"Rivers of living water."

From *The Sword of the Lord*  
February 2, 1990

Ω



(Continued from page 2 - LETTERS)

Your series on "Handling Face-to-Face Confrontations" has been excellent. With nearly 30 years of full-time Christian ministry behind me, I have had occasion to face such confrontations all too often. Most, if not all, of the reasons for them clearly fit into one or more of the "Possible Reasons" you set forth in the most recent presentation. I look forward to the concluding article.

While I have not sent a contribution with this letter, I plan to do so... PA

Ω

(Continued from page 1 - BIBLICAL FATHER)

## ACCOUNTABILITY

As the creature does not strive with his Creator, and as the clay does not contend with the potter, so the child is not to question his father as this father attempts to rear a proper child. The question, "What begetteth thou?" or "What are you begetting?" (Isaiah 45:10 above) is the father's commission from God, and he alone is accountable to Him for the job he does. It is the same as if the clay were to question the potter as to his choice of vessel into which the clay is to be formed, or a man questioning his Heavenly Father as to His purpose for his life.

## THE PLAN

### In The Place Of God

The seriousness of a father's role in the development and direction of his child's life cannot be overemphasized, yet I fear that very few fathers understand that they stand in God's place in the formative years of the life of their child. Consider this:

1. The child's impression of the nature of God will be greatly affected by the nature of his earthly father; the trustworthiness of his work, his integrity, his honesty, as well as matters such as humility, selflessness, and dependability.

2. The child's understanding of love to a large degree will be formed by how his father loves his wife (the child's mother), and whether there is faithfulness and a genuine attempt to honor her as the weaker vessel.

3. The father's faith, or lack thereof, will likely be the determining factor in the child's faith, or lack thereof.

4. The normal thing in most generations, especially in stable families, is for the child, especially a male child, to follow in the path of his father. This probably is not as common in our divorce-ridden society today, but it has been the norm in generations past.

## THE FATHER'S ROLE

The responsibility of the Biblical father is not to try to determine

(Continued on page 11)



(Continued from page 10 - BIBLICAL FATHER)  
precisely God's specific will for the child, but to bring up his child in the nurture (child training) and admonition (the training by word) of the Lord, being very careful not to provoke him unto wrath. The authority of the father must always be administered with love. This love is "agape" love, unselfish and wholly apart from the emotions. Children in their very early years, by age three or four, should be trained to voice obedience, that is, obedience the first time the parent speaks, not sometime later. Voice control is the only control the Scripture knows anything about. With growth, this control may be written, as long as the child knows it is the word of his father.

### THE PROCESS

Being born a male child does not guarantee that he will grow up to be a real man; marrying a female does not in itself make the male a husband; and being able to sire children does not necessarily make a man a father. The roles of each are well defined in the Scriptures, but it takes earnest desire and diligent determination to learn and practice these principles in order to develop a child into a vessel for the Master's use.

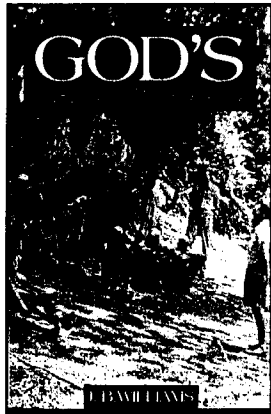
1. **Vision.** The vision of the finished product must be in the mind of the father, very much as the sculptor must see the figure in its finished form in a huge hunk of marble before he begins to lay the chisel to it: a grown young lady or man of character who loves God and has a testimony for ready obedience to the father's spoken word while patiently awaiting the call of God to His service.

2. **Integrity.** He must be genuine, not a fraud or a fake. Children cannot be fooled. Eventually they will take on many of your qualities, especially the bad ones! No matter how you try to pretend to be genuine, you will not fool them. They will take you for what you are, not what you say.

3. **Consistency.** It is very important to be consistent when dealing with children. This is a very difficult

(Continued on page 12)

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(Continued from page 11 - BIBLICAL FATHER)  
character trait to acquire. Certainly none of us profess to have mastered it, but it is worth our diligence in working at it. Children need to see the same, steady, consistent father every time they meet. Fathers often get tired and weary and may not feel like being bothered, but that is where self-control comes in. Take the time to listen, if only for a short period before dismissing the child to other activities. The stable and consistent father brings much harmony to the home. The child who has such a father is very fortunate, for he or she knows that boundaries are laid out, and that as long as they operate within those boundaries, they are safe and secure.

4. **Sense of humor.** This is vital to our own and our children's well-being. It is so important to be able to laugh at yourself, at your mistakes or foul-ups. Don't pretend to be perfect;

your children certainly know better than that. Enjoy good hearty laughs with them, especially at your own expense. It has been my observation in over fifty years of ministry that a good sense of humor is necessary for good mental health. Every case of mental disorder about which I have known over the years was marked by very little humor or a misguided sense of humor. Teach your children to appreciate and participate in appropriate humor.

### DEAR SON

The following article originally appeared in the *Sun-Times Reader*, Chicago, some years ago. You may have read it before; however, I believe the message is still good today.

#### Letter To His Son By Ricardo Montalban

"Dear Son: As long as you live in this house you will follow the rules. When

you have your own house, you can make your own rules. In this house we do not have a democracy. I did not campaign to be your father. You did not vote for me. We are father and son by the grace of God, and I accept that privilege and awesome responsibility. In accepting it, I have an obligation to perform the role of a father. I am not your pal. Our ages are too different. We can share many things, but we are not pals. I am your father. This is 100 times more than what a pal is. I am also your friend, but we are on entirely different levels. You will do, in this house, as I say, and you cannot question me because whatever I ask you to do is motivated by love. This will be hard for you to understand until you have a son of your own. Until then, trust me. ---Your Father" Ω

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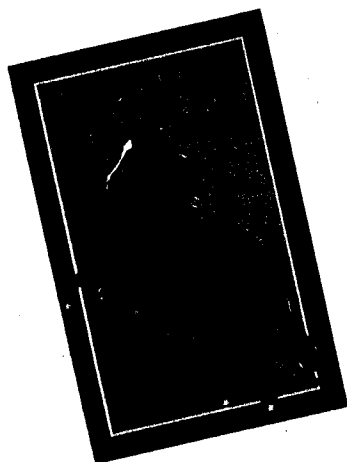


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