



The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, FOUNDED EDITOR

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

THE CHARACTER GOD REQUIRES IN A CHRISTIAN TEACHER

by Rev. Ivan Foster
Kilskeery, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland

And Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him (II Kings 12:2).

Holiness is the result of instruction in righteousness. Man is, by nature, utterly void of all knowledge of holiness and how it is to be attained. Not only is he in utter ignorance of holiness, but he hates instruction in holiness. *Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee (Psalms 50:17). The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction (Proverbs 1:7).*

Such instruction as man requires comes from God alone. The Lord is the great Teacher and Instructor of the Church. *He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye (Deuteronomy 32:10). God's instruction is given through His word as applied by the Holy Spirit. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16). Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them (Nehemiah 9:20).* Thus the people of God are led in God's path. *I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye (Psalms 32:8).*

Instruction in holiness should begin at an early age. God commands that the church in general and believing parents in particular, should take care to teach the young in the ways of God. *And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children (Deuteronomy 6:7). But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 19:14).*

The portion of God's Word before us sets forth the tremendous influence that godly instruction exercises. *Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him (2 Kings 12:2).* Evil instruction exercises

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SPIRITUAL MINISTRY OF A FATHER

by Pastor Adam Watt
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This past month, America paused on June 15 to recognize fathers and their impact in the home and family. However, as one surveys the situation with homes and especially youths, a tragic deficit of fatherly leadership is evident. A simple “Google” search reveals some staggering statistics about fathers and children in America. For example:

1. **50%** of mothers see no value in the father's continued contact with the children.
2. **63%** of youth suicides are from fatherless homes.
3. **90%** of homeless or runaway children are from fatherless homes.
4. **80%** of rapists, exhibiting anger, are from fatherless homes.
5. **71%** of high school dropouts are from fatherless homes.
6. **70%** of juveniles in state operated institutions are from fatherless homes.
7. **85%** of youths in prison are from fatherless homes

[fathersforlife.org]

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EDITOR'S DESK

by Pastor Tod Brainard

Eliashib's Evil

There are those among our ranks who do not know what to do with Nehemiah Chapter 13. They love to talk about Nehemiah and his *leadership qualities* until they come to Chapter 13, and then they quickly rush through the verses with little comment because they don't particularly like Nehemiah's *leadership qualities* dealing with EVIL and the violation of God's principles of separation. By the way, the theme of the book of Nehemiah is not leadership, it is *separation!*

It is in all of our natures to deteriorate from right positions and standards. It is impossible to maintain a conviction without crusading for it. Nehemiah returned to Babylon to King Artaxerxes after he completed the wall project and having re-established proper worship in Jerusalem. As soon as he returned to Babylon, the *forces of change* among the religious leaders had gone to work in Jerusalem undermining all of the accomplishments of Nehemiah. When Nehemiah returned years later, he found Tobiah the Ammonite living in the Temple (a violation of God's Separation Laws- Deuteronomy 23:3-5).

As Nehemiah investigated, he learned that Eliashib, the High Priest, had **allied** himself to Tobiah the Ammonite. Nehemiah called what Eliashib did as "EVIL" (vs. 7). This word "evil" is used four times in Chapter 13 (vs. 7, 17, 18, 27). The Hebrew word 'rah (evil) indicates a special form of evil that takes that which is good and renders it worthless. According to Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon, 'rah means *to tread down, trample, to break in pieces, to be made worthless because of breakage.*¹ Used intransitively (that is when the action or state is limited to the one doing the action) it means *to be bad*

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an equally wide influence. If evil is not to triumph, then its influences must be matched and countered by the teaching of God's truth.

We are occupied with the matter of combatting the evil influence of the system of instruction that is presently operating in state controlled schools. The direct consequences will follow for children under such instruction. The purpose of the Christian school is to provide an environment free from such error, and there to disseminate the truth of God amongst children. The Christian school is, I believe, a divinely ordained institution. The Holy Scriptures never envisaged a system of education for the young that is not entirely Bible-based. The people of God have ever been in error whenever they have permitted the state to take control of the education of their children. It was an incursion into the courts of the Lord that ought to have been resisted. God in His mercy is, however, stirring hearts today to arise and counteract this intrusion. Central to the Christian school is the Christian teacher. Such a person, being the servant of the Lord, must be characterized by certain spiritual qualities. These qualities are set forth in God's Word. I might add that these spiritual qualities must be harnessed to an adequate degree of academic and vocational knowledge. The portion of the Bible we are looking at records the activities of Jehoiada the high priest. I want firstly to consider the information given us about the man.

I. THE PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE TEACHER

1. **His name.** JEHOIADA means "Jehovah knows". That is a good name for a teacher. Do you believe that Jehovah knows all things and that there is nothing hid from Him? That is not the testimony of many teachers today. If there is one thing they are sure about, it is that God does not know. His Word is not accurate or infallible. The widespread and standardized teaching of evolution has ensured that the Bible's account of creation is rejected as a fable. If you are to be an instructor in a Christian school then you must be a Jehoiada, one who believes that God knows all things. *The LORD is a God of knowledge (1 Samuel 2:3). Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of*

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The PROJECTOR

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FOCUS ON RELIGION



Separation From Apostasy

by Pastor John E. Ashbrook

This is the third part of an ongoing series of articles written by Pastor John Ashbrook taken from his booklet, *Axioms of Separation*. You may purchase *Axioms of Separation* online at either:

www.hereistand.com or
www.childrensbibleclub.com

Failing to Obey

Whenever I preach on a Bible character I read the essay of Dr. Alexander Whyte in his **Bible Characters**. As Pastor of Free St. George's Church in Edinburgh, he was a leading figure in the Free Church of Scotland. About 1870 and thereafter higher criticism came in the church school through Professor W. Robertson Smith and later through Dr. George Adam Smith. Discipline for heresy was proposed, but Dr. Whyte took an attitude of, "boys will boys and think of new things." He used his influence to block the purging of his church. When my father attended New College, Edinburgh, about 1919, there was nothing left but the devastation of higher critical unbelief. One wonders what might have happened had Dr. Whyte insisted, "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump."

One day in 1920 a young pastor sat in the study of his parsonage at the First Baptist Church of Butler, PA. His wife, the mother of two young daughters, was a room away dying of tuberculosis. Answering a knock at the door, the young pastor met seven men and a woman from the Pittsburgh Baptist Association. The young pastor had written a pamphlet exposing the modernism of the New World Movement, with which the Northern Baptist Convention had become involved. He believed that, if the people could be alerted, his whole denomination could be saved. His eight visitors were there to take him to task for his reproof. That

young pastor was Robert T. Ketcham, the outstanding separatist leader in the early days of the GARB. He did not start out to be separatist. He started out to purge apostasy. When he saw that that could not be done he became a separatist.

Can You Clean Up Your Apostate Church?

We have a Scriptural obligation to purge unbelief. However, this is no longer an option in 95% of the churches where the problem exists. No person in a National Council of Churches church can possibly clean it up. The schools are apostate. The denominational hierarchy is apostate. The connections are apostate. Fortunately, the sincere believer who seeks to purge the apostasy will usually be purged by the apostasy and will end up a separatist. Scripture teaches us to purge unbelief if we can.

AXIOM #4: SCRIPTURE TEACHES THAT BELIEVER AND UNBELIEVER CANNOT BE YOKED TOGETHER IN SPIRITUAL ENDEAVOR.

The classic passage on this subject is II Corinthians 6:14-18. It is classic because it is conclusive. It reads:

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial: or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

The yoke was the instrument which joined two

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What an astounding effect the absence of a father has on children! Of course, the child psychologists would thoroughly enjoy picking the minds of these youths to come up with all kinds of justifications for this evil behavior, but what is the real reason? One cannot ignore the major reason, the wicked and depraved heart of mankind; however, in these situations, evidence strongly suggests that the absence of fatherly leadership devastates a home. The father is crucial to the home; he is to be the spiritual leader of the family, carrying out a spiritual ministry to his wife and children.

The duty of the spiritual ministry of the father surfaces time and time again in the Scripture. One specific book that repeatedly emphasizes this truth is Deuteronomy. As Moses reviews the wanderings of Israel, the laws and obligations from God, and the conditional future, he reiterates the command of parents to teach their children spiritual things concerning Jehovah. The spiritual ministry of the father simply means that the father is pointing his family to that which pertains to God, who is the true essence of spirit, eternal and authoritative. Even though many principles can be found in this regard, seven major principles about the father's spiritual ministry to his children are found in the book of Deuteronomy.

Teach by Example

The first principle is found in 4:9-10: *Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons.* The main principle here is that **the father must live**

spiritually in order to have a spiritual ministry with his children. The emphasis here is "take heed to thyself," or actively observe, watch, mark, and guard the spiritual or the soul. The father must guard truth in his heart so that he will not depart out of the way. Fathers, stay true to the Word of God; read it and follow it so that the soul will be kept from those things that will cause departure from God's ways. In verse 10, Moses tells the people to remember the words of the Lord so that *they may learn to fear me...and that they may teach their children.* Fathers, the ability to teach and train your children in the ways of the Lord begins with your own spiritual condition!!!

Teach Constantly

The second principle is found in the familiar passage, 6:4-9 (repeated in 11:18-21): *...and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.* The principle found here is that **the father teaches about the Lord in any situation.** Notice the different scenarios in verse seven: sitting in the house, walking in the way, lying down, and rising up. In other words, the father is comfortable teaching about the Lord whether he is in public or private, resting or busy. Take advantage of the time you have with your children: if it is in the public in the store or in the car or in the park, speak of the Lord so the children will know that all things are to be centered upon the Lord. The talking of the Lord should also continue in the home with the parents leading in prayer and Bible reading and teaching the children to love and fear the Lord. What is on the mind of fathers in the daily

concourse of life? Can fathers talk about the Lord in any situation or does embarrassment and shame silence the opportunity? Use every situation as a valuable opportunity to point children to the Lord.

Reminders and Questions

The third principle is also in chapter 6, in two different verses: verse 9 and verses 20-25. Verse 9 states, *...and thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.* The latter verses deal with how the father is to respond when the children ask questions about the law or monuments and landmarks. In this regard, **the father uses reminders and takes advantage of all opportunities and questions to speak of the Lord to the children.** Notice first that the fathers had reminders on the posts of the house and on the gates: they wrote the words of the Lord around the house so that neither the father nor the children would forget them. I thought about my own mother and father with this principle. My mother always has Bible verses written out on 3x5 cards near the mirror of the bathroom. In the morning or evening, you always see those verses, and it was amazing how the verse happened to fit the particular need that I had—I guess Mom knew more than I thought she did! Fathers, do you use reminders, opportunities, and questions to tell your children about the Lord? In verses 20-25, the father answered the questions of the children and told them about the Lord's deliverance in salvation, goodness in blessing, requirements for His people, and the reward for obedience. What a message to teach the children: it was all centered upon God and what He has done. Fathers, take every opportunity, reminder

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Proverb Practicals

by Ludwig Opager

Proverbs 11:31, Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth; much more the wicked and the sinner.

God instructs us to behold His Word. He means for us to take it in and bind its truth to ourselves, guarding it as it were a possession. His instruction is to be taken and counted as a precious treasure.

The LORD, by this proverb, reminds us of the fact that He is not a respecter of persons. Recompense not only comes to the wicked, but to the righteous as well.

Recompense means *to make return of an equivalent, for anything given, done or suffered*. God uses recompense of the righteous for a specific purpose; however, recompense of the wicked and the sinner comes about to satisfy a completely different purpose.

Genuine Sons are Chastened

Heb 12:6,7, says: "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?"

The righteous, being sons of God, are recompensed for iniquity in order to correct, not to condemn. God recompenses that they will be conformed to sons, not to banish them from being sons. God will not allow his sons to indulge themselves in sin,

and, therefore, sin is recompensed in his children.

We are told that recompense takes place on the earth for it is not a heavenly thing. Those in heaven are not in need of recompense for they have finished the works of God. Those on earth continue in the finishing process. Iniquity is of the earth; therefore, recompense is of the earth.

God said about David's seed in Psalm 89:30-33, "If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail."

God uses the rod with the intention of producing improved fruit. A father chastens with the intention of correction, not condemnation.

Johnny's teacher says: "Having admitted you cheated on the test, you now must be chastised." Johnny, hoping for the best, responds, "I know I have sinned but Jesus died and paid the price for my sins, so why do I have to be chastised." The teacher wisely says: "There is a payment for sin on the earth that God's children must pay. Christ bore our sins so that you

would be saved from condemnation, but there is a price for the sins we commit while we are on this earth and we must pay the price. The price is not one of condemnation for that has already been paid. Chastisement is designed to bring the fruit of righteousness into our lives. Johnny, you cheated on the test and now I must correct you so that the fruit of righteousness comes into your life."

Recompense is a cleansing just as Jesus cleansed Peter's feet, which symbolized the need for daily cleansing. Recompense for the sin of a believer clears the believer's account on this earth. A child who does not have his sin paid for is kept away from fellowship with his father and mother and more importantly kept from the holiness of God. Chastisement is a must if we are to be partakers of His holiness while we are on this earth.

False Sons are Condemned

If God's children are recompensed through chastisement, what then is to occur with the wicked? Much more according to our proverb! Jesus said this another way in Luke 23:31 - "For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?"

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in quality, to make good for nothing, unfit. ² For instance, when salt has lost its savor, it is in a state of worthlessness and is good for nothing but to be cast out. Eliashib committed **evil** by breaking down, making good for nothing the commands of God. He came to commit this **evil** because of his following moods. Notice:

- 1) Eliashib thought that because the wall was built that Israel's enemies probably stopped hating Israel. In his mind the war was all over. He thought since the project was complete, why harbor ill-will toward Tobiah? Let bygones be bygones. This attitude lead to **evil**.
- 2) Eliashib considered his **relationships** to be more important than God's commands. Deuteronomy 23:3-5 clearly taught that an Ammonite was not to come into the Temple. As the high priest, he knew the Scriptures. He placed his relationship with Tobiah above God's commands. This attitude lead to **evil**.
- 3) Eliashib's thinking led him to commit evil by bringing an Ammonite into the Temple chambers. Eliashib naively saw no danger in bringing Tobiah, the Ammonite, into the Temple to live. His philosophy of "the war is over, let bygones be bygones" willfully ignored God's commands (Deut. 23:3-5), and in doing so he committed **evil**.
- 4) Eliashib invariably had a low view of the principle of Separation. He was "*allied*" with Tobiah. The word "*allied*" used in verse 4 of Nehemiah 13 has the opposite meaning of separation. It means *to be near, next to, affiliated, a near relationship*. ³ How can a high priest of the Temple of God have such a close relationship with the enemy of God? Perhaps it was the fact that Eliashib had a high view of Tobiah (the enemy) and a low view of God (the Holy One). This view was **evil**.

It is interesting to note that Eliashib had worked along side of Nehemiah in the reconstruction of the wall (3:1). Though he had been a good, faithful worker on the wall, he was unfaithful in keeping the commands of God when it came to Biblical separation. Being a good worker on God's projects does not necessarily equate to being a faithful servant of God in more important areas. Eliashib considered separation from evil (Tobiah the Ammonite) unto God (the Holy One of Israel) as irrelevant. God called this consideration **EVIL**.

The applications are clear. We are to love what God loves and hate what God hates (Ps. 97:10; Prov. 8:13; Amos 5:15; Mic. 3:2). We that are Christians, do not have the latitude to alter God's commands to fit our own agendas no matter how noble. Eliashib committed an **evil** that required Nehemiah to act boldly and quickly to stay the potential of God's judgment against Eliashib and Jerusalem (13:7-9).

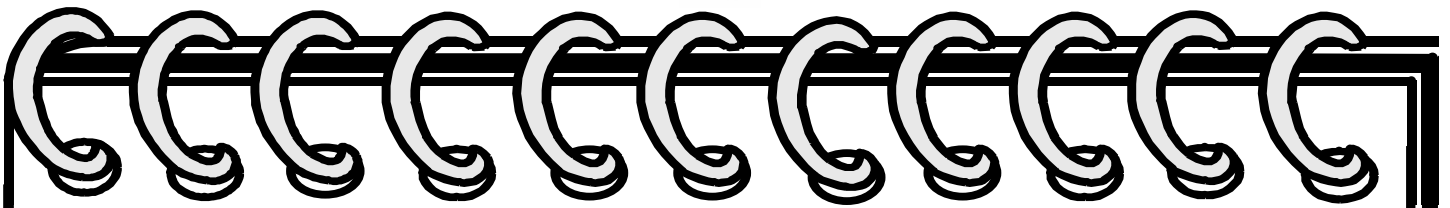
We are facing the very same challenges today. There is nothing new under the sun. As I look upon the landscape of religion, I witness the neo-fundamentalists, new-evangelicals, and fundamentalists who exhibit Eliashib's mood and method. For some, the battles were all fought years ago, let bygones be bygones. For others, relationships with compromisers (friends who were school mates who have charted a course outside Fundamentalism) are more important than God's commands to "come out and be ye separate saith the Lord." For others, separation is irrelevant and antiquated. The results are all the same, an **EVIL** work is produced. Like Nehemiah, we need God's faithful remnant to stand and rebuke the **evil** of Eliashib, for the judgment of God is nigh, even at the door. Ω

1 Francis Brown, *Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*; (Hendrickson Publishers: Peabody, MA., 2003); p. 100, article 947; p. 929, article 7321.

2 R. Laird Harris, Gleason L. Archer, Jr., Bruce K. Waltke, *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, Vol. 2*; (Moody Press: Chicago, IL., 1980); p. 855.

3 William Wilson, *Old Testament Word Studies*; (Kregel Publications: Grand Rapids, MI., 1978); p. 11.

4 Brown-Driver-Briggs, p. 898.



Teaching Tips

by Doris Peppard

TEACHING READING High School Level

Yes, teaching reading skills is important to some high school students! There are a few students who spent the early elementary years working hard to learn their phonics sounds and blends. They learned to use expression while reading aloud, but they remained word readers rather than meaning or comprehension readers. Now, we all understand that reading comprehension is the goal of teaching reading! Students who never master comprehension are never going to fully enjoy the reading experience for schoolwork or enjoyment purposes.

All schools have a group of students who have come up through the elementary and middle school grades, who have worked hard to maintain average grades, who are oral learners, and who hate to read. I totally sympathize with them – my two sons always hated to read! Once my oldest son was “cutting up” and I wanted to separate him from the situation for a bit. I sent him to his room to read three chapters of a certain library book. His response was, “Please, Mama! Give me a whipping! I hate reading!” This was my motivation to learn how to help these students.

When students know the “how” of reading, but do not enjoy reading, they are begging for help. The answer may be to “teach” them how to improve their comprehension. Consider these “cases” of three of our ninth grade students on their Stanford Achievement Tests Scores:

	Reading Vocabulary	Reading Comprehension
1) Student “A” -	60 Percentile	32 Percentile
2) Student “B” -	69 Percentile	37 Percentile
3) Student “C” -	69 Percentile	28 Percentile

This discrepancy shows me that these students need reading comprehension skills taught again before they finish high school. All three of these students are average level students, they have the ability to do college work but need remediation in reading comprehension.

Teaching these “comprehension” skills should help students learn to read:

- 1) Increase concentration while reading. Teach students to stay focused on reading materials. (Context clues, contrast clues).
- 2) Vocabulary skills to help students learn and remember new words. (Dictionary and Thesaurus skills),
- 3) Comprehension skills for understanding and remembering the reading material.

(Pre-reading strategies, main idea/supporting details, recognizing organization, inference, underlining and note-taking skills, and critical reading skills).

There are several texts available for your use; however, they are not produced by Christian publishing houses and you would want to pre-read all the selections to make sure they are appropriate for your group. You can find these at www.amazon.com and look up reading comprehension textbooks for high school and college students. Also, the Precept Marketing Group offers reading remediation through Passport Learning: Successful Academic Tutoring Program in reading.

The most important part of this remedial reading class will be the time spent actually reading. We all know that “Good readers read!” There is nothing to compare with diligently working to better a student’s reading ability. Students who need this help already know they are not good readers; they will need quite a bit of encouragement, patience, and prodding by their teacher. Ω





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animals together in an endeavor. We are in the world with unbelievers. You may be yoked with an unbeliever to produce a report at work. You may be yoked with an unbeliever in some community matter. You may be yoked with an unbeliever to build a fence between your two properties. However, the place where you are not to be yoked with an unbeliever is in spiritual endeavor. Look back over the passage and you will see that it talks about righteousness, light, faith, and the temple of God. These things are all spiritual, or religious things. God commands us not to be involved with unbelievers in spiritual endeavors. In verse 14 He says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers..." In verse 17 He says, "Therefore come out from among them, and be ye separate..." Biblical Separation is God's preventive medicine to protect us from the contagion of apostasy. I like the way Dr. Paul Jackson said it years ago: **"Separation, as I have so often explained, is to the whole ministry of the Word of God and the service of Jesus Christ what sanitation and sterilization are to surgery."**

"I AM THE ONLY TESTIMONY IN THIS CHURCH"

This booklet will, no doubt, reach some sincere believer who maintains the only light of testimony in an apostate church. Human reason says to you, "I must stay, for if I leave, there will be no witness left in this church." Notice that your human reason is the opposite of God's clear command. God says, "Come out from among them and be ye separate." The blessing in your situation is not to stand like a noble martyr on your reason. It is to obey and come out.

I spent my boyhood summers on my grandfather's farm. In the hills where he lived, everyone still farmed with horses. Every farmer was proud to have a matched team. We had a team of two gray mares. Others had two blacks, sorrels or roans. Farmers looked for the same size and the same color. Simply put, God says that the Christian, in spiritual endeavor, should always be matched with

those who share his righteousness, light and faith.

OBEDIENCE AND ITS REWARD





One summer night in 1940, my grandfather and I were doing evening milking as my father, who had come to visit, engaged in conversation. My grandfather, a United Presbyterian elder, stormed, "William, have you taken leave of your senses? What are you doing leaving the United Presbyterian Church? Who will pay your salary? Who will give you a pension? You have four children – the oldest just ready for college. Who will educate them?" My father replied by quoting II Corinthians 6:17, 18: *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."*

I can add to that testimony. All four of us children made it through college and just about every one earned an advanced degree. Every bill was paid. Dad went home to be with the Lord in 1977 and Mother in 1987. That which the Lord had given them paid every bill. God keeps His promises. And the promise I am talking about right here is attached to, *"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers,"* and *"Come out from among them, and be ye separate."* Scripture teaches that believer and unbeliever cannot be yoked in spiritual endeavor. Ω

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Next Issue: Separation From Disobedient Brethren

Be Refreshed for School!

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and question to point your children to God.

Guard Influences

The fourth principle is probably one of the most lacking by fathers today. It is found in chapter 7:1-4 and again in 20:17-18. Moses is speaking about the Canaanites and the need to “utterly destroy” them, and the parents are specifically told: *Neither shalt thou make marriages with them...for they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.* In this context, **the father is to guard the influences of his children.** Sadly, in our time, parents do not seem to mind what kind of influences come across the paths of their children. Children are dropped off at the mall, allowed to stay out late with friends, and stay in their rooms with the doors shut and the television on. Where is the “watchdog” mentality of the father in these situations? The spiritual well-being of the child is at stake. There is the potential of wrath and destruction by God because of the power of bad influences. Don’t be content as a parent to let the “little angels” do what they want because it makes them happy. Be an active watchdog, for if the parent is not a spiritual influence in the life of the child, something else will influence him, typically away from God.

Forbid Rebellion

The fifth principle in Deuteronomy is found in 21:18-21: this is the familiar story of the mother and father who took their rebellious, stubborn, and disobedient son to the elders of the city to be stoned. In this case, **the father does not put up with rebellion and disobedience!** In verse 18, the first response of the parents was to chasten, or to correct and make all

efforts to restrain and reform. When this did not work, the parents gave the child over to the elders who then handled the rebellion according to the Word of the Lord. There was no permissiveness, protection, coddling, and cover up for the child. What a contrast to our day of softness and weak parenting! Fathers and mothers, don’t put up with sin and rebellion in the child. The typical natural response of soft parenting is to believe the child and defend him at all costs: the parents here in Deuteronomy did not coddle or excuse the sin. There was action, not talk. Fathers (and mothers), stop rebellion and stubbornness immediately, for if the child cannot yield to the parent, he will never yield to God.

Fear God

The sixth principle from Deuteronomy is found in 31:12-13: *...and that their children, which have not known anything, may hear, and learn to fear the Lord your God...* First notice that the children “may hear.” This precludes the fact that the father must be speaking and teaching: there must be an active and continual desire in the heart of a parent to teach about the Lord. Second, what is the main content of this teaching? **The father should desire for his children to hear and learn the fear of the Lord.** The academic learning of the child should not be the priority for the spiritual father: the main goal is to instill the fear of the Lord into the heart and life of the child. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.” From the fountain of the fear of the Lord should stem all the tributaries of knowledge. The lack of this training in the child will result in a self-centered world view that will be almost impossible for the child to come out of later in life. Fathers, pray that God will give you a determination to teach your children spiritually, and that the training will

begin with the fear of God.

Eternity at Stake

The seventh and final principle comes from 32:44-47: *...and he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law. For it is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life....* The words that Moses rehearsed and that the fathers were to convey to their children were not idle and vain. **The responsibility to instruct and train is a serious and grave matter, for the life of the child depends on it.** Fathers, what you put into your children is what you will get out: no emphasis on the spiritual training of children will result in no spiritual life in that child. Training the child is not a vain task, and the spiritual life of the child will rise or fall based on the father’s spiritual leadership.

Fathers, stay in the Word of God so that spiritual training can be instilled in the children. Don’t rely on the church, school, or other institutions to raise and train the child. Step up to the need of leadership in the home and fulfill the task with God’s help based on God’s Word. Avoid the soft emphasis of the day that turns to psychology and soft methods of parenting. Soft parenting leads to soft children who will become soft adults, resulting in a lack of leadership. Christian fathers, study the Word and allow God to reveal the grave responsibility to teach and train children in the things of the Lord. Ω

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(Continued from page 2—Character God Requires) *the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding* (Isaiah 40:28).

2. His title. He is described as the INSTRUCTOR of the young king Joash or Jehoash. The Hebrew word for instruction (Hebrew -- yarah) is very interesting. Let me show you a few examples of its use. I have underlined the different translations of the word.

And he sent Judah before him unto Joseph, to direct his face unto Goshen (Gen 46:28).

Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say (Exodus 4:12).

And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them (Exodus 15:25).

And thou shalt do according to the sentence, which they of that place which the LORD shall choose shall shew thee; and thou shalt observe to do according to all that they inform thee (Deuteronomy 17:10). *And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers* (1 Samuel 31:3).

Here is a wonderful definition of what true teaching entails. It entails directing the hearts and minds of children, showing them, informing them. It requires the skill of the archer, a firing of the arrows of truth into the minds of children. This is teaching according to God's Word.

3. His calling . He was a priest. Here was his primary function in life.

A. He ministered unto the Lord. The first time the term priest is used of an Israelite, in Exodus 28:1, it refers to ministering unto the Lord. You are called to minister unto the Lord as a Christian teacher. You are serving Him as you seek to teach.

B. He interceded for the people . *Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the*

heavens (Hebrews 7:25-26). You must be an intercessor for the children you teach.

C. He was a teacher of the law of God. *Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law* (2 Chronicles 15:3). You are to be a teacher of God's law in all matters. The state system has *Education for Mutual Understanding* (a compulsory classroom programme to promote ecumenical ideals amongst children) mixed into all subjects. We must have the Word of God permeating all subjects.

II. THE SPIRITUAL AWARENESS OF THE TEACHER

1. He was aware of danger.

Jehoiada knew the danger facing his young charge. Joash had been the target of a wicked and murderous attack by Athaliah who was anxious to retain the throne for herself. She was a usurper. She pictures the nature and ambitions of the devil. He targets the royal seed of Christ, especially children. The teacher must be aware of the devil's schemes to destroy the seed royal today. The teacher must see the danger that threatens.

2. He was aware of what must be done. He helped to hide the child. He separated Joash from the danger. He would have been attacked today by those who claim that Christian Education is wrong because it isolates the child from the real world. Rubbish! It was a matter of isolation or death. So it is today, and a few years will prove this to many Christian parents to be all too sadly correct.

3. He was aware that he must risk much to save the child. What courage and daring Jehoiada showed! When he hid the child, he endangered his life. You may not endanger your life but you will forfeit a career and a substantial amount of financial reward that would have gone with it if you are to be faithful to your calling as a Christian teacher. You will be required to show much courage and daring on occasions whenever an "Athaliah" comes at you, screaming, "Treason."

III. THE WORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE TEACHER

Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

1. He did much for Joash. The king's doing right in the sight of the Lord is directly credited to Jehoiada's instructions. Without those instructions, it would have been evil that was wrought, not good, in the sight of the Lord. Something of what would have been in the absence of Jehoiada is seen in what happened after he died (2 Chron 24:17-25).

2. He did much for the nation. Who may calculate the benefits that spring from a godly ruler? *When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn* (Proverbs 29:2).

IV. THE HONOURABLE ATTAINMENTS OF THE TEACHER

The labours of Jehoiada were recognized. He was buried with honour. He was buried as a king, 2 Chron 24:15-16. This was something that Joash did not attain to, verse 25.

Honour awaits those who faithfully serve their generation in the fear of God. This world will not bestow it but the Lord Jesus most certainly will. Whatever reproach we are called upon to bear as Christians will be more than compensated for by the "Well done" of Christ. Let us learn to say and believe with Paul, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (II Corinthians 4:17-18). Ω



I have enjoyed your articles and thank you for sending the (projector my way.) It also keeps me up to date on what's going on at your ministry. FL



Stars of the Morning

THE GREAT ICE CREAM HEIST

A True Story by
"Aunt Carolyn"



It was a long ride, but at last the big bus rolled into the small country town. Johnny's eyes searched for Grandpa. He knew Grandpa would be there to meet him.

Johnny was a young city dude; well, not exactly a dude, more like a city kid; well, not exactly a city kid, more like a street kid. It wasn't intended to be that way; it's just that when your parents have to work from dawn to dark, a fellow can get bored in the house all alone, so Johnny ventured outside and eventually into the street. Most of the time he was just with the neighborhood kids, but at times other kids, big bullies, barged in, and play turned into trouble.

That's why Johnny looked forward to summer. When school was out, he could go to Grandpa's farm and spend the whole summer. His best friends, beside Grandpa and Grandma, were the horses, cows, and goats. The farm was great. There was room to roam, plenty of work, plenty of Grandma's good cooking, time to swim in the creek, and time to listen to Grandpa spin some fine yarns in the evening.

Johnny stuck close to Grandpa learning how to do the farm work, and now he was old enough to run some of the farm equipment. You surely had to stay alert and mind what you were doing, but Johnny loved driving the tractor, mowing the hay field, and helping, but every morning came the same warning: "Be careful now, Johnny. This isn't kids' play!" Every day Johnny tried to do his best. Every evening he was hungry, tired, and ready to fall into bed.

There weren't many breaks in summer work, and it may not sound good to say, but Johnny was rather

glad when the tractor coughed and sputtered and jerked in the field instead of rolling smoothly. It was a bad time for a break down, and Grandpa hurried to take it to the machine shop near town to get it fixed.

It was no quick job, so during the long wait, Johnny wandered around the shop a little while, and then he and Grandpa went next door to the little general store to pass the time. There was a section for a lot of different things - groceries, small tools and hardware, some farm feed and seed, light snacks, and best of all, an ice cream box!

The tractor repair seemed to be taking a long time. Johnny walked the aisles of the store looking at things, then sauntered back to Grandpa as he talked with Mr. Greene, the storeowner. He listened to the grown-ups talk a while and then sauntered back near the ice cream box. Those ice cream bars surely were tempting! Ice cream was good anytime, but during the hot summer weather, who could resist? Johnny turned away from the box and walked down the aisles just looking and thinking. Grandpa and Mr. Greene were still talking not noticing Johnny. Slowly he sidled back to the ice cream box. It looked so good, and no one would ever know. Quietly he eased the sliding door open, pulled out a yummy ice cream bar and stuffed it into the front pocket of his jeans. It didn't even show, and he would soon slip outside and eat it. No one would see.

Slowly, so as to not attract attention, Johnny meandered through the store toward the door. Mr. Greene moved from behind the counter toward the door and continued his

conversation with Grandpa. Johnny watched and waited. He was anxious to get outside. As he moved to go out, Mr. Greene moved again and stood right in front of the door, straightening something on a shelf and continued talking with Grandpa. Oh, why couldn't they talk somewhere else? Johnny was getting more nervous now. Why did grown-ups have to talk so long? Maybe he could excuse himself and slip on by them. But, no, Mr. Greene stood in the middle of the doorway straightening the "Open/Closed" sign, still talking with Grandpa.

Johnny wanted to push past them; he wanted to get outside! The longer they talked, the more anxious he became! At last, Mr. Greene solemnly looked down at the boy. "Do you have a problem, son? Can I help you?"

"No, Sir. I don't reckon so." No questions were needed. Mr. Greene had talked to Grandpa a long time on purpose. He had given enough time for the deed to reveal itself, for the ice cream had melted, soaked through Johnny's jeans, run down his leg, and even dripped into his shoe! Johnny was caught! Clearly, he had stolen the ice cream and his secret was out! There was no way to hide it! The very thing he had stolen had told on him!

Mr. Greene spoke, "You see, Johnny, I saw you when you were back there lingering near the ice cream box. These big mirrors overhead help me keep an eye on every part of the store. I was watching you all the time and blocked your way to the door. And now, you are wearing the evidence of your deed. You are guilty. You will have to pay

(Continued on page 12)



 * (Continued from page 11—Stars of the Morning)
 * for the ice cream, and I'm sure your
 * Grandpa will tend to the rest of the
 * matter at home."
 * Johnny was miserable and
 * ashamed! As he climbed up on the
 * tractor to go home, Grandpa spoke
 * quietly, "Remember your verse from
 * Sunday school last week, Johnny? 'Be
 * sure your sin will find you out.'
 * Remember?" It was a long, hot ride
 * back home that afternoon. Johnny's
 * clothes were a mess! They stuck to him
 * and even drew flies! For once in his life,
 * Johnny was anxious to get a bath, but
 * first he had to face his wrongdoing
 * with Grandpa. Grandpa tended to
 * him, all right, and Johnny never forgot
 * that verse, "Be sure your sin will find
 * you out" (Num. 32:23).
 * It's true! You can't do wrong and
 * get away with it! You may think no
 * one sees you. Your teacher, parents, or
 * preacher may never know, but God
 * knows. He sees you all the time. His
 * eyes are on you. "The eyes of the
 * LORD are in every place, beholding
 * the evil and the good" (Prov. 15:3).
 * "Thou God seest me" (Gen. 16:13). If a
 * store has surveillance mirrors, if busses
 * and highways have cameras to
 * photograph everything, if satellites
 * can show what is happening across the
 * oceans and even in space, it surely is no
 * problem for God Almighty in Heaven
 * above to see, know, and record what
 * you are doing every moment! "You
 * cannot sin and get away with it!" "Be
 * sure your sin will find you out."
 * Johnny knew he had sinned and
 * deserved punishment, and so do you.
 * You remember times when you have
 * done wrong. Maybe you have lied or
 * stolen, or cheated or cursed, or used
 * God's name in vain. Sin has to be paid
 * for. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is
 * death," eternal death in hell away
 * from God's presence and mercy. The
 * good news is that Jesus Christ died to
 * pay for your sin on the cross of Calvary.
 * If you will repent of your sin and
 * receive Him as your Savior, He will
 * forgive and cleanse your sin and take
 * away the guilt. And someday He will
 * take you to Heaven to be with Him.
 * Now that's good news! Receive the
 * Lord Jesus Christ today! Obey Him
 * and have peace in your heart. Jesus
 * promised, "Him that cometh to me I
 * will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). Ω
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(Continued from page 5-Proverb Practicals)

If God recompenses the living what shall be done to the dead? If the corrections of a Holy Father seem so grievous even with his beloved children, what will His wrath be for the rebel?

There is no conclusion other than that they are doomed to hell.

Jesus warned the sinner to take every drastic step to avoid hell, including dismemberment in order to keep oneself from going to the place "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." The worst physical punishment is nothing compared to that which awaits the wicked in hell.

Yes, the righteous are recompensed in the earth by a loving Father who wishes to conform His children to his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. But if there is no hope of bringing forth fruit, as in the case of the wicked and the sinner, then the recompense comes as is told in Malachi 4:1, "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble."

1 Peter 5:6 says: "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." Submit yourself therefore to the chastisement of the Lord knowing that it comes from a Father who only desires your good.