

The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, FOUNDED EDITOR

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

BIRTH IS THE BEGINNING OF DEATH

Dr. Clay Nuttall,

National Theological College and Graduate School

I have often said that in the creation of any local church or institution are the seeds of its own destruction. A careful look at the history of any one of these will confirm this. The wise mind will be able to see those seeds long before they come to fruition. Human organizations and documents are always flawed since only God could create, or write, a perfect one. The Bible is a perfect document for those who have a high view of scripture. The Body of Christ, the Heavenly Church, is viewed as “not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Eph. 5:27). No one could honestly say that about any local church or institution. When Adam sinned, he died spiritually and also began to die physically, just as God said he would. Some institutions die a slow death; others race full speed to their destruction.

The problem is that people are blinded by loyalty and thus are unable to be objective about their own church or institution. They will foolishly say that their organization is the same as it has always been, with no movement

away from its foundation. Some loyalists know better, but are quick to use “turn-speak” in an attempt to hide a move to the left. Others are just plain ignorant or apathetic, and some are too fearful to ask the right questions.

A WINDOW TO DEATH

We are now into graduation season. I am astounded when I read the list of schools that some of our graduates are headed for this fall. Do parents have no idea of what an institution believes? Are they without knowledge, or don't they care? It could be because of any one of these reasons, but why would mothers and fathers send their young minds to a place where their intellectual, spiritual, and moral being would be under attack every day? There is no doubt that many adults have no idea of what is being taught. On the other hand, it also appears that the average parent would not even know what questions to ask in order to find out the truth behind all the promotional glitz of a certain school.

In our circles, the new theolo-

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Hardly Any Poison at All

By Frank Hall

When I was a boy, I had a dog named Prince. He was a funny-looking critter. Half greyhound and half St. Bernard, he wasn't just big—he was huge! He had one brown eye and one white eye; the epicanthic fold on his white eye was a brilliant pink. People who had never seen him before invariably did a double-take and then made some comment such as, “He's so ugly he's cute” or, “Does he always look like he has the pink eye?”

In five months Prince was the best-trained dog my neighbors had ever seen. He could heel, stay, sit, lie down, play dead,

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EDITOR'S DESK

by Pastor Tod Brainard

When Government and God Clash

Daniel 6:9, 10, “Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree. Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.”

I want to transport you back in time to witness a clash of allegiances between Government and God. Lest we think we are the first to deal with this clash of authorities and allegiances, I want you to carefully consider this passage in light of what we face here in America.

Verse one tells us that there were 120 satraps or princes and two administrators who banded together to accuse Daniel in his administrative work. They found nothing in his character, he was blameless. They then banded together (“all agreed”) to deceive Darius the king by devising a plan to make the king the sole object of worship throughout the empire for a temporary period of only 30 days.

Now notice something here. The temptation created for Daniel by others was not the committing of some act of idolatry or horrible sin. *It was rather*

to neglect temporarily the doing of something right and holy. All Daniel could have done was to abstain from prayer for thirty days and the enemy's plot would have come to naught. This was the crisis created for Daniel by God's enemies: **Bow to the government and just neglect God temporarily!** Daniel's habit was to pray three times a day. He worshiped God, asked what he needed, and gave adoration to Him. Around that simple attitude and activity all of Daniel's life was structured. To neglect prayer for a **single day** would have spelled disaster for Daniel. Therefore he prayed “*as he did afore time.*” What a powerful lesson to learn! Are you paying attention?

The Take Away

This passage teaches me that when my life is centered on Christ, I must leave circumstances out of my control to the directing of the ONE in whom I trust. Now, am I trusting in the government, or trusting in God Almighty? When authorities clash, stand with God Almighty! Dr. Campbell Morgan once said, “*The occasional is always affected by the habitual.*” Daniel refused to alter the schedule of a holy habit before God because of a government's temporary decree.

Another lesson: Daniel's determination to continue to pray despite the 30 day law of the land was the stepping stone to Darius' transformation and the honoring of the most high God in Babylon. Your determination to do right in

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The PROJECTOR

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FOCUS ON RELIGION

CHANGING MORAL JUDGMENTS in America

by Pastor Adam Watt

A current issue gaining momentum in America is tolerance for the homosexual community. Even though homosexuality only accounts for a small percentage of society (most polls report less than four percent), the constant media barrage of tolerance causes most Americans to believe that this is a large segment of society. When an athlete, for example, comes out as being “gay,” media outlets are consumed with praise for this “courageous” act; an attitude of disdain, however, is portrayed for any athlete who expresses belief in Jesus Christ. The cry for tolerance extends from the world of Satan as he pushes for this acceptance despite the fact that he is the most intolerant creature in existence. Because of this attitude of fear engendered by the media, America’s population tends to relax, act neutral, and go along with what is perceived as the majority.

On May 20, 2013, Gallup released a poll entitled “In U.S., Record-High Say Gay, Lesbian Relations Morally OK.” *Tolerance is one goal in and of itself, but once tolerance has set in, this disastrous next step quickly occurs—the abomination is now perceived as morally OK. Gallup’s survey hit on some nineteen moral issues such as divorce, adultery, the death penalty, and sex out of wedlock. The results from 2013 were compared to the results of the same questions back in 2001. The category that realized the greatest increase of moral acceptability was *gay or lesbian relations*, up from 40% in 2001 to 59% in 2013. Again, notice that this was not a question of tolerance or

acquaintance; this was a specific question on the morality of the issue. The poll was worded in such a way that the person would simply hear the moral issue stated and state whether it was morally acceptable or not. Shockingly, the same poll in which 59% of the people saw homosexuality as morally acceptable also discovered that 91% of people saw adultery as morally wrong. That is, a majority saw homosexuality as morally OK, but teenage sex and adultery was not. How can this be?

Of course, the most obvious question would be, “What is the standard for judgment of morality?” How do people arrive at a decision as to the moral acceptability of an issue? The issue of value and morality stems from one’s belief system concerning reality (metaphysics) and truth (epistemology). As a Christian, God is the basis of our metaphysics, and the inspired Scriptures are the basis of our epistemology. However, the world which is governed by the prince and power of the air rejects this philosophical foundation. America has been through the deterioration and undermining of both the **reality** of God and the reality of the Scriptures so that they are no longer the basis for determining value and morality. Since these foundations are removed, what is the only standard for value and morality? Simply stated, it is humanism. Man has become the center of reality and truth, and as a result, he is the determining factor in morality. Long gone are the days of objective truth and the recognition that

absolute truth is outside of man; the days of truth being dependent on man’s knowledge and experience have overtaken American society. When this philosophical degradation is coupled with the attitude of fear and intimidation for intolerance to the status quo, the illogical results of Gallup’s poll begin to make sense.

The Bible warns of Satan’s endeavor to destroy truth. In Isaiah 5:20, Isaiah writes, *Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil....* Paul describes man’s twisting of truth in Romans 1:25: *Who changed the truth of God into a lie...*, and in II Timothy 4:4, he prophesies that men *shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.* With this change of truth comes a change of value and morality, and man has no concept of what is right and wrong because he has rejected the only objective standard for ethics. The cry for tolerance to man’s idea of truth will increase, and the world will hate those who endeavor to hold on to the objective Scriptures (I John 3:13), labeling them as intolerant. May the words of Proverbs 29:25 ever ring true in the minds of believers: *the fear of man bringeth a snare.* In a world of mixed up morals, the believer can know the truth in order to build a moral compass upon the Word of God. Ω

*Source: www.gallup.com/poll/162689/record-high-say-gay-lesbian-relations-morally.aspx



Spotlight on Contemporary Issues

Marginalized...Is that really our concern?

by Curtis Sluss

Man in his natural ability is unable to contribute anything spiritual to God's work. "He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5). Many Christians, however, think they have more influence, power, or impact on the culture if they join together in a common cause to do some perceived work for God. Man has always had a tendency to join together. This was displayed at the building of the tower in Babel and during the time of the kings. Israel and Judah seemed to constantly seek to join together with those God said they should avoid. Today, it is still a human persuasion to think that unity is the way we do God's work. The moniker is often, **"The more people together, the more positive results, and therefore ...Success!"**

A book I read recently mentioned that separation could be a detriment to the work of God since it "...can make our support base so small we have no meaningful impact worldwide."¹ Because of the importance we put on separation "we become haughty, prideful, and superior."² The author of this book expressed the idea that to separate over things like music or worldliness and to exercise ecclesiastical separation may marginalize Christians to the point of ineffectiveness.³

This view (i.e. don't go overboard on separation or the work of Christ will become marginalized) seems to be embraced by much of the Christian world. The truth is the man who obeys God's commands concerning Biblical purity and separation and does not resort to using questionable

music or joining cause with disobedient evangelicals is often marginalized by the religious establishment. He often finds himself standing alone. By the way, this is not a bad thing for this is where Christ is found and where the faithful soldiers of the cross are encouraged to go. "Let us go forth therefore unto him (Christ) without the camp, bearing his reproach" (Hebrews 13:13).

Unfortunately, the fear of being marginalized causes some to re-interpret, re-think, or re-evaluate what they once believed. **Marginalized** by definition means "prevent from having attention or power: to take or keep somebody or something away from the center of attention, influence, or power."⁴ Is ministry for the Lord really about "having attention or power" in this world?

An obvious Biblical observation of the thinking that "separation" may harm our effectiveness by reducing our influence or power is simply this: **Power does not come through unity, tolerance, or compromise; power according to the Scriptures comes from God as we obey the command "Be holy as I am holy"**. There are many in positions of Christian leadership who think that influence comes from man as we join hands with men of influence. Man's influence is limited and the 'fruit' produced by influence is faulty. God's power is unlimited and the fruit is genuine. Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. said, "You and God make a majority in any community." In every age the faithful remnant has been marginalized by the culture but made wise and strong through the power of God. Paul put it this way:

"For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honorable, but we are despised. Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwelling place; And labor, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the off scouring of all things unto this day" (1 Cor. 4:9 NASB).

My friends, Paul was made the despised filth of the world but had the power of God. May God help us to obey God, follow Christ, even when it costs us the approval of other Christians. Ω

¹Thinking Outside the Box By Charles Keen, (First Bible Publishing, Shelby Township, MI 2003) page 32

²Ibid, page 80 & 81

³Ibid, page 32 & 81

⁴Bing Dictionary

"When the Word of God in the lives of men and women is replaced by the cultish power of some preacher with a super-ego, sound judgment is affected and all kinds of weird and unscriptural things go on under the guise of the work of the Lord."

- Dr. Dayton Hobbs



Proverb Practicals

by Ludwig Opager

Proverbs 17:6, **Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.**

Crowns and glory; children, fathers, grandchildren, and old men! God brings these subjects to our mind in two related parts, the action of the first part affecting the second part.

Fathers perform an important role in the lives of their children and the success of that role affects the quality of their grandchildren. This proverb tells us that children see their fathers in a unique way. Their fathers are their glory for they see them through eyes of hope. A father's actions seem right to the child for if father said it or father did it, it must be right!

A child sees his father's actions as a pattern for his or her life. Fathers become larger than life. They are the children's glory and it is natural of them to see God in their fathers. Fathers have much authority over their lives and are the providers of all of their needs.

Note, this proverb does not say that the glory of children is God Almighty. Little children do not see God but little children see their father. That is how God intends His order to be and He has arranged things thusly. That, fathers, is the reason why your obligation to be the right kind of father is one of your

important duties.

God will not rear your child for you, fathers! God reserves for you that delight and that privilege. It is a gift of God for you to be the beginning of your child's journey to the Father in heaven! The scripture says in Proverbs 22:6, **Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it.**

Your responsibility is to provide a hand to your child that one day will be willingly transferred to God's hand. You are the child's glory that will reveal to him the Father's glory in heaven and open to him what the Heavenly Father is like.

This wonderful truth is given to us by our glorious God in His glorious Word which says, **"Give ear, O my people."** We are many times overwhelmed by the world's messages but only God's messages bring truth and life. Fathers, you are to love your children. Love comes by giving heed to God's Word and obeying its commands.

Psalm 78:1-7, **Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my**

mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Here, God promises a father who carries out his responsibilities that his children will follow him, and that his children's children will be a crown to him. As a crown is a sign of royal succession, godly grandchildren are a symbol of completion of a successful life lived for God. Godly grandchildren are pictured as a special headdress

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gies are “headed for the cliff” at breakneck speed. So-called “Christian” schools have embraced a number of these erroneous doctrines. Many of the “winds of doctrine” are cleverly based on intellectualism; after all, the scholars must be right. This, however, is only one of the problems. To assume that a popular, well known communicator who is widely published couldn’t possibly be wrong is a disaster. The truth is that many in this category have buried followers in an allegorical theology that leaves Bible truth far behind. Young men caught in the power of pride have no way to question the viability of the false teaching that currently covers the theological landscape.

HOW ABOUT THE LEADERS?

It is heartbreaking to realize that parents do not know how to protect their children from this creeping culture of doctrinal doom. Where are the pastors on this issue? In Acts 20, it is made clear that the pastor/shepherd/elder/bishop/overseer has a responsibility to protect the sheep while “grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock”. (Acts 20:29) Do they not know the dangers that lie in wait for these young hearts and minds? Are they afraid to speak up about the spiritual, moral, and intellectual traps? Over fifty-three years of ministry, my interaction with various institutions has been quite involved. Watching schools

drift, or race, away from a solid foundation is painful; but seeing that many dear friends still support and send students to those schools is absolutely heart-wrenching. These are not people we hate. They are dear friends, but why are they so blind? The answer often given is foolish philosophy. Is it just a difference of opinion or another point of view? That would certainly cover a whole lot of disobedience and ignorance.

What can be done when leaders do not know the scripture or are willing to sit idly by while others corrupt those we love? The problem here isn’t just a lack of knowledge of scripture and theology; it is a lack of interest. What I do know is that every error that is being carefully injected into churches and institutions comes from the same root problem – the fact that many, if not most, of our friends have never been taught the one biblical hermeneutic and so have missed the heart of a theology that is biblical.

IS THERE ANY WAY TO SEE IT COMING?

No leader ever suddenly steps into the pulpit or college chapel and announces that he no longer believes in the virgin birth. Such a move to error is a slow process, and the path is usually camouflaged. The move to wrong views about sign gifts, the timing of the Rapture, the New Covenant, and the merging of Israel and the Church is a subtle one. Those

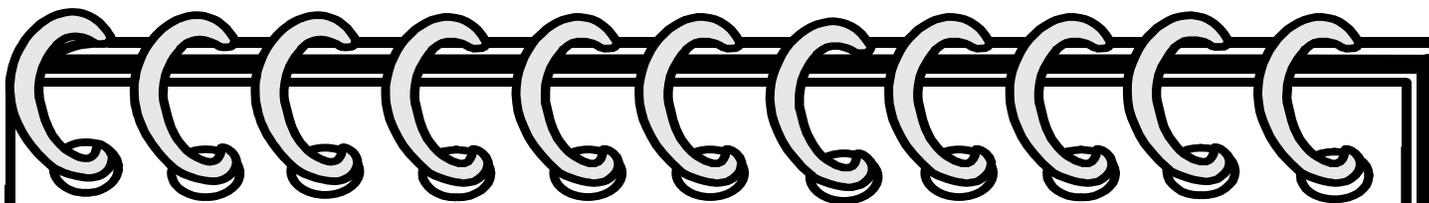
who have a motive tend to simply pick at things. They make small adjustments in the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, the church, salvation, etc.; and only the careful observer will realize what is happening. Only courageous believers will be willing to point out those errors publicly, and they should be prepared for the vicious attacks they will receive for doing such a thing.

Those who are leaning left always complain about the “whistle blowers” on the right; however, they never miss an opportunity to brand them as “anti-intellectual, baggy pants know-nothings from the back waters”. Despite their protests, there is something that gives them away: they hide behind culture and methods, claiming they have changed their methods, but not their message. Sorry, that just won’t fly. Parents and pastors need to be aware that hard turns to the left on cultural issues are always accompanied by questions about a shift, slow or rapid, in their theology.

THIS IS NOT A PERSONAL ISSUE

Those who have a high view of scripture and who are sensitive to small steps to the left are left to wonder why others choose to wander. We have long-time friends in ministry who appear to be numb about these shifts. It puzzles us why they remain in support of institutions which are communicating theological instability. Why do they send their

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Teaching Tips

by Doris Peppard

Support the Teacher!

The most harmful thing parents can do to damage the student-teacher relationship is to make accusations toward a teacher in front of their children. This gives them the understanding that you support him rather than the teacher, and that fact alone will cause a child great harm. While it is fine for a parent to disagree with a teacher, it should be done privately with the teacher and the administration alone. When children know that their parent is taking their “side,” they quickly develop an attitude of “I know better than the teacher,” and that undermines all authority in their heart. The big problem with this is that God has ordained that in order to be successful, we all must live under His authority. When children know that their parent is at odds with the teacher, they get the idea that if the authority placed over him is wrong, they have the right to show disrespect toward any authority whom they perceive to be wrong. Children who have been taught that they are “right” and others in authority over them are “wrong” often do not submit to other authorities as they grow up.

Please realize that the home and school must be on the same side – we want your children to do their work and do it well. No teacher is perfect! Teachers are human and do make errors and mistakes. However, we hope parents will realize that we do make every effort to hold your child accountable for his schoolwork and conduct while at school. The teacher’s goal is to love your child – and part of that love is exerting pressure to help him conform to high standards of academics and behavior. Because many children are so easily distracted, the teacher has to be demanding on students. The teacher’s goal is “holding their feet to the fire,” so to speak; and, that is exactly what they need. The teacher sees that their students are quite capable academically but may be daydreaming and simply not getting their work done. When this poor work ethic has finally caught up with them, they need a bit of “tough” love. The student is the one who must “fix” this problem with their parents in a supporting role. Your encouragement will help. We desire that the home and school be on the same page – for the child’s good. Teachers appreciate your listening to their concerns regarding your child and realize that he/she is doing their best to help that child get the best possible education.

I recommend that parents read Dr. Hobbs’ book, *For the Good of Your Child*. Chapter 2 explains how the proper relationship to authority must be developed. This will be a blessing to parents and help them have a clearer understanding of the importance of their supporting those in authority over their children. I believe parents should give the teacher the “benefit of the doubt” and realize that his/her perspective is different from the child’s. Students need to learn to accept accountability for their actions and behaviors.

We know our students are learning to work to their own potential! It is our prayer that they “Grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ,” and that they develop their talents, skills, abilities to honor the Lord. We know you love your child and want the best for him. We realize that parents do not want to “waste” tuition money and are keeping him in a

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spite of serious consequences may be the platform for God to do a remarkable work in other lives because of your testimony. My effectiveness as a witness for Christ is not based on my head knowledge of the Gospel, but rather obedience to God's commands in His holy Word. Daniel honored God, and God honored Daniel by allowing his obedience to God to positively impact Darius' life to the glory of God. I think we too often get the cart before the horse. Robotic evangelism is killing our effectiveness for Christ among unbelievers. It is a Christian's life lived in obedience to the Word of God that is the most effective evangelistic witness.

The Content of Daniel's Prayers

Daniel's prayer was first a prayer of thanksgiving (vs. 10) as he acknowledged God's goodness to him personally. He prayed for guidance and help in verse 11. Doubtless the responsibility of such a high office rested heavily upon Daniel. His allegiances to government and to God were being tested! He was more than 80 years old at this time. He was sixteen when he first arrived in Babylon. Daniel made no attempt to hide his devotion to

or his dependence on God, even though it meant disobeying the government decree (Acts 5:29).

Daniel would not and could not look to Darius (who represented the government of Daniel's day) for the guidance and strength he knew God alone could supply. Apparently his opponents knew where and when he prayed to God, so they "**rushed**" into his room. What did the government officials find? Daniel praying on the **first day** of the 30 day window. Interesting, why did Daniel not just wait 30 days and when the law expired, go back to praying? That is what most half-hearted, part-time disciples of Christ would have done, right? Not a disciple whose habit of life is to pray to the true and living God!

This is certainly a rebuke to our shoddy manner of prayer is it not? Daniel did not miss a day or a time during the day for prayer! He did as he had always done. Was the law unjust? Yes. Did he pout? No. He prayed as he had the habit of doing. Do you have a habit of daily prayer? Should I even have to ask that question? What about it?

Lessons Learned:

Mercy comes from God, not necessarily from Government. Darius tried to spare Daniel but to no avail. Sooner or later, civil governmental authority will put us at odds with our allegiance to Christ. Consider yourself warned! Allegiance to Christ requires active obedience to the Word of God.

Prayer is the highest privilege of the believer. Don't be careless! Daniel was willing to die for his time of prayer with God Almighty, how about you? If it is not that important to you then your allegiance to Christ is called into question.

Dear reader, you and I may be called upon to leave behind our belief system or else. The "or else," whatever form it takes, is coming. Are you ready? Ω

WE HEAR FROM OUR READERS



Thank you for your defense of the faith and for a purified church.

VA

Thank you, Brother Brainard, for keeping up the good informative work of Bro. Hobbs. I'm 92 years of age and retired (not really) Baptist Pastor. I have seen the deterioration of even fundamental separation since I left the old denomination 60 years ago. Blessed to see some younger generation carry the sword.

PA



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fetch, speak, and jump over sticks and through hoops. He didn't just do the stunts, he did them with such a flare, with so much joy, that it was a delight to watch. He clearly loved the opportunity to display his love and adoration for me by responding instantly and totally to my every command. I often held a "circus" for the neighborhood kids to watch me put Prince through his repertoire.

My dad was a firm believer that dogs should never inhabit the same space as humans. They must stay outdoors at all times and in all seasons. Somewhere I had heard about a boy whose dog slept on the foot of his bed, and I wanted Prince to sleep on my bed. My dad compromised a bit and agreed that Prince could come in at night and sleep on the back porch. I decided that if I couldn't bring Prince to my bed, I would take my bed to Prince. I moved my bed to the back porch. When the temperatures got down below zero in the winter, my dad thought I would give it up and move my bed back inside. Instead I would bring Prince under the covers with me, and we would snuggle and keep each other warm.

I could tell you dozens more

anecdotes to illustrate the deep two-way love that developed between Prince and me, but I will let one more suffice. Prince had an incredible sense of time. My school was just across the street from our house, and I always came home for lunch. Every day Prince would meet me at the schoolhouse door at lunch time and again when school was out at 3:00, and we would romp home together. I never had the problems some kids experience from older bullies making their lives miserable on the way home from school. Prince would have torn them to pieces, and they knew it.

Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving in 1935, when I came out of the schoolhouse door, Prince was not there waiting for me. First I was disappointed, then alarmed. When I got home and he wasn't there, either, I was devastated. I went around the neighborhood whistling and calling for him. Some of the other neighborhood kids helped me hunt. When it got dark, my mom said I had to come in for supper. I was so upset I could hardly eat.

Just as supper was ending I heard Prince whimper out back. I rushed to his side, my dad right behind me. Prince's

hind legs seemed to be paralyzed. He was dragging himself through the dirt with his front legs. "Don't get too close. He might bite you. He's been poisoned," my dad said.

Prince went into convulsions, twisting in pain and agony. I longed to hold him in my arms, to tell him how sorry I was, to show him one more time how much I loved him, but Dad said I mustn't. Then he was still. I ran to my bed on the back porch and cried my heart out.

The next morning we held a funeral service, and then we buried him. I was grateful that I didn't have to return to school until Monday. By that time I had begun to get my emotions under control so that I didn't burst out crying every time I thought about him.

Later I heard a rumor that a sheep farmer had poisoned Prince because he thought Prince was the dog who killed one of his sheep a few days prior. Possibly he was right, but I doubt it. Prince was never gone from home long, and never came home bloody.

What if I could have been present when Prince saw the poisoned food and started to eat

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it. What if I had said, “Prince, don’t eat that. It has poison in it.”

What if Prince could talk and tell me what he was thinking? “Why not, Master? Just look at all that nice, wholesome, fresh food. Why, there is hardly any poison there at all. There is a hundred times more good, wholesome meat than there is poison.”

I frequently hear people offering that kind of logic to justify their choice in reading material, in TV programs, in movies, even in the schools they choose to attend. First John 1:5 says, “God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.” Bible reading, good preaching, good Bible teaching—these things will not poison your mind. You can’t say that, however, about a multitude of other things. Every book, article, story, movie, and TV program has a theme, an essence, or you might call it a spirit. Some of these come straight from the pits of hell.

Like the sheep farmer who wrapped his poison in good food, Satan always wraps his poison in something pleasant, interesting, humorous, attractive, or entertaining. John tells us that we should try (test) the spirits to see whether they are of God (1 John 4:1). If they come from God they are healthful; if not, they very well might contain that little dab of poison. If you love them, you wouldn’t poison your dog, or your family, or yourself.

Here is another “what if.” What if Prince had somehow conducted himself in such a way that the sheep farmer would never think that he was a sheep killer? The sheep farmer would have taken his poison elsewhere, wouldn’t he? Maybe that’s why the apostle Paul told us, “Abstain from all appearance of evil” (1 Thess 5:22). Ω

At the time of original publication, Frank Hall was a freelance writer living in Greenville, South Carolina.

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(Continued from page 6 - Birth is the Beginning of Death)

children there? Why do they remain on boards? The only answer is ignorance or apathy. That is not an attack on their person; it is an expression of grief for them.

Let me sound a warning: If you have read this and are beginning to wonder if your church or institution is in view, don’t write me. If you have to question whether or not any of this applies to your loyalties, you already have your answer. You should be asking these questions of those who are taking your money and your youngsters. If you don’t know what to ask, seek help from those who do. Begin with the culture smoke screen. People who hide error are good at smoke and mirrors, and please don’t ask why I do not state any names. Others will do that for you; my task is to deal with ideas. Ω

From [shepherdstaff](#), May 23, 2013

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Want to help?

Please send us the names and addresses of friends, pastors or missionaries you feel would like [The Projector](#).

“Bud” Robinson said he prayed this prayer every morning, “O LORD, give me a backbone as big as a saw log, and ribs like sleepers under the church floor. Put iron shoes on me and galvanized breeches, and hang a wagon-load of determination in the gable end of my soul. And help me to sign the contract to fight the devil as long as I have vision, bite him as long as I have a tooth, and then gum him till I die! Amen.”



Stars of the Morning

THE DRUMMER BOY

Part II

A True Story of the Civil War

(Retold by Aunt Carolyn)



Continued from last issue. Synopsis:
The young drummer boy was sorely wounded in battle but refused chloroform or brandy for the pain as the doctor prepared for the amputation. He was trusting Christ as his strength and stay in his dying hour. "Now doctor, I am ready, and I promise that I will not even groan while you take off my arm and leg if you will not offer me chloroform."

The doctor promised not to give him anything to kill the pain but took a little something for his own nerves before he began his duty. While cutting through the flesh, Charlie Coulson never groaned; but when the doctor took the saw to separate the bone, the boy took the corner of his pillow in his mouth uttering, "O Jesus, blessed Jesus, stand by me now!" He kept his promise and never groaned.

That night the doctor, unable to sleep, returned to the hospital. The night stewards told him that sixteen of the hopeless cases had died and were carried to the dead-house.

"Is Charlie Coulson among the dead?" he asked.

"Oh, no, sir, he is sleeping as sweetly as a babe. He went to sleep singing 'Jesus, Lover of My Soul.'" Amazed, the doctor wondered how the boy could endure such excruciating pain and still sing!

Five days after the amputations, Charlie sent for his doctor. "Doctor," he said, "My time has come. I do not expect to see another sunrise, but thank God, I am ready to go, and before I die I want to thank you for your kindness to me. I know you do not believe in Jesus, but will you please stand here

and see me die, trusting my Savior to the last moment of my life?"

The doctor tried to stay but could not stand by and see a Christian boy die rejoicing in the love of Jesus, Whom the doctor, as a Jew, had been taught to hate.

A few minutes later, a steward called, "Doctor, Charlie Coulson wants to see you."

"I just saw him," the doctor answered, "I cannot see him again!"

"But, sir, he says he must see you once more before he dies." The doctor decided to go to him, say a comforting word, and let him die, but he was determined not to let the boy's words about Jesus influence him. As the doctor sat by his bed, Charlie weakly asked him to take his hand. He said, "Doctor, I love you because you are a Jew; the best Friend I have found in this world was a Jew."

"And who was that?" the doctor asked. He answered, "Jesus Christ. I want to introduce you to Him before I die, and will you promise me, sir, that you will never forget what I say to you?"

The doctor promised, and Charlie said, "Five days ago, while you amputated my arm and leg, I prayed to the Lord Jesus Christ to save your soul."

The words cut deep into the doctor's heart. How could a boy in such pain forget about himself and think of nothing but his Savior and the doctor's unsaved soul? "Well, my dear boy, you will soon be all right," was all the doctor could say, and left. Twelve minutes later Charlie fell asleep, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus."

The boy's dying words made such an impression on the doctor that he could not forget them. For ten long years he fought against Christ, but after the witness of others and the working of God's Spirit, the doctor was wonderfully saved, resigned his commission in the U.S. Army and opened a mission to reach his Jewish brethren. He had "found the Messiah" through the testimony of the young drummer boy!

Like Daniel, Charlie purposed not to defile himself with anything that would not please God, and even in dying, his pure testimony left an indelible impact. The doctor turned to salvation in Christ greatly due to Charlie's love and witness. How about you and me? Are we so loyal to the Lord Jesus Christ and the precepts of His Word that others will believe the Gospel and turn in repentance and faith to Him?

If, like Charlie, death would come to you, would you be ready to meet God? Would you face eternity unafraid? If not, receive Jesus Christ as your only Savior today. Remember, Christ is the Savior of sinners. He said, "Come unto Me."

Based on the true account, "Charlie Coulson, the Drummer Boy, A Christian Hero of the American War" by Dr. M. L. Rossvally (1828-1892). The Chapel Library, Pensacola, FL.

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(Continued from page 5 - Proverb Practicals)

worn by royalty and people of high merit and honor. The old man, having done his duties, shall be as David when he wore his golden crown received as a prize of battle. The old man's crown of grandchildren shall be as Paul's enduring crown of righteousness and as James' eternal crown of life. So many times we are careless, in spite of the Scripture's admonitions to us, in not considering the importance of our actions relative to future generations. When planning to build a building or any structure we naturally ask the question, "What is the building for?" "What is its intended purpose?" "How long is it expected to

last?" Are we not to ask the same questions concerning the building of children and our grandchildren? And when we ask, the answer should be that we are building for eternity. Therefore we are to make the foundations deep and mighty, placing the best material in the structure and always taking much care in how we build.

Considering our grandchildren to come as we rear our children now will exhort us to lay deep Biblical foundations. As this proverb indicates, the quality of a man's children is revealed in his grandchildren for that is when the crown comes. That is when he has finished his course! Ω

(Continued from page 7 - Teaching Tips)

Christian school at great cost! We want to be of help in any way possible. Because God gave you this child, you will ultimately be held accountable to Him. Your child's teacher, who is also accountable to God, must be held in high respect and admiration for their diligent work to educate your child. Children need the security of knowing that their parents respect the teacher and that both "forces" are working together to provide the best educational experience for them.

Ω



Pray for the ministry of The PROJECTOR!