

The PROJECTOR

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

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, Editor

P.O. Box 643, Milton, Florida 32572

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FOR THE GOOD OF YOUR CHILD

By Dr. Dayton Hobbs

What Happened?

Times have changed! I guess that is probably the understatement of our times. Parents of today seem to have little understanding as to what is really in the best interest of their child, whereas in past generations, I believe, the majority of parents knew what was best, even though they may not have been diligent in seeing that it was carried out. Children and parents are basically the same today, that is, both children and parents of any generation are sinners before the Lord and in need of Divine grace in order to be made right with God, however the primary difference in most parents of today as opposed to the parents of yesteryear, as I see it, lies in their Biblical understandings. Most of our parents and grandparents were reared with the Bible, and even those who were not directly from Bible homes were affected by Bible principles which permeated most every area of America's life, especially as it related to the rearing of children!

Is It True Today?

"Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?"

For they verily for a few days chastened us after their

own pleasure (as seemed best to them); but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness." Hebrews 12:9,10

The writer of the book of Hebrews assumed that we all had "fathers of our flesh" who gave us correction and that that correction gave us "reverence" for those fathers. This chastening is again mentioned in verse 10 and is assumed to be the normal thing in the home. I suppose it is a commentary on our times that so many of our present day fathers do not have the "reverence" of their children. I'm afraid that if the book of Hebrews had been written in our times, the writer

would have been constrained to use some other illustration to point out our Heavenly Father's chastening of His children in love and for their profit. It is the failure to understand this principle: Discipline in love for the child's profit, that concerns me most about the modern parent.

Do Parents Love Their Children?

A great deal of the child abuse of our day comes about as a result of the fact that most parents do not understand what is really in the child's best interest. That statement may sound contradictory, however the failure to get their children under their loving command, done in a consistent Biblical way, at an early age leads to the frustration that is a primary cause of child

See GOOD, Page 4

Giving For Eternity

by Mr. Tod Brainard

"Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.

Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice

acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:14-19.

From this passage we see that the Philippian church was a giving Church. They were a people of unselfish character. Their spirit and attitude of giving were unmatched by any church in the Macedonian region. Their partnership in giving led to a fellowship in Paul's suffering for the sake of Christ. They helped Paul carry his burden by means of their material gift.

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Editor's Desk

By Dr. Dayton Hobbs

The Subtlety Of Compromise

"Why trimmest thou thy way to seek love? therefore hast thou also taught the wicked ones thy ways. Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents: I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these. Yet thou sayest, Because I am innocent, surely his anger shall turn from me. Behold, I will plead with thee, because thou sayest, I have not sinned. Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way?" Jeremiah 2:33-36a

Compromise is spiritual decay. Compromise begins with a departure from a previously held Scriptural position. The possibility of compromise is entertained during a time of crisis.

Compromise begins with a decision, a decision that is justified as necessary. Compromise is accompanied with justification that the move or change in direction is designed to get spiritual results. Compromise is a move from what is perceived to be a hard or unloving position to a softer or more loving position. Compromise tends to lead one from strong principle oriented positions to more "people" oriented positions.

The act of compromise causes one to take the position that controversy is caused by well meaning though unloving defenders of the faith. Compromisers tend to be defensive about their new found posi-

tions, whereas, those who stand on principles generally are satisfied with letting God be their defense and allowing time to justify their positions.

Compromise on the part of once strong champions of truth is most often brought on by expediency; a believed need for a change of position brought on by a supposed crisis, yet often clothed in pious sounding reasonings which give supposed credence to the new position taken.

Compromise is subtle. In its beginnings it makes claim to be a more justifiable and spiritual level of caring, but in its end it destroys the effectiveness of the individual or ministry caught in its web. It is as old as its author, the Devil, and is the means of spiritual destruction of every ministry that has ever been deceived by its lies.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world."
I Peter 5:8,9

Letters

Dear Dr. Hobbs,

We receive THE PROJECTOR and enjoy the opportunity of keeping up with the issues facing our American brothers in Christ. The education articles are of special interest to us this year because we've started Mexico City Christian Academy. Keep up the good work! We pray for you.

Sincerely,
LMN, Mexico

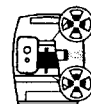
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EDITOR
Dr. Dayton Hobbs

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Stars of the Morning

By "Aunt Carolyn"

The Captain's Only Son



An Illustration by
T. DeWitt Talmadge
Retold for children by
"Aunt Carolyn"

The captain set sail across the Atlantic, his ship heavily laden with valuable cargo. He had a large crew made up of men of many different nationalities. He had picked them up from among the sailors who tramp the wharves of great seaports looking for work.

The captain also had a son, a bright lively boy of twelve with blue eyes and affectionate ways, always obedient, devoted to his father, dependable, and faithful to any duty entrusted to him. It would be a strange father who did not love such a son, and it would be stranger still if his affections were not increased by the fact that he was an only child. In fact, this captain loved his son so dearly and was so fervently attached to him that he was miserable when the boy was out of his sight. He was always afraid some harm would come to his son.

The trip had not been easy or favorable even from the start of the voyage, but when the ship came close to the coast of the country to which she was sailing, a violent storm arose. First the wind came beating up from the south, and dark clouds rolled up in the west, and as the clouds boiled and became more treacherous, lightning flashes began to blaze across the sky and the thunder roared. The captain knew they were in for a dangerous storm, and the crew hurried to prepare for it. The sails were brought down and

secured. The hatches were battened down, and the ship was made ready to run with bare poles before the wind. Soon the storm struck with much force. It seemed the ship was doomed. Would the precious cargo be lost? Was every man aboard doomed to death in this watery grave?

With every gust of wind came the dash of a fierce wave over the ship. Great billows roared up in their mad fight to engulf the ship. Higher and higher came the waves. Fiercer and fiercer grew the winds, and the thunder pealed louder. The lightning now came in blinding flashes, and the rain beat down in torrents. Oh, it was a terrible storm, and nothing but a strong ship could weather it. After hours of battling it, the men's terror was multiplied a thousand times when they discovered the ship's timbers had been sprung by the terrible force of the tremendous waves, and the ship was taking water rapidly. "To the pumps! To the pumps!" Every man had to do his best. It was a matter of life and death as human power opposed the elements of wind and wave, with darkness coming soon. But labor as they might, the water gained steadily in the hold, and the mad billows rolled up and over in great fury.

Suddenly, a new fear stabbed the hearts of the captain and crew. What was that noise roaring like thunder in great pulsations above all the howling storm? Breakers! Breakers! They would be crashed to their death against the boulders of the rocky shore!

"Heave the anchor!" ---But it would not hold!

"Fire the gun!" ---But the distress signal could not be heard past this roaring sea!

"Send up the rockets!" ---But who could send off such warnings in this sea that was now running over the ship as well as under?

Who could carry a distress signal to the very peak of the

main mast? It bowed and cracked with every violent shifting of the ship in the waves. The tip of the mast had even been broken off by the winds.

The captain cried, "Who will go up? Who will carry the distress signal to the top? It is our only chance that our lives may be saved! Who will go up?"

Every man froze in his place. No one volunteered! It would mean certain death! True, every man was surely going to die anyway, but it seemed better to meet death on the deck than away up in the topmost pinnacle of the ship. Every face was pinched with fear, every voice silent to the captain's request.

Presently a thin voice pierced the air and fell on the captain's ear: "Father, I will go up."

Tears rushed to the captain's eyes and the thought of his boy attempting such a deed wrung his heart. But time was precious. "My brave boy, here is the distress signal, carry it up; when my beloved child is willing to make such a sacrifice, God is not far off."

The child seized the signal in his hand and began to climb the mast. "Oh, Father, the wind is blowing so hard!"

"Look up, my son, and go on!", and the child climbed to the main cap.

"Oh, Father, it is so dark that I cannot see you!"

"Look up, my son, and go on." And still upward the frightened boy climbed until he stood on the cross-trees. "Oh, Father, my arms and legs are so weak I am just about to be blown off!"

"Look up, my son, and go on!" With nerveless grasp the heroic child climbed still higher until he reached the main royal yard where the main royal mast had been broken off by the force of the wind. And there

GOOD, From Page 1

abuse. It is my belief that most parents love their children as much today as in other generations, but because of the ignorance today concerning child-rearing from a Biblical perspective, they simply do not know what is best for their child and therefore it is impossible for them to know what to do. There are many voices clamoring to be heard in this area; most of them based upon psychology, which is nothing more than human reasoning, and all of them doomed to failure. The God who made the child is the only one who can give us the answers that are so desperately needed today. True, most will not give any heed to such instruction, but there are those who "have ears to hear" who will "hear and do" what the Bible instructs "for the good of the child."

Are Fundamental Churches Failing?

I'm afraid that one of the reasons why many of the parents who are members of good fundamental churches do not understand these principles is that they have not been taught at church concerning child-rearing and the Biblical principles that tie in with this subject. Sometimes churches can put such an emphasis upon soul-winning and reaching the lost of the world, which is certainly a very important part of our mission, that we neglect the training of parents in the most important role of rearing the next generation of servants who are to carry on the work of the Gospel in their generation, should Jesus tarry. A stronger church can only come from a stronger generation, and a stronger generation will only come as we pastors and teachers take the time necessary to train our parents in the art of Biblical child-rearing.

What is Good For the Child?

This must be our watchword! Not, what is good for the parent? Not, what is good for the teacher or the school or the principal or the pastor, but: What is good for the child? At times there may be

some room for an honest difference of opinion, however, for the most part, I believe we will be able to establish Bible principles which are clear and authoritative.

An Understanding of Authority

Of utmost importance is a clear and practical understanding of Authority. I realize this is the "out" word for this generation, but in order to be successful in any area of life we must grasp this truth. Jesus said, "...All power (authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt. 28:18b. This authority was delegated to the Man, Christ Jesus by His Father in whose hands lie absolute power. Authority is the means whereby God exercises control over all His creation.

Delegated Authority

Only God the Father holds absolute power, all other power is delegated. As we have seen in Matthew 28:18, all power that is exercised in heaven and earth is in the hands of the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Every thing that takes place in heaven and here upon the earth is either directed or else permitted by Jesus Christ. We must remember: "Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain." Ps. 76:10.

Even those to whom Christ has given authority in this world can only use it to praise Him. This should help us as Christians to be content with the lot we have been given by our Lord, knowing that when we are in harmony with our Lord Jesus Christ, we are in harmony with His authority over us and we should be content with that authority whether it be administered by saint or sinner. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28. Delegated authority is just as much authority as is absolute authority or else we would have to conclude that the authority given to the Lord Jesus over heaven and earth by His heavenly Father is less than complete and effective. Delegated authority is simply restricted to specific areas, yet in the area it covers, delegated authority carries the effectiveness and power of the absolute authority of our Heavenly Father. God delegates authority for it to be used, not put on a shelf, and it's effective use brings order and blessing to the area of our lives affected by that delegated authority. According to Vine, in his Dictionary of New Testament Words, "Exousia", the principle Greek word translated "authority" in the New Testa-

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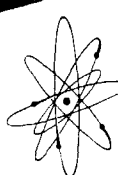
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Teaching Tips

By Mrs. Doris Peppard

Nurturing

Gone are the days when children were "nurtured." By nurtured, I mean more than just fed, clothed and living in suitable shelter. Children need to be nurtured. Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines nurture as "to feed; nourish, educate; to bring up." With so many single-parent homes, homes with both parents working and simply the fast paced society we live in today, many children are being neglected in this important area. If you took a poll of your students, you would quickly see the problem clearly. Many children have no official bed-time, many do not eat breakfast (either by choice or lack of time in the morning), many watch TV on an unlimited basis, many are brought to school or Day Care early and are picked up late (just enough time in the evening to do homework, eat supper, have a bath and get to bed), parents are "exhausted" and either unwilling or ignorant of the nurturing needs of children.

Teachers in a Christian School have the responsibility to provide quite a bit of this "nurturing." After all, we have these children during the best time of their day. Nurturing children cannot be done without thought, consideration and much prayer. We must provide this need of our students whether they are the youngest group or those about to graduate from high school. All children need to be nurtured. If it is our desire, God will burden our hearts and help us know how, when, and where this nurturing should be done. Teaching academics is certainly important, but in order to

See NURTURING, Page 6

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SON, From Page 3

he fixed the signal! What a shout went up from the crew! Brave boy, a hero among a million, all the world must know of his bravery. But the father was silent. His heart seemed to be frozen by the icy terror that was upon him from the moment his beloved and only child left the deck to climb the ratlines and the topmost mast, until God delivered him safely into his arms again.

It worked! Soon the answering signal came from the shore. Soon the lifeboats were put out and drew closer and closer as the foundering ship moved swiftly toward the rocks. ---Boom! It was the glad sound of the gun that fired the lifeline. It struck, and thanks be to God, it was made fast! Saved! Yes, through the heroism of that boy, the idol of his father, the whole crew was saved. Though the cargo was lost, there was no less gladness, for everyone knew that the crew also would have been lost but for the sacrifice of the father and his only child.

This world is also sinking under the curse of sin and will someday be destroyed, but God the Father gave His beloved Son, His only begotten Son to be the sacrifice for sin. Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, left the glory of Heaven and came into the hatred and treachery of this wicked world and gave His life as the sacrifice for sin. His blood was shed for your sin. Though all the world be lost there is no need for you to perish. "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. You can accept Christ's sacrifice for your sin. You can reach Heaven's shore safely. You can make sure of salvation. "As many as received Him (the Lord Jesus Christ), to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." John 1:12.



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NURTURING, From Page 5

reach these young people for Christ, we must not only love them generally, but show our students specific examples of our love by nurturing them.

Even children from the best of Christian homes are not immune to this problem. They have the same needs as those children from unsaved homes. All children need to grow up normally and healthy in mind, soul, and spirit. God will give us the wisdom to nurture our students if we ask Him.

Teachers can "nurture" their students by:

1. Praying for them consistently.
2. Showing interest - notice new hair -ribbons, new shoes, sad or happy countenances, a new hair style, etc.
3. Make parents aware of children's needs as noticed in the classroom environment: If a student shows sleepiness, hunger, or unusually listless behav-

ior, the parents need to know. They will probably help by getting their child to bed earlier, or making sure they have eaten a proper breakfast before school. This is one important way to work with the home in helping the child.

4. Watch your student's eating habits while at school. Notice if a child is eating too many sweets, or an inadequate diet. These are easily corrected and may really help the student do better in school.
5. Visit the homes of your students. Get to know each child's situation.
6. Listen to each student. It is so easy to put a child off, but with prayer and guidance, the Lord will show you when it is important to hear what the child has to say and when the child should be quiet and listen to what you have to say or teach.
7. Be consistent. If you notice a "B" student suddenly making "D's," there is a real problem. If your grading system is consistent, the students should be fairly consistent in their grades also. Parents are usually interested in knowing if their child is having a difficult time and will be glad to help work through the problem.

All these suggestions are really different ways of saying that we should love our students. Remember, Christ gave us the perfect example of a Master-teacher. We have to go to the Word of God to see and learn. I Peter 2:21 states, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps."

GOOD, From Page 4

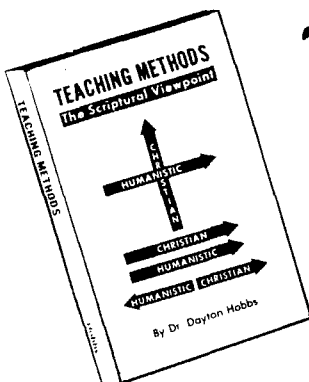
ment, "denotes freedom of action, right to act; used of God, it is absolute, unrestricted... used of men, authority is delegated." The Greek word "Exousia" is also translated "power" approximately 70 times in the New Testament. It is vital that we understand that "Exousia" carries with it the right to use authority or power by men as well as God.

Areas of Delegated Authority

The three areas designated in the Scriptures in which God has delegated for man (mankind) to have authority over another man or men are the home, the civil government and the church. In the latter of these, the church (local), subjection is voluntary (Heb. 13:17), whereas in the home (Eph. 5:21,22, 6:1) and civil government (Rom. 13:1-4) submission is required. Those who are delegated authority may further delegate authority in some cases, however, they cannot absolve themselves of ultimate responsibility to God by so doing. For example, parents may delegate the authority over their children to a school for the period of time when they are at school, however, it is the parent that determines the extent of this delegation of authority over their child, and the parent continues to have the ultimate responsibility for what the child receives or does not receive in instruction, discipline, moral training, spiritual training, etc. Ultimately it is the parent who must have the final say about the growth and development of the child and in what kind of environment this takes place, for it is the parent that will answer to God for the child and the use of the authority delegated to that parent for the development of that child. The parent is given the authority, therefore, the parent needs to know what the scriptures teach concerning what is in the best interest of the child.

To be continued...





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GIVING, From Page 1

This gift, brought to the apostle by Epaphroditus, was not the first nor the only token of assistance rendered to Paul by the Philippian church. No other church contributed towards his income, needs, and the expenses of his journeys, except the Philippians, who supported him faithfully.

In this passage, there are three principles of giving that we must grasp as Christians:

- I. Principle of Unselfishness in Giving - vs. 14-16, 18
- II. Principle of Transmutation - vs. 17
- III. Principle of Investment - vs. 17

The Principle of Unselfishness

The arch principle of Christian giving is best described in one word - UNSELFISHNESS. J. B. Lightfoot best describes the Philippian churches' unselfish giving:

"The Macedonian churches had been called upon to contribute to the wants of their poorer brethren in Judea, who were suffering from famine. They had re-

sponded nobly to the call. Deep-sunk in poverty themselves and sorely tried by persecution, they came forward with eager joy and poured out the riches of their liberality, straining their means to the utmost in order to relieve the sufferers."

The apostle Paul himself stated that they Philippians exceeded his expectations, for "first they gave their own selves to the Lord, and to us by the will of God." II Corinthians 8:5. Biblical giving, as illustrated by the church at Philippi, is not based on how much is given, but by how much is sacrificed for God's glory and praise. The Lord doesn't need our money. He owns the "cattle on a thousand hills, the wealth in every mine." So why does God want us to give? The Lord desires to teach us the lesson of giving, the kind of giving that sent His only begotten Son to the Cross. It was unselfish and sacrificial giving. The lesson to be taught is wholly Christ-like. The lesson once learned will reap not material or earthly rewards, but eternal rewards and will be a sweet smell, well pleasing to God.

GIVING, From Page 7

The Word of God drives home the principle of unselfish, sacrificial giving. Luke 6:35 states, "... Do good and lend, hoping for nothing again." Giving is not to get. He who gives to another of whom he expects to receive the same again, is trading. He is seeking gain. What he wants is profit for himself and not another's benefit. Such a concept displays a lack of scriptural understanding. Giving is unselfish. Giving has another's good solely in view. Giving to those who cannot repay exemplifies God's gift of His Son, knowing that not all would accept His free gift and that none could repay the debt owed. A. T. Pierson once wrote, "He is the noblest, truest giver who thinks only of the blessing he can bring to another's body and soul." Such is the Biblical principle of unselfish giving.

The Principle of Transmutation


Verse 17: "... but I desire fruit." Paul understood the principle of transmutation. Transmutation is the changing of anything from one substance into another substance or into something of a different nature. Paul chose the word "fruit" to draw a picture or description of the product of giving. The product is not of a material nature, but rather a spiritual fruit that he desired to "abound to the account" of the individuals in Philippi.

Money is a worldly possession. It has its origins in this world and it is a part of our earthly life. Needless to say, it is a necessary part of our life. Money is not in itself evil. It is the love of money that is evil. Money given unselfishly to the cause of Christ can in turn reap eternal value in souls won to Christ. Tracts, Bibles, Bible stories, tapes, and missionary support must be paid for. Thus, a transmutation of this world's wealth into eternal souls takes place when a believer in faith unselfishly gives to the work of the Lord. I believe this is what Luke

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16:9 teaches. "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon (money) of unrighteousness; that when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations." That which is material (money) becomes immaterial (fruit - spiritual and eternal). Is this not what is meant by true riches in glory? The treasure laid up in heaven is the "fruit" of believers who give themselves and their gifts to God from a heart of love.

The Principle of Investment

Verse 17 continues: "... I desire fruit that may abound to your account." J. B. Lightfoot explains that recompense (the investment) which is placed on your account increases with each demonstration of your love in giving. Transmutation - the changing of the "unrighteous mammon" into spiritual, eternal fruit - increases to your credit. This is the principle of investment. Our Lord Himself teaches this principle in Matthew 25. Christ compared the kingdom of heaven with a lord and his servants. When the lord returned to find the third servant unfaithful with his money, he said, "Thou oughtest to have put my money to the exchangers." The lord refuted the argument of the

unprofitable servant by showing that money not invested is money lost. The principle of investment is what Paul builds on when he declares that he did not seek the gift itself, but the profit which increases to the believer's account.

Sacrificial, unselfish giving to the needs of others reaps not a material or earthly blessing that is temporary, but rather an eternal treasure far greater than anything imaginable. Our Lord wants us to turn His money back over to Him so that he can place it with eternal value to our account. What a wonderful Lord! What a lesson on eternal giving! May we learn these principles of true, eternal giving.

1 Lightfoot, J. B., Biblical Essays, (reprinted from the 1893 edition by Macmillan and Company.) 1979, Baker Book House, p. 249.

2 Ibid.

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