

# The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, EDITOR

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

## OBEDIENCE



*as a Fruit of Love*  
by Dr. Dayton Hobbs

*Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.*

—Phil. 2:12, 13

from the heart and with the right motive, else it is not satisfactory to God. Outward compliance may be enough for the teacher or the parent or other authority over the child, but it is not the kind of obedience that the Scriptures teach and that God requires from His own. I'm afraid that we as adults expect, require, and get too little from the children committed to our care. This is true both academically and physically; that is, that children are probably capable of much more than we require. However, I believe this failure in expectation is most damaging in the area of obedience to authority when we are satisfied with some form of discipline by persuasion or reward

*continued next page*

**I**T IS NOT ENOUGH that we do the right thing; we must do the right thing for the right reason. It is not sufficient that we say the right words; it is imperative that we speak from a pure heart, without guile or impure motive. It is the heart that God is primarily concerned with, "for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34). Obedience must come

Is Separation  
Still Important?

BY JOHN E. ASHBROOK, PASTOR  
BIBLE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
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**I** AM TROUBLED BY A THEME which I have heard with increasing frequency among young fundamentalists. The reasoning goes something like this:

The doctrine of separation was very important during the 1930's when men and churches were leaving apostate denominations. It was likewise important during the 1950's and 1960's when new evangelicalism was attacking fundamentalism and claiming associations, missions, fellowships, and schools. However, in the 1990's, when we have

fundamental fellowships like the Ohio Bible Fellowship, the Fundamental Baptist Fellowship, and the Fundamental Baptist Fellowship of North America, the doctrine of separation does not need the emphasis which we have given it in the past. We can concentrate on evangelism and growth.

What about this thesis? Is separation still important? Can we be good fundamentalists without twanging the string of separation all the time?

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Laodicean Leaven



The  
Editor's  
Desk

## HOUSEHOLD SALVATION

**A**FTER TELLING the Christians in the Church at Philippi to "work out their own salvation with fear and trembling" (Phil. 2:12b)—that is, by the grace of God to get busy working out what God had put within them when they received Christ—he then informs them that this work will, in fact, be accomplished by God, not themselves, for "it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do [work] of his good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13). The willingness to work, as well as the accomplishing of the work, is of God. What then is left for man to do?

I'm afraid there are some who see this verse as the perfect excuse to do nothing but sit down and wait for God to move them into action. To them, not only does God get the credit for the work, but He also gets the blame if no work is done. These same "Christians" bring children into the world (they are capable in this area) and then expect God to somehow bring them up to adulthood well-mannered, well-disciplined, with humble and contrite hearts, and the very essence of spirit-filled Christians ready to spend their lives in self-sacrificing service for the cause of Christ. When this does not take place such parents have a ready answer such as, "Well, we are not to

that may bring some degree of peace and tranquility instead of obedience to our spoken word because of the child's desire to please the parent or teacher. Obedience in order to bring pleasure to one's parents not only brings that desired pleasure to the parents, but also a great degree of pleasure to the child. The added bonus of this is the pleasure it brings to our heavenly Father.

### ☛ OFF MY ROCKER? ☛

Some of you may think I am dreaming or "off my rocker" to suppose or suggest that such a discipline for children is possible, much less obtainable on this side of eternity. I submit to you that this is the only kind of discipline that leads to an obedience that is pleasing to God and worthy of His rewards.

### ☛ THE PHILIPPIAN PATTERN ☛

In the passage quoted above, Paul clearly lays out the pattern for obedience that pleases the Father. The order is as follows:

First—When Paul was present with the Philippians, he taught them to obey him as he taught them the Word of God, especially concerning their attitude toward one another and toward the unsaved world around them.

Second—Now that Paul was in prison in Rome and not able to be present with them, he expected them to continue that obedience, understanding that it was God which was at work in them.

Third—Obedience to the will of God brought "good pleasure" to the Father.

Therefore, the ultimate purpose of obedience is to learn to bring good pleasure to God the Father.

### ☛ PAUL'S LOVE PRODUCED OBEDIENCE ☛

Paul's love for these Philippians is evident throughout this epistle, and it was that deep and sincere love for them expressed in his every word and action toward them that gave them such a desire to please Paul by their obedience to his teachings. They knew his love was genuine and it pleased them greatly to please the Apostle Paul. In Paul's absence there is to be a transfer on their part to learn to work out their own

growth and development in the salvation they had obtained through their individual faith in Christ. They are to understand that both the will to follow and the work accomplished by following in obedience to the will of God are both from God and that the ultimate reward of obedience is the pleasure it brings to God.

### ☛ A HIGHER STANDARD ☛

This, I believe, is a much higher standard of obedience than complying in order to get a reward for that compliance. There is a place for rewards (which we intend to address in a future article), that is, for faithful service rendered, not for the purpose of modifying behavior.

### ☛ THE FORMULA ☛

There is a very clear and definite formula that is illustrated in the Scripture that leads to the pleasing and abundant life we desire for each of our children. A phrase in Hebrews 11:6 indicates that requirement for success: "He [God] is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." The more important a thing is, the more diligence is required to obtain it. Faith understands this principle and refuses to quit and be defeated. The godly upbringing of our children should be the Christian parent's and the Christian teacher's final and perfect purpose in life. To have a child that enjoys pleasing us is much more likely to lead to an adult who gets pleasure from pleasing God than to have a child who only obeys from fear of punishment or to get a reward. That type of submission to authority is not likely to persevere under difficult and trying circumstances.

### ☛ LOVE AND AUTHORITY ☛

Most of us have a warped view of authority. The word *authority* has taken a worse beating than probably any other word in the dictionary, with the possible exception of *love*. Authority is not a cold, harsh word carrying connotations of tyrants, dictators, and the like, but a word of Scripture that carries with it the means for the execution of love in a practical sense in our lives. For love to be put to work for us for our benefit, God uses the instrument of authority. Authority, like other good things, can be



### THE CHILD'S CHOICE

corrupted; however, we are not to discard it or ignore its place and purpose in our lives simply because some have misused it. As a matter of fact, love's primary means of being the asset to our children that I believe God desires it to be is when that love flows to them through the avenues of authority—that is, their parents, teachers, etc. No child should have to suffer under the hand of one who does not love him. The problem comes when those who genuinely love the children under their authority do not have the understanding they need of the proper administration of that authority for the good of the child. Authority and love must never be separated. God puts authority over us because He loves us. Authority is good for us and given for our benefit. This understanding is not supposed to begin with the child's grasp of this truth, but with those who hold and administer authority. When I, for instance, as a parent, get an insight into God's purpose for delegating authority to me for my child's welfare and training, I will begin not only to use it, but hopefully to use it more effectively.

### A CHILD'S PERCEPTIONS

Those under authority, especially small children, do not initiate—they respond to the initiative of those directing them. Young children cannot verbalize their perceptions; however, they have an ability to read their trainers with unexcelled and unflinching accuracy, I believe. From my more than forty-five years of dealing with children, parents, and teachers, I have never failed to see, in my judgment, an uncoached child not respond accurately to a parent or teacher. Their response is unbiased and accurate, I have observed. If this is true, and I believe that it is, then it puts the responsibility on us as the trainer. We need to examine carefully what our attitude is toward a child. Do we genuinely love the child or the children we teach? Are we coming across as weak and anemic, or confident and secure in our calling? Are we meticulously fair in dealing with children or do we to some extent let our preferences get in our way? You can be sure that you cannot fool children in these areas. They read you like a book, and it is my contention that they read you accurately.

Examine yourself as a parent or teacher in the following areas. Children are much more likely to enjoy obeying someone:

(1) that they perceive genuinely loves them—not emotional feelings—but who really has their interest at heart;

(2) that they respect, one they perceive to be genuine and not a fraud (Respect them, and they will respect you.);

(3) that they perceive to be fair (This has a much higher priority with children than it does with adults. Adults assume they are fair; children require it.);

(4) that they know expects to be obeyed (Here, again, you cannot fake it, at least not for long. You must believe that the children will obey you, and they will.).

### GET THE POINT?

My point is: Administer authority with genuine love for those you are responsible for training, using Scriptural methods (we plan to say more about that in future articles), and the fruit of your labor will very likely be servants who get satisfaction and pleasure from obeying.

### A PERSONAL WORD

My mother was a strict disciplinarian who kept behind our dining room door a supply of peach tree switches, which she had to use on me occasionally, I have to admit. However, the thing I remember most about my mother is not the switches, but the love she had for all her children and the desire of her heart that her children would be loved and accepted by all who knew them. As I look back upon my youth from this end of the spectrum (my senior citizen years) I realize that the greatest hurt I ever felt was when I disappointed my mother, and that my greatest pleasure was in pleasing her. I understand now that her success resided in her love—love that was not primarily an emotion but a genuine desire for the good of the one loved.

(To Be Continued)

take Proverbs 22:6 and all the other promises to parents concerning child-rearing literally," or "Well, you can't be expected to bring up a godly child in today's environment." What they are saying in effect, though they would never admit it is, "I didn't fail; God must have."

### THE WORK OF FAITH

Faith is man's part in this formula of cooperative work between God and man—faith that works. First, we must believe what God says and believe that He means it just as He says it. I believe God is capable of expressing Himself adequately, and if the promises of God (in this case, the promises concerning successful child-rearing) can be taken at face value, which they can be, then we have an adequate basis for believing that we can rear children who will grow up to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Malachi informs us that the rearing of a godly seed is what marriage is all about (Mal. 2:15).

Hebrews 11:6 is a key verse, I believe, in this regard: "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." We are told in the next verse (v. 7), that Noah believed God's Word concerning a future event, a universal flood, and began the process of working out his own salvation and that of his family by preparing an ark. This act of faith required years of work and drew the reproach of a godless world; however, the thing Noah set out to do was accomplished: the salvation of his household.



*continued from cover*

## God's Commands Have Not Changed

At least three things need to be observed. They are three things which have not changed with the passage of time. First, the biblical commands for separation have never changed. Men may choose to ignore them; but they have not been removed from Scripture.

Back in the dusty corridors of Old Testament time God rebuked His servant Jehoshaphat by asking, "Shouldst thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord?" About 900 years later Paul wrote to the Corinthians about being joined to unbelievers in religious endeavor and said: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers..." and, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord..." Toward the end of the first century John gave guidance to an hospitable "elect Lady" by saying, "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." None of these questions or commands was limited to any specific era. They are just as apropos in 1997 as they were in 850 BC or 90 AD.

### Preference or Doctrine?

I fear that some men see separation as a personal preference rather than a Bible doctrine. However, it is a Bible doctrine. To say that the doctrine of separation does not need the emphasis that we have given it in the past is similar to saying that the doctrines of inspiration, justification, or sanctification do not need the emphasis that we have given them in the past. It is true, in church history, that there have been times when special emphasis was placed on individual doctrines; but it has never been true that any Bible doctrine was unimportant and could be minimized.

### A Fundamentalist Without Crusading

We dare not lose sight of the fact that we cannot preserve the fundamentalist position without crusading for it. As a

young man I was elected to the Executive Committee of the Independent Fundamental Churches of America, a declared fundamentalist group at that time. A new president, elected about the same time, professed to believe in separation but felt that there had been too much talk about it. He suggested that the group should continue to stand where it had always stood, but that it should minimize talk about separation. It took separation off the marquee of its distinctives. I confess that, at that time, I had not had enough experience to see the folly of that policy.

The cutting edge of separation was removed from the *Voice* magazine and the group moved from fundamental to new evangelical in an amazingly short period of time. Silence will always lead to the weaker position, not the stronger one. The Biblical command for separation has never been changed and we dare not minimize it in any age.

### New Evangelicalism Still Appeals

Second, the appeal of new evangelicalism to the fundamentalist has never been changed. There is a false confidence in much of fundamentalism which says, "We are fundamentalists, and new evangelicalism can't touch us." Stop and think that over. The original new evangelicals were fundamentalists who thought that they were adding some improvements to their position.

### Ockenga the Fundamentalist?

It is impossible to consult Harold John Ockenga, "The Father of New Evangelicalism." He is no longer living. However, I believe that he would have thought himself a fundamental separatist in 1929 when he followed J. Gresham Machen out of Princeton Seminary to complete his education at the newly established Westminster Seminary. He had taken a step of separation for which he paid a price. When he made the changes in his position which resulted in new evangelicalism he thought that he was

improving his fundamentalist heritage. He felt that separation could be eliminated from the agenda while maintaining the rest of the doctrinal position of fundamentalism.

The title of George Marsden's book on the history of Fuller Seminary, *Reforming Fundamentalism*, suggests

that the founders of Fuller

Theological Seminary

thought of them-

selves as reformers

(not abandoners)

of fundamental-

ism. They did not

see that they were

launching their boat into a

whole new stream of theological

thinking. My point is simply this: If

fundamentalists of the past were tempted

to lapse into the easier road of new

evangelicalism, we would be fools to

think that the temptation no longer

exists.

### The Lure of Apparent Success

Every fundamentalist would love to see more decisions than he does and have a larger ministry than he has. The sight of large campaigns, full stadiums, streams of seekers, community popularity, and popular status tempt us to rationalize God's commands. The temptation of apparent success is always present. I say, "apparent success," for real success is to know and do the will of God, regardless of results.

### The Lure of Intellectual Recognition

New evangelicalism has always had the desire to be intellectually recognized. I think it is fair to say that the root of that temptation lies in all of us. A young fundamentalist who can think, craves to have that thinking recognized by other thinkers.

However, the other thinkers are outside of his club. The temptation is there to sand off the rough edges of fundamentalism to be accepted by the thinkers and publishers of academia. That is still a temptation which attracts men from fundamentalism to new evangelicalism.

*We dare not lose sight of the fact that we cannot preserve the fundamentalist position without crusading for it.*



**The Lure of the Social Agenda**

The social agenda of new evangelicalism is something which still attracts men. The modernists were the originators of the social gospel when they no longer believed the saving gospel but did not want to discontinue preaching. The new evangelicals became involved because the modernists always mocked them for not helping society as they purported to be doing. Gradually the stigma of the social gospel wore off and the glamour of the social agenda began to gleam. The appeal to intellect comes in again at this appeal. We like to think that, if we have wise answers to the world's problems, the world will have to recognize us. In addition, we can attract people who are personally involved in some of the social problems on which we have taken positions. This has led to the Hybels-type approach of gathering people by appealing to their "felt needs"—divorce, poverty, single parenting, etc.

**The Easy Road**

The attraction of new evangelicalism is still there. At the inception of new evangelicalism a large group of men, churches, schools, and missions declared themselves a part of it. Since that time it has seemed as if the new evangelicals were like cowboys rounding up the strays. One by one they have picked off former fundamentalist men and institutions. Those gathered by later defection from fundamentalist ranks now outnumber the original founders. New evangelicalism is the easy road, the intellectual road, the road of new approaches and the glamorous road of large campaigns. Many a former fundamentalist has switched roads. We dare not think that we are immune to the blandishments of new evangelicalism. As long as we are in the flesh they will appeal.

**Prophecy Has Not Changed**

Finally, the biblical prophecy about a one-world church has not changed. As a dispensationalist I believe that there will be a tribulation and one of the features of it will be great amalgamation of religion.

We have watched the one-world church being built by the National and World Councils of Churches. It began by attracting the modernists. During the past two decades it has made its appeal to the new evangelicals by seeking common causes, personal meetings, and invitations to its gatherings. Billy Graham has helped to bridge the gap by favorable response to these invitations. Roman Catholicism has been drawn in by the same methods. Such things as Evangelicals and Catholics Together (ECT) have also helped to bridge the chasm. The charismatic movement has been able to take giant steps over doctrinal issues by the strategy of dwelling on experience instead of truth.

**Pulling Down the Walls**

At the present time we are surrounded by the enthusiasm of Promise Keepers. This men's movement threatens to be more dangerous to fundamentalism than the Billy Graham crusades. It has openly espoused the theme of "pulling down the walls." Believers, Roman Catholics, Mormons and the rest of the cults have been welcomed. Promise Keepers, in its short existence, has destroyed doctrinal barriers that no other approach could topple. The only thing which can keep fundamental churches distinct from the ecumenical church is a strong emphasis on the doctrine of biblical separation. Is separation still important? Yes, it is critically important. The biblical command for separation has never been changed. We are to guide ourselves by it. It must be the compass setting for the people in our pews. Congregations need to understand the doctrine so that they know why their pastor takes the stand he does. The appeal of new evangelicalism has never been changed. The same forces which created it are still a temptation to the flesh and can trap us too. Men from fundamentalist schools end up in the new evangelical camp because they have not been taught the basic principles of biblical separation. The prophetic plan of the end time has never been changed. We are closer than ever before to the realization of Satan's one-world religious system. As that amalgamation nears completion the pressure will increase.

Separation is the biblical doctrine which has produced the fundamental church which has been the principal witness to the truth in our generation. It is my conviction that every fundamental school dedicated to training pastors should include a one-semester course in biblical separation to set the course for the ministry of its graduates. If the fundamental church is to continue until our Savior comes we must see that the doctrine of biblical separation is crucially important in the 1990's.

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**FIRST CENTURY  
WARNINGS  
TO  
21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
Parents and Teachers**

*by Rev. Tod Brainard*

**O**UR LORD JESUS CHRIST was concerned about children and their well-being. His concern, however, for the welfare of children was of a different sort and with far greater consequences than considered by most people today. Spiritual child abuse gets no headlines in the media but is prevalent in our homes, churches, and Christian schools. It would do us well in our sophisticated 21<sup>st</sup> Century society to pay attention to our Lord's warnings to those who work with children! It is serious business and not to be taken lightly. Children are the special concern of God Almighty and His Son Jesus Christ. There are three warnings given to us in Matthew chapters 18 & 19 regarding children. The heart of Christ is revealed to us in a vivid way concerning children in these warnings.

**THE DANGER  
OF OFFENDING CHILDREN**

*But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.*

—Matthew 18:6

It is important first of all to know that our text is not merely figurative language about new converts as some Bible commentators teach. Rather, Christ is talking about real *children* and real *consequences* to those who offend children.

The word *offend* comes from the Greek word *skandalizo* from which we get our English word *scandal*. The *skandalon* was that part of a trap to which the bait was attached, hence the trap or snare itself. To *offend* then is to

cause to fall into a trap or to be the cause of one falling into a trap. Now notice the full force of Christ's warning, "Beware of offending a child by causing him to fall into a trap."

Parents, pastors, and teachers should make children their special concern. Christ did. To care only for a child's health, education, and welfare is never enough and constitutes spiritual child abuse.

Dr. Griffith Thomas wrote many years ago these important words,

It is indeed an inadequate parent who is concerned merely for children's welfare or worldly success; his supreme duty is to consider their souls; for if only parents and teachers were as anxious about spiritual realities as they are for education and position, homes and schools would be not merely very different, but also bear constant witness to childhood's essential relationship to God.<sup>1</sup>

We must remember who we are teaching, and more importantly, that we are teaching for God. We know that this kind of teaching is desperately needed. We are to remember the *woe* attached to this warning—that of grave consequences to those who cause children to stumble and fall spiritually.

**AREAS IN WHICH CHILDREN  
ARE OFFENDED**

*Come ye children, hearken unto me:  
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.*

—Ps. 34:11

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:*

*For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck*

—Proverbs 1:7-9

*Area #1.* Children must be taught the *fear* of properly constituted authority, that is the *fear of the Lord*. God is the Supreme Authority. The Scriptures seem to teach clearly that no man, woman, or child has ever been saved who did not first fear God, the Supreme Authority. This teaching of the fear of the Lord is foundational and is the beginning of knowledge. Mothers and fathers are the primary teachers of the fear of the Lord and they do that by exercising the authority God has given them through experiences in the child's life. A child should never be allowed to think he operates on the same level as an adult. If this is allowed, the child will fall into a trap of ignorance of the fear of God. Do you desire above all else to see your children come to Christ? Or do you wish to bring up a fool that despises wisdom and instruction?

*Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.*

—Matt. 18:14

*Area #2.* Children must be taught *truthfulness*. To permit unchallenged lying from a child is to offend that child. There are parents who think that their children do not lie. The Bible says otherwise: "The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies" (Ps. 58:3). Telling the truth is such a vital thing. God is Truth. He does not lie. There is nothing that is false or untrue in God. Telling the truth is God-like. If truth-telling is not established early in a child's life, it leads to a lifetime of deceitfulness and double dealing.

*Area #3.* Children must be taught *humility*. To permit a child to think highly of himself and his abilities is offensive. The child stumbles on the root of pride and pretension. Humility and the fear of God go hand in hand. Remember God "saveth such as be of a *contrite* spirit" (Ps. 34:18). (See also Is. 57:15, 66:2.) Humility and contrition are the marks of proper training.



THE DANGER OF DESPISING CHILDREN

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones. —Matt. 18:10

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, to despise means "to think slightly of, to consider as nonimportant, not worthy of time and thought, to disregard, to minimize the importance of." Vine's Expository Words of the New Testament defines this word despise as meaning "to down the mind." Notice Christ said to "take heed" that ye despise not. In other words, be aware that you can easily slide into this mind-set when working with children. Take heed! Beware!

How can you despise children? There are many ways, of course, but these three would be near the top of the list: Intellectual Pride, Laziness, and Carelessness.

Intellectual pride is a curse whether it is found in the halls of academia, on Wall Street, or in a Christian school. Some teachers may say, "These children are just incapable of gathering my vast wealth of knowledge. They are stupid and slow." Maybe the children know you despise them. They could not care less about how much knowledge you think you

have. What an awful state! You had best not look down on the children God has entrusted you. TAKE HEED!

Laziness can be a contributing factor as well. "Our school spends too much time in in-service training." If that is your attitude, then maybe you need to find another line of work. "He also that is slothful [lazy] in his work is brother to him that is a great waster [destroyer]" (Prov. 18:9). The Word of God says that a lazy person is a destroyer, not a builder. Therefore, we may assume that a lazy parent or teacher is a destroyer of children.

Carelessness, that is, lacking care, love, and compassion, is probably the greatest problem when it comes to teaching and training children. We probably all have trouble loving them as we ought. We don't care enough about these little ones to pour our hearts and souls into them. Christ said, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones."

heaven. And he laid his hands on them and departed thence.

—Matt. 19:13-15

We are very slow to listen to our Lord, and these disciples illustrated this propensity by forgetting the lessons He had taught them previously. These disciples were approached by mothers and fathers who wanted to see Jesus Christ and have Him pray for them. Notice: the disciples rebuked these parents; however, Christ received them and their children. What does that tell us? We must never block the way to Christ. We must ever be sensitive and attentive to God's Word so as not to become a stumbling block over which children fall.

Working with children is not a job, it is a serious and blessed opportunity. Are we deserving of millstones about our neck or are we working with God in accordance with His Word to train aright the children He has given us.

And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

—Matt. 18:5

1 W. H. Griffith Thomas, Outline Studies in Matthew, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1961, p. 280.

THE DANGER OF DULLNESS

Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of

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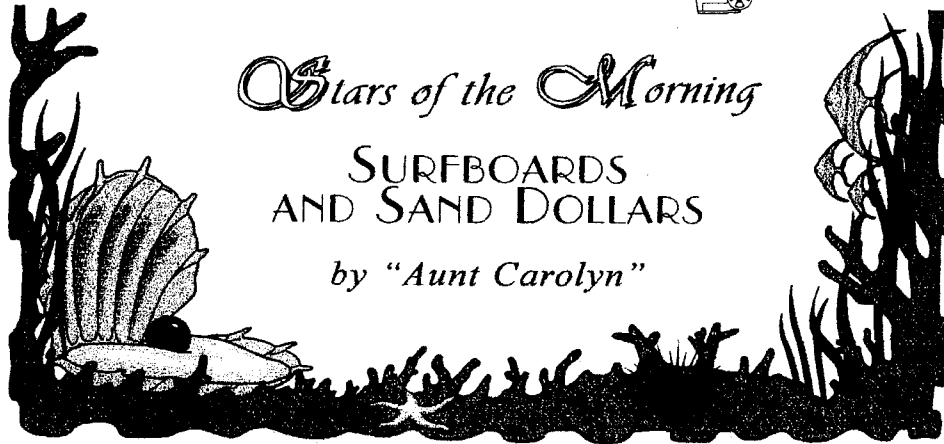
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## Stars of the Morning

### SURFBOARDS AND SAND DOLLARS

by "Aunt Carolyn"



#### THE STORY THUS FAR:

*Desperately wanting to keep the \$300 he found on the beach but knowing he must return it to its owner, Zeb's heart was in his throat as he knocked on the door of the little cottage. Who was inside? What would happen if they answered the door?*

#### AND NOW ... *the exciting conclusion!*

*After* A PAUSE, he heard slow, uneven footsteps. The door opened slowly, and through the locked screen a thin voice spoke.

"Yes, what can I do for you?" The voice was soft and aged, but it had a note of kindness and warmth.

"I ... I ... Well, my name is Zeb, Zeb Thomas, Ma'am. Are you Mrs. Abby Barlow?"

"Well, yes, I am, but what can I do for you, Sonny?"

"Well, you see, Ma'am, I found this little purse down on the beach, and I believe it belongs to you."

The poor lady's eyes grew large, and a broad smile spread across her face. Unlocking the screen, she beckoned Zeb inside and took the purse from his outstretched hand.

"Oh, my dear boy," she exclaimed, "you are a walking answer to prayer! This money is what my son sent me for my rent and some groceries. I desperately needed it, but I lost it one evening as I was looking for seashells down on the beach. Oh, thank you!

Thank you very much! Oh, you certainly deserve a reward, but I have no other money to give you."

"Oh, that's all right, Mrs. Barlow. I'm just glad I found it and that you have your money back. Well, I'd better go now."

"No, no. Wait! There must be some way I can express my appreciation." She stood in deep thought for a moment. "Say, maybe there is a way." She paused, then asked, "Sonny, do you like surfing? I see a lot of the youngsters trying it when the waves are high. They seem to think it's great!"

"Oh, yes, Ma'am, I surely do! I don't get to do it very often though, only when someone lends me a board."

"Aah, then maybe I have just the thing!" Turning she said, "Come with me."

Zeb followed her down the short hall to a small closet that was chock full of storage. She pulled some things out, pushed others aside, and reached far to the back to reveal a long, narrow, sleek surfboard. It was a beauty!

"See that, Sonny?" she asked. "How would you like to have that surfboard? It's a good one!"

Now it was time for Zeb's eyes to get big. He tried to hide his excitement, but a smile spread all over his face, and Mrs. Barlow noticed.

"Yes, Sonny, that board belonged to my grandson, but he is grown and gone. I surely can't use it and it's crowding this closet, so if you want it, it's yours!"

"Oh, Mrs. Barlow, that would be too much!"

"Now, you take it on, my boy! You were honest and returned my money. The dear Lord was surely looking out for me. I thank Him for it, and I thank you, too. So, that's that!"

Speechless, Zeb pulled the beautiful surfboard out of the closet, carefully carried it down the narrow hall, and opened the front door to leave. He turned to his new friend.

"Thanks, Mrs. Barlow. Thanks more than I can say! Do you know I had asked the Lord for a surfboard, but I never guessed He would do it this way! I guess He really answered both our prayers today. Thanks again, and goodbye!"

"You're welcome, my boy. Goodbye to you." She stood inside the screen as Zeb went down the walk, ready to make a dash with his new treasure.

"Say, by the way, Sonny," she called after him, "when you are down at the beach, if you'd keep your eye open for any whole sand dollars and could bring them to me, I would be much obliged. That's what I was hunting when I lost my money."

Zeb stopped dead in his tracks. He could hardly believe his ears. Was this another test of his character? He turned, walking back toward the door. "What do you mean?" he asked. "Do you have a collection?"

"Oh, no, my dear. See?" and she brought to the door three perfect sand dollars, delicately painted with seascapes and a short Scripture verse. "This is a little thing I can do for the Lord, my boy. When I find a perfect sand dollar, I paint a pretty beach or ocean scene on it, script a Bible verse at the bottom, and then sell it."

"Do you mean you painted those yourself? They are beautiful!" Zeb was amazed that the frail old lady's hand would be steady enough to paint such tiny, fine strokes.

*continued next page*





## Proverb      Practicals

Prov 31:30, 31

*Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.*

In chapter thirty-one, King Lemuel's mother has carefully instructed her son in the ways of a virtuous woman. She has described her outward acts in behalf of her children, her husband, and her community. She has shown that a virtuous woman is an extending, reaching, and stretching woman. But in her description of this woman, she has not emphasized her physical appearance. From this she wants her son to conclude that the virtue of the woman is to be primary and not her outward beauty. Beauty is not to be compared to the qualities that she has mentioned.

She wants him to know that if he chooses a wife on the basis of beauty or outward appearance, he shall love her no longer than that beauty lasts. But if he chooses her for her virtue, his love can only grow as her outward beauty fades.

Lemuel, look for her faithfulness, her personal habits, her good management skills, her consideration of others, her conduct, her tenderness for the needs of those who are less fortunate. Look at the fruit of the tree to know the tree. Taste the waters of the fountain to judge the fountain. Remember that the good woman out of the good treasure of the heart brings forth good things.

She tells her son that "favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain." Lemuel, do not be enticed by the outward appearance and the outward charms of a woman. Favor—charm, grace, kindness, and courtesy—can be deceitful for it can be developed with training, and does not necessarily come from the heart. Charm, grace, kindness, and courtesy have been honed to a fine art in the lives of many women and are simply used to cover up a wicked and deceitful heart.

Lemuel, dig deeper than charm. Be careful not to be beguiled by grace, kindness, and courtesy. Be careful of placing beauty on a pedestal, for beauty is only a surface endowment and has no lasting quality. Beauty is outward and should not be given much value. Be careful, son, and do not make these things important to you in choosing a wife and mother for your children. Do not praise outward beauty. Do not praise charm and grace and kindness and courtesy unless they come from the woman that fears the LORD! Lemuel, first things first!

That is the heart of her message to her son. Praise virtues that are displayed by a woman whose foundation is built upon fear of God. Praise a woman who lives her life knowing that she is accountable to the God who created her and gives her life to bear fruit for him. Praise the woman who knows that God sees her and that He is the one in her life she must please. Praise the woman who knows that when she pleases God, she will be pleasing those in whom God is pleased. Praise the woman who knows that fear of man is a snare, but fear of God brings great benefit and great peace.

Praise the woman who lives not for praise, but who lives to please God. As this proverb says, "Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates." She does not covet praise from man. Her very works, the best she can do, will praise her. She knows that if she does her best, her best will be pleasing to God.

Lemuel, this is the instruction of your mother, a virtuous mother who fears God and desires that you be endued with the wisdom to wait for God's choice of a life partner for you. This is the wisdom that will bring into your life a woman who also fears the LORD!

"Well, thank you, Sonny, I am glad you like them. You see, I sell them and that is my money above my tithe to give for missions to help the Gospel go out here at home and across the seas. The more of these flat beauties I can find, the more I can paint and give to the Lord's work. It may not seem like much, but the Lord blesses."

"I should say He does!" Zeb knew what he had to do. "And here is one more for you to paint for the Lord," he said, carefully handing her the fragile treasure he had found that very afternoon. "And I'll bring you any more I find," he promised.

"Well, bless my soul! What will the Lord do next?" she exclaimed.

"I don't know, Mrs. Barlow, but I can hardly wait to see! I'd better go now!"

"Yes, yes, but come back in a few days. I will show you how your sand dollar painting turns out. We will have a gift for the Lord's work together! Who knows, maybe we will make a good team!"

"Yes, Ma'am! Yes, Ma'am!" he called, waving a happy goodbye. Turning, he broke to run for home. The Lord had surely done wonders this day! Zeb remembered a wonderful hymn he had learned, "Great God of Wonders." The wonder was that he knew that great God of wonders personally through Jesus Christ, the Savior. Zeb wanted only to please Him and do His will. Somehow he thought, "What if someday God would send me as a missionary to take the Gospel over this big ocean? Hmmm... I might put legs to some more prayers!"

His heart was full. He could hardly wait to tell Mom all the developments of the day and how God had answered their prayer. And tomorrow afternoon, the Lord willing, he would be at the beach trying out his new surfboard, and, oh, yes, keeping one eye open for sand dollars! ☺



## WITH THE LORD

**DR. BOB JONES, JR.** went to be with the Lord on November 12, 1997, at age 86. As a stalwart of the faith and leader among fundamentalists, his influence for the Lord Jesus Christ and for Biblical Truth reached worldwide. Gifted as a speaker, writer, actor, and administrator, his greatest influence was as a preacher of the Gospel, as his sermons dramatically portrayed Bible accounts and brought doctrinal truths to life. Young and old alike were moved for God by his messages, and he was greatly used of the Lord.

**DR. MARVIN LEWIS** was called home on December 10, 1997, at age 84. Evangelist, Campus Pastor, and lastly the Director of Gospel Fellowship Missions, he was a quiet, soft-spoken man, known for his genuine love for people and his avid loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ. Humility, selflessness, compassion, and dedication marked his ministry, but perhaps his finest quality was his ability to present the Gospel in its purity and simplicity, so that all who heard could understand.

*Our sympathy and prayers are with the University and the families of these two warriors of the faith. May their legacy cause us to be more determined by God's grace to stand firm and faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ until He comes.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Dear Projector,**

**Thanks for the informative, interesting, and sometimes controversial perspectives. I appreciate your candor in approaching issues straight forward. Your paper is a help and very thought-provoking. I shall look forward to receiving it in the days ahead.**

VT

*Thanks for sending the needed alarms.  
Keep up the good work.*

VA

We appreciate The PROJECTOR and its stand on the issues. Thank you for defending the Bible and warning Christians.

IA

Dear Friends,

My letter is tardy, but I wanted to send it with an offering. I do appreciate The PROJECTOR and your solid stand for Biblical separation and fundamentalism. May the Lord keep you strong in defending the faith.

I read it all through at one sitting usually, and then pass it on. Suspect many families are being strengthened by it.

TX

*I got The PROJECTOR and I really do Thank You. I'm looking forward to reading the ending of "Surf Boards and Sand Dollars." In fact there are several of us waiting for the next issue. The entire content is excellent reading material. I wish I could help out with the funds but, under these circumstances I know that you understand. God has been good to me. I'm still reading His Word and doing my best to do His will. Please keep me in your prayers.*

*God Bless You!*

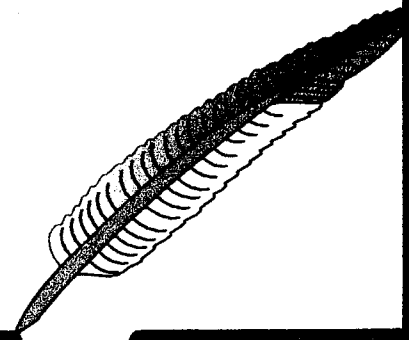
*FL Correctional Institution*

**We so appreciate The PROJECTOR... Thank you so much for keeping us informed—Keep them coming.**

OH

*I still read every one of The PROJECTORS.  
Thank you for the privilege.*

IN





*Teaching Tips*

*Doris Peppard*

## BIOGRAPHIES

**T**HE BIOGRAPHY SECTION of the library is often unused. Most children make use of it only when assigned a project to report on a historical character; but, there are wonderful treasures to be found in this section of the library.

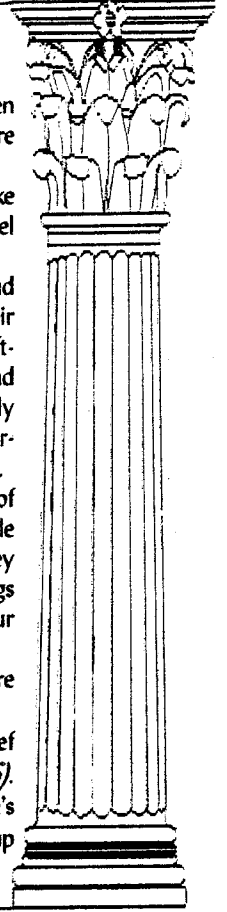
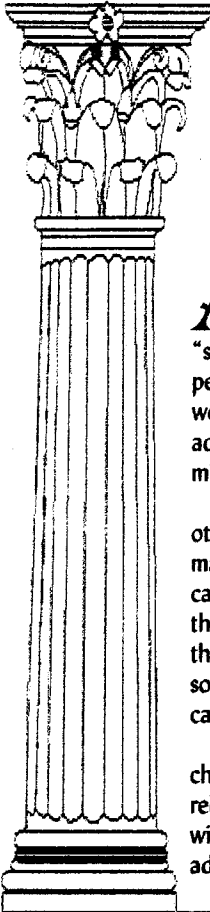
Classroom teachers should utilize this section well and often to help our students learn to appreciate the wealth of information available. Reading a biography aloud to your class is a wonderful experience as you consider the faults and weaknesses, or strengths and attributes, of character depicted in the life of the person represented. These "real life" situations often hit home with pupils more quickly than object lessons. With such a wide scope of life-experiences available in the Biography section, children can profit from reading about people less fortunate than they, those of great wealth, those who overcame physical limitations, those who endured to become athletic legends, and those Christian men and women who laid all on the altar to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

Here are a few lessons to be taught using the Biographical section of the library. Challenge your pupils with some of these ideas for which to search before they begin reading.

- 1.) Learn about missionaries, pastors, or other men of God who relied upon God to meet their needs.
- 2.) Learn about men and women who accomplished great deeds in the fields of missions, history, athletics, science, music, or the arts.
- 3.) Dig beneath the surface to identify the lessons these heroes learned and try to apply these lessons to our own lives.
- 4.) Learn from other's mistakes in order to avoid making them ourselves.
- 5.) Try to identify what made a particular man or woman succeed or fail—faith, attitudes, qualities of character, etc.

Many worthwhile biographies are available on various reading levels. The following is a selected list of recommended biographies and biography series. These may be used as starter seeds to encourage students' further interest.

*The Making of George Washington* by William R. Wilbur—middle and high school  
*Nothing Is Impossible, the Story of Beatrix Potter* by Dorothy Aldis—elementary  
*Marie Curie, Woman of Genius* by Adele de Leeuw—middle school  
*Sergeant York, Last of the Long Hunters* by Tom Skeyhill—upper elementary  
*George Washington Carver, the Peanut Man* by Harry Albus—elementary  
*Billy Sunday* by Robert Allen—high school  
*Goforth of China* by Rosalind Goforth—high school  
*J. Hudson Taylor* by Hudson Taylor—high school  
*Molly Pitcher, Young Patriot* by Augusta Stevenson—elementary  
*George Mueller* by Basil Miller—middle and high school  
*Sports Greats*—all levels  
 "Men & Women of Faith Series"—high school  
 "The Sower Series"—middle and high school



# Laodicean Leaven

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

## SUPPORT GROUPS

ARE YOU LOOKING for a way to build your church while still allowing your people to feel "special"? Would you like a program that will draw people to your church and make them feel good as well? Dr. Fiddle has devised a new plan that takes advantage of the latest and most popular vehicle for ministry—the Support Group!

People who have problems love to join with others who have the same problems. While they may want to take these problems to the Lord, they can't have a meaningful relationship with someone they can't see or feel. People need a real person that they can talk to, someone who can feel their pain, someone who can be sympathetic, someone who can give them a hug when they need one.

You can have groups for parents with challenging children, troublesome toddlers, and rebellious teenagers. You can help them try to cope with every childhood trouble from teething to adolescence.

You can have groups for people who have been divorced, are going through a divorce, or are planning to get divorced.

You can try to help people get over problems like alcoholism, drug addiction, overeating, or channel surfing.

Find people who feel they are victims and encourage them to bond together and share their misery. Try to find victimized groups like the left-handed, color blind, bald, short, or homely, and instruct them to think of themselves as alternately dexterous, specialists in black and white, hair-deficient, height-challenged, and beauty-deprived.

There is virtually no end to the variety of support groups that you can organize, and, while those in the groups feel better, the problems they experience are never solved. These two things assure you of an everlasting ministry for your church.

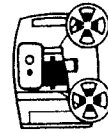
Dr. Fiddle includes these ideas with many more in his program:

Pastor And People Expecting Relief  
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