

The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, EDITOR

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

REPENT or PERISH

by

Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.
(1883-1968)

My friends, I have tried to look in the Bible in a simple, compact way to find out just what it says that we need so much in the daily routine of life. I have told you what the Bible tells the sinner to do. It tells a sinner how to be saved. If you are not saved, it tells you how to be saved, and it tells you the consequences if you are not saved. It tells you how to go to heaven. It tells you how to accept Christ. It tells you how to turn your back on sin, but if you won't do it, it tells you very plainly the trouble that is ahead of you. It is not just enough to stand and tell unsaved people how to be saved. That's important, but, you know, sometimes you can tell unsaved people how to be saved and make it

strong and clear, but they don't want to be saved.

Religious Anemia

Now the gospel is the power of God unto salvation. That's clear. What is the gospel? "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (I Cor. 15:3-4). That was the gospel Paul preached. Paul said that if anybody preached any other gospel, let him be anathema, let him be accursed. You can stand and preach the gospel to an atheist, an infidel, an agnostic, or a skeptic, and the fellow sits there and looks at you and says, "I don't need that." You

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VIEWING 2004



Standing at the Portal

Standing at the portal
Of the opening year,
Words of comfort meet us,
Hush every fear;
Spoken through the silence
By our Father's voice,
Tender, strong and faithful,
Making us rejoice.

Refrain:

Onward then, and fear not,
Children of the day;
For His Word shall never,
Never pass away.

I, the Lord, am with thee,
Be thou not afraid,
I will help and strengthen,
Be thou not dismayed!
Yes, I will uphold thee
With My own right hand,
Thou art called and chosen
In My sight to stand.

For the year before us,
O what rich supplies!
For the poor and needy
Living streams shall rise;
For the sad and sinful
Shall His grace abound;
For the faint and feeble
Perfect strength be found.

Frances R. Havergal
(1836-1879)

"... let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." (Hebrews 12:1-2).

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Thoughts on Children

by

Dr. Dayton Hobbs

Part II

Proverbs 6:20-23: *My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law (teaching) of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law (teaching) is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life.*

Children are, indeed, "an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward" (Ps. 127:3). A "reward" is a compensation or a

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EDITOR'S DESK

APOSTASY IDENTIFIED

By
Dr. Dayton Hobbs

But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be (Matthew 24:36-39).

No apostate ever expects judgment, for he supposes he is saved and has light. In Noah's day they "KNEW NOT" until the flood came and took them away.

"Noah was a just man, and, like Enoch walked with God (Gen. 6:9). But it was a time of almost universal apostasy. It was an age of religious indifference, when even the sons of God had become worldly and in contracting marriage chose by outward appearance rather than by the disposition of the heart (6:2) and when men generally were living for the present moment, eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage (Matt. 24-38). It was also an age that was defiant of God: there was secret hostility of the heart; men formed their plans without regard to God, every imagination and device of man's heart was evil (Gen. 6:5); there was open defiance also; the earth was filled with violence, the strong oppressed the weak (v. 11). The age was so corrupt that God purposed to destroy mankind." (Davis Dictionary of the Bible, p. 544).

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can preach the gospel to a self-righteous man, and he says, "I don't need that." Well, they *do* need it. They need it to be saved, but they need something else to make them *want* to be saved. We have neglected, in this day, the old time style preaching that preached against sin, warned people of coming judgment, preached the Word, reproved, and rebuked. We have drifted away from that, and now we have a sort of religion in this country that has produced a religious anemia. We are saying, "Give them a positive message." Well, the gospel is a positive message, that's true. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." That is a positive message, but wait a minute. It also turns around and says, "He that believeth not shall be damned." Yes, that's clear, too. You are not going to get the average man saved by just preaching the gospel to him. That is not going to save him. You also have to get him ready by letting him understand what the Bible says about him as a sinner. The Bible tells us what happened to man, how man went astray, how man went away from God, how he is a fallen creature. It goes on to say that he has to be born again to get right. The first thing to do is to help a fellow see that he is not right and then tell him how to get right. That's good preaching! Now a preacher who gets up and just talks about the nice side of it and never tells the fellow about the other side jams his business and gets sinners in trouble. A lot of the converts in this country today are superficial converts. There is no depth to it!

Conviction For Sin

In the old days, we used to think we were too big of a sinner to be saved. The preachers preached so strong on being a sinner, sinning against God, on judgment and hell until as a little country boy, I'd never been drunk, I'd never gambled, I'd never been off in any wild parties, but as a little country boy, I'd hear that old country preaching and I'd go home and say, "Maybe I'm too big a sinner to be saved." I wanted to be saved. Then I'd look around for someone to tell me how to be saved and never had any trouble as soon as I'd get somebody to tell me how to find God. But some people want to pull a watermelon before it's ripe. That's not the thing to do!

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The Projector



EDITOR
Dr. Dayton Hobbs

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Listen just a minute. If you pull a watermelon before it is ripe, you lose a watermelon. You don't get to eat it, and you miss a good deal. A lot of people in this day are trying to pull green watermelons in their preaching. They say, "Come on! Everybody's doing it." Well, everybody *isn't* doing it! Jesus said they weren't doing it. Jesus said, "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Religious "Band Wagon"

When I was a boy we never said it was easy to be a Christian, and when I started out in my evangelistic work as a boy of thirteen years of age, and for the first twenty five years of my ministry, everywhere I went and talked to a man about his soul, he would say, "Well, I can't do it. It's too hard; I've got too much to give up." Nobody talks about "much to give up" in this day and time, and nobody preaches much on "giving up." Now we say, "Get on the band wagon! Look how many young folks are coming. Come on down the aisle, everybody!" No, you didn't do it that way in the old days, and Jesus didn't do it that way. Jesus Christ looked out at His disciples when He came from Heaven to earth. Think of it now. He hadn't been to the cross. He was healing sick people, making the blind to see, the deaf to hear, the dumb to speak and had about Him a little group of apostles. Then one day He talked about going to the cross, and they began to drop off. People began to leave Him. They wanted somebody to give them a big dinner and set up a nice banquet. Oh, yes, they'd go along with the popular thing, but when He talked about taking up the cross, they began to drop off. He said, "I'm going to die on the cross; I'm going to die. For this hour came I into this world. Now go get your cross and let's go," and they began to leave Him. Then one day He looked at His disciples and said, "Are you going to leave Me, too? You folks that are here and have been with me and know all about this, will you leave Me?" They looked at Him and said, "Where will we go? You are the only One that has ever done anything for us. You are the only One that has eternal life. What are we going to do? We have to stay with you; we can't go."

Forsake All

Listen just a minute, it isn't easy to be a Christian. It never has been easy to be a Christian, but it's *hell* to be a sinner! It means to be away

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from God forevermore. It's an awful thing to think about. You know, it's a hard way to heaven, but heaven's a good place when you get there. It isn't an easy way to hell. It's a hard road to hell. Did you ever stop to think of that? The road to hell is a road with plenty of room to travel, but it has a lot of slippery places, and you get in plenty of trouble on the way. "The way of transgressors is hard" in this world. You know, it is pretty bad to travel the road a sinner has to travel, reap whatever a sinner has to reap, and then drop off into hell after a while. That's pretty tough business, wouldn't you say? I think it's pretty tough.

Now you know on this road I am travelling, you get lied about sometimes, you have your battles to fight, but you have Somebody with you to help you. You have mighty good company! Jesus Christ said, "I am with you always, even unto the end of the age." We have mighty good company and mighty good friends along the way. If you live Godly, you suffer persecution, the Bible says, but you know we go along together and have a good time. You can even enjoy having a sort of hard time when you have sweet fellowship.

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benefit. It can mean wages or payment of contract. Obviously, God gives children to be a benefit, a blessing and not a curse to a family. What parents do for those children will determine their usefulness to man and God. I do not believe that God gives His children sons or daughters to fail with them. Failure will always fall at our feet, not God's. God has given us the formula for success in His word, as well as the necessary power through His Holy Spirit. Success is found always and in every area of the Christian life by obedience to His instructions as given us in His Word. God certainly does not want us to lose our children to the world, the flesh, or the devil. Obviously, if there is failure we must take the blame. Taking the blame is contrary to our fallen nature, and this goes back to the garden where no one wanted to take the blame for the tragedy there. It takes a great deal of humility and grace to admit our failure in any area, but especially so, it seems, in regard to the outcome regarding our children.

Perfection Not Required

Perfection is not a requirement for the rearing of our children, else there would be no servants for God coming out of our Christian homes;

however, I believe the Scriptures show us that there must be certain conditions present in a marriage if children are going to be drawn to faith and obedience to the Lord.

The Pattern to be Followed

Observations from our text:

1. In verse 20, the father's word is said to be the "commandment". A commandment according to Webster's 1828 Dictionary is a mandate; an order or injunction given by authority. In the home, the father's commandment is to be obeyed, as God has so established the father's word as the foundation for all teaching and instruction. God did not say this is the way that most homes in His universe would operate; He says this is the way they are supposed to operate if they are to expect the blessing of God on themselves and their offspring. God does not deal with variations from His standards. He deals with the way things *should* be done. That is the purpose of a standard; it helps us to know, if we are interested, just how we measure up in our humble attempt to follow the pattern He lays out for us.

2. The mother's responsibility is that of teaching the commandment given by the father (verse 20). Obviously, she must be in perfect agreement with her husband and must faithfully teach and apply in every area of life the

commandment of the father. The Hebrew word for "law" here is "torah" and means to give direction to or teach. We might say the basic curriculum is laid out by the father; then the mother breaks down the teaching matter so that each child may understand. In this manner the basic precepts of the Word of God and the instruction vital to rearing godly offspring is accomplished. The harmony and unity of the father and the mother would be evident to the child, causing stability for the child's growth and development. The love that is found to be alive and well in this home gives confidence and security as well.

Mother's Role

Mother's role in many ways is greater, for the responsibility of teaching falls to her. This is especially true in the first three years of the child's life. She must not launch out with her own ideas, which are contrary to her husband. Success with children requires God's pattern; the authority of the commandment (which, by the way, he gets from the Word of God) lies with the father, whereas the teaching responsibility lies with the mother, especially in the early years.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Friends,

Christian Greetings. Praise God for those who are not afraid to preach and teach God's Word. I always enjoy the rich spiritual food found in the Projector and I pray all your many needs are being met. I hear people saying we have to change to keep our youth and win the lost but by all appearance the world is making a bigger impression on the Church than what the church is making on the world. Please pray for me. I am going for eye

surgery December and I feel the need of prayer. Also trust this small love token will be of some small help in the work of the Lord. PA



God bless you folks. We love you in the bonds of Christ. VA

We have appreciated receiving "The Projector" for many years. It's good to know there are still a few ministries that stand firmly on God's Word as absolute truth. Yours



has been a real encouragement to us.

May God continue to bless you and give you strength and the means to continue on. Also, I really appreciate "Aunt Carolyn's" music tapes. IA



I enjoy the Projector and its articles. Please continue to fight the good fight of faith. My prayers are with you all. As a founding pastor like yourself, it is truly our responsibility to keep on fighting for truth in an ever changing world. U.S.V.I.



FOCUS ON RELIGION

The Decline of Dispensational Teaching

by

Pastor Tod Brainard

It has been just over a decade since "progressive dispensationalism" arrived on the church scene. The movement emerged from the halls of Dallas Theological Seminary and Talbot School of Theology at Biola University, and their belief system was codified in the 1993 publication of *Progressive Dispensationalism* by Dr. Craig Blaising and Dr. Darrell Bock. The effort of these men and others was to bridge what they viewed as the "unfortunate" gap between Dispensational Theology and Covenant Theology.¹ They felt that there was an unnecessary divide between the two theologies over the matter of "historical salvation." Their first line of work was to water down the Biblical distinctions between Israel and the Church and endow the heavenly Church with earthly Kingdom characteristics. Instead of having a strict parenthesis known as the "Church Age," they acknowledged the present age of the Church as the first stage, partial fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. This meant a retreat from Pauline "mystery" truths concerning the origin of the Church and reinterpreting the mysteries of Paul as "clarifications" of previously prophesied revelation. The lines were blurred and New Testament truth was given an Old Testament spin.

Since the unveiling of Progressive Dispensationalism many neo-evangelical and some "Fundamental" theological seminaries and Bible colleges have adopted this theological bent rather than holding the line. As a result, pastors and Bible teachers have and are moving away from "*rightly dividing the Word of truth*" and the unfolding revelation of God

which is presented so clearly in dispensational truth. This Progressive Dispensational view in my opinion is in reality nothing more than a modification of Covenant/Kingdom theology.

The decline of classic Dispensationalism is evident in several ways:

1) **The lack of clarity of interpretation.** How the Bible is interpreted determines one's system of theology. Systematic theology *must* take into account that the Bible came into existence by divine revelation from God through the Holy Spirit through human agents with distinct divisions relative to the sovereign purposes of God (II Timothy 2:15). Studying the Word of God in a consistent, literal, grammatical-historical method leads naturally to a dispensational framework of Scripture.² We must not forget that one's view of Israel and the Church, law and grace, the present nature and purpose of the Church and the order of future events is determined by what interpretation is employed.

2) **Church Growth has become the number one order of business in the church today.** Classic dispensational truth is incompatible with the modern church growth movement. Most of the conservative mainline denominations are practicing Covenant or Progressive Dispensationalism and see little problem with the church growth methodologies.

3) **The emphasis in many well-meaning churches is clearly earthly, not heavenly.** Breaking through barriers, leadership techniques, communication skills, administration of the church, technology, family and marital relationships, helping people reach

their full potential are all related to present, temporal earthly relationships and methods.³ In my opinion, this is an outgrowth of a Progressive Dispensational/Covenant/Kingdom interpretation of Scripture that looks at Old Testament Scripture concerning Israel as Church dogma. They interpret the Church as an **earthly, terrestrial institution, rather than a heavenly institution.** Dispensational truth emphasizes Pauline doctrine concerning the Church as a heavenly institution, the body of Christ. The classic Dispensationalist proclaims **heavenly truths that look beyond the earthly and temporal, to the eternal** (II Cor. 4:18; Phil. 3:17-20) emphasizing the present ministry of reconciliation, servant training, equipping saints for heaven, dependence upon the Holy Spirit, prophetic preaching, believer's responsibility and accountability to GOD before the judgment seat of Christ, the soon return of our Lord to call out His saints, the horrors of the Tribulation period and the Millennial Kingdom of Christ.

4) **A rejection of a present apostasy of the visible church is nearly universal within Progressive Dispensational/Covenant/Kingdom churches.** This theology is reluctant to accept the truth of a present world-wide apostasy of the church. They choose to see only an end-time revival which they base upon allegorized Old Testament Scriptures related to Israel and the future Millennium.

5) **The deafening silence of prophetic preaching.** Many churches will have a sensational prophecy conference with exciting message titles and titillating non-controversial, generic messages about the future but little pastoral preaching relative to the great

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(Continued from page 3--REpent or PERISH)

Fruit of Repentance

Have you ever seen two old people get together? Maybe they have been rather sick. Maybe they have had the same experience. They talk it over and say, "That was a pretty bad one, but I got through it, thank God." Isn't it wonderful when you come down to earth and begin to look at the Bible through Christian eyes with an understanding Christian heart and see? After all, I wouldn't give it up. What would I do without Jesus Christ? How would I bear the burdens of life? You have a hard time in this way; you have a tough time in this world. He told you that you would have a tough time. He said that we Christians would be persecuted and have tribulations, but He said, "Never mind! I have overcome all that. I will be with you and show you how to get along on this road. And when your load gets too heavy, you can roll it over on Me." Cast your burden on the Lord! It surely is nice to be saved. It's a hard road, I know. Yes, it's not easy to repent, but it's so wonderful.

The Devil's Cup

Somebody said in the old days, when the devil gives you a cup, he puts everything good on top and says, "Now drink it." You start, and the first drink is exhilarating and thrilling, and you go ahead, but as you get to the bottom there are dregs in the cup. The dregs are bitter! There's a scorpion sting and a serpent hiss down in those dregs!

You know, some of you folks have been drinking the cup of sin and got down to where the dregs are, and all the things that

exhilarate you have gone away.

God's Cup

Now God reverses the order. He comes along and gives you a cup and says, "Drink this." You taste it and say, "This is bitter; what's this on top?" "This is repentance! It's bitter! Repent or perish! Don't repent and perish!" You say, "I'll try to take it. It surely is bitter. I have to admit I'm a sinner and change my mind about what I'm going to do and how I'm going to live."

All right, it is an awfully bitter drink, but get out that draft of repentance! Just go ahead and swallow anyhow. It's not so bad after you get it down. What else? Just keep drinking. And the nearer you get to the bottom of the cup, the sweeter the draft is, the sweeter the drink is, the more exhilarating it is, and down there in the bottom of the cup, there's the water of life! But you have to go to that water of life through the awful, bitter draft of repentance!

Listen just a minute! What America needs today is some of that old time preaching that will make people take that cup of repentance before they try to grab the water of life. You can't get the water of life unless you first drink the bitter draft of repentance. Repent or perish! Yes, it's not easy to repent, but it's a wonderful thing when it's over.

The Winning Side

A man told me about an operation he had. It must have been a terrible one. I said, "That was pretty bad." He said, "It surely was bad when it was going on, but it surely is wonderful now that it is over!" Yes, it's hard! There is no easy way for birth to

happen. "Strait is the gate" means *hard* is the gate, narrow is the way, but it is wide enough for everyone who wants to go!

The way leads to life, and few there be that go in there. If you want to know the right road, it's never the road that most people travel. The majority has never been on God's side through the ages. God's crowd has always been a minority. In this modern day, we've tried to make God's crowd the majority crowd. We've tried to do it by cutting corners, bankrupting character, and softening up the process. It has almost wrecked us! Let's make up our minds! You don't have to look for hard times; you don't have to go around seeking persecution. As far as possible, you are to live peaceably with all men. Some people bring some things on themselves, but you can be the sweetest, loveliest, purest Christian ever to live, but you will have to "wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness." You will have Satanic opposition. In this world we have tribulation. It's hard to come to Jesus; it's hard after you get to Jesus to go down the road with Him, who walked down the way of life and picked up a cross near the end and went and nailed our sins there. But it is so wonderful to be a Christian! I would rather take on all the enemies of Jesus Christ and have Him than to take on all the world and all the enemies of Jesus and line up with them and not have Jesus. He is a wonderful Savior! I hope you're a Christian. I hope you're saved. If not, I hope you will trust Him!

Ω

A Word of Truth Radio Message
(Used by Permission)



Proverb



Practicals

By Ludwig Opager

Prov. 3:11,12: My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

Another way of stating this command is: "My son, do not kick or rebel against the chastening of the Lord, neither sever yourself from his correction. For whom the Lord loves He corrects."

The Authority In Chastening

This is the pattern for fathers; in fact, this is what establishes one as a father! You have heard of the boy who says, "You can't tell me what to do; you're not my father!"

Even a rebellious child identifies his father by the authority that he exercises over him! Authority is a love relationship and that love relationship is communicated to the child by chastening and correction.

God defined fatherhood in II Sam. 7:14 when He spoke to David referring to Solomon, David's son: *I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men.* So according to the Word of God correction is what establishes one as a father.

The Order In Chastening

Now this word *correction* has wrapped in it the words rebuke, reasoning, arguments, reproofs, and chastening.

It is a word that provides a variety of ways to bring a son back to the right road, for correction is simply that which brings back to truth something that was in error. Take the word *rebuke*. It means to check or to stop an action so that correction can be applied. Many times in rearing children correction is attempted before the transgression is stopped. A wise teacher will halt

activity in the class and get the attention of the students before correction is attempted. That is what happens when you sit the child down and make him or her look you in the eye and concentrate so that correction can then take place. Rebuke provides a student who is ready to be corrected. Rebuke then, is a necessary ingredient to correction, for without rebuke or the stopping of the offense correction cannot take place.

A mother sees her boy running toward the street and cries "Stop!" loudly and clearly. That is rebuke! She runs to the little one and turns him around to look eyeball to eyeball until she is sure she has his attention. She is using rebuke to get the attention of the boy so that reproof can be applied.

The Censure In Chastening

Reproof is next. It is blame expressed to the face; it is censure for a fault. The first syllable of reproof is "re", which means return or repetition, to restore or bring back. The word "proof" is any effort, process or operation which convinces the mind of the certainty of truth or fact and produces belief. Proof means to bring to truth. *Reproof* means to bring back to truth, again and again and again the one who is heading off of the right path. With children this is a continual effort in the early years.

Reproof is what Isaiah wrote of in Isa. 28:10: *For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.*

The Purpose of Chastening

Why must this be? A father must prove his position; he must prove it again and again and again until it sticks to the son or daughter. This Proverbs' father tells his son that he must give his attention to him so that restoration to the right path can take place. A wise son can be rebuked gently, but a foolish son will require strong rebuke in order to be ready to be reproofed.

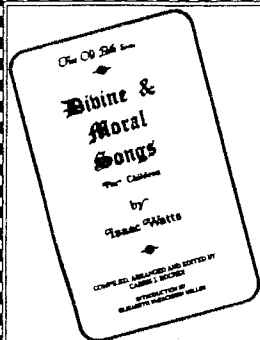
In the early years a rod is required, but the goal is to rebuke with no more than the word or even the eye of the father. Simply looking at the offending son is rebuke to the wise son, and simply from the rebuke of the eye the wise son will bring up in his mind the instruction of the father, and his way will be corrected. The wise son will be corrected by remembering past reproof!

So we ought to think how we chasten and how we correct with regard to what we desire in the life of the child. We ought to include in our instruction the right response of the wise child to our correction. The right response of God's child is to be thankful and happy for whatever chastening or correction God applies, because the result of God's conforming correction is for you and me to be conformed to the image of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. All things are designed by God to fulfill this purpose!

The Gratitude For Chastening

In the same thinking, we ought to teach our children to be thankful and to express gratitude when they are corrected, for all things in the home are simply preparation for right

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(Continued from page 2--EDITOR'S DESK)

Apostasy is of the Heart

Man's falling away is always in his heart. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it" (Jer. 17:9). God knows our hearts, but we can only know our own heart if we are honest enough to let in the light of the Word of God. "For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents (intentions) of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). Apostasy always ends in judgment.

Recognize Apostasy

Apostasy worships a Jesus; is religious; is soft; is attractive to the mind and emotions; never arrives at the truth; quotes Scripture; and is ever learning. We need to understand that Noah's day is after the rapture; it is the second coming. The "blessed hope" can take place at any time. "Be ye also ready" (Matt. 24:44). Ω

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prophetic themes of the Scripture. There was a tremendous revival of prophetic preaching and teaching at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century that brought new life to the Church of that day. It is the Blessed Hope of the Scriptures that has a purifying effect upon individuals in the church, not "feel good" seminars. **"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."** (1 John 3:3).

6) The lack of Holy Spirit-produced results. Today, it is all about methods, programs, techniques and seminars. The "end justifies the means" and our dear Lord stands outside the door of the present day Laodicean church knocking, for He has been put out into the street (Revelation 3:20). The Holy Spirit is Christ's

representative in this age and sadly, I believe, very little if any, of the church's work is being done in His power. Dr. F. V. Dabold wrote this thought provoking statement in 1962, *"The Spirit of God is grieved because of sin and compromise in the church. He is retiring from the scene. The Church is almost complete. Behind the scenes this is what the devil knows, and he is confident, he has nothing to lose by exposing people to the Gospel - largely speaking...There is too much compromise in the church to witness much of the work of the Spirit."*⁴

We live in perilous times. The lack of Dispensational preaching and teaching is bringing confusion about prophecy, heretical doctrines such as Open Theism, and distorted teaching on the true nature and purpose of the Church. Disaster will attend our churches if

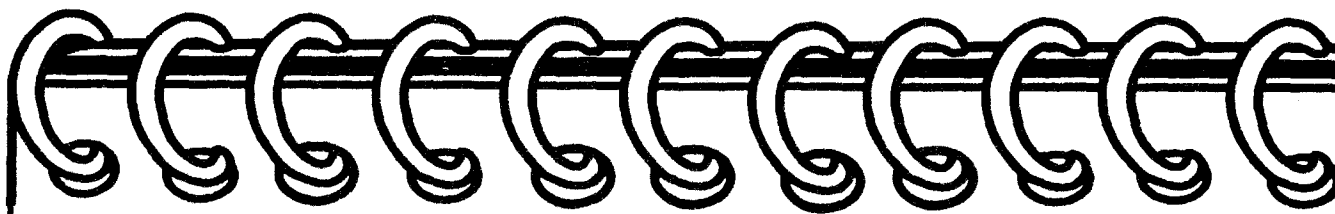
we abandon the precious truth of Dispensational understanding that has unlocked the wonderful prophetic truths of the Word of God concerning these last days. Ω

¹ Craig A. Blasing and Darrell L. Bock, *Progressive Dispensationalism*, (Colorado Springs, CO: Victor Books, 1993); p. 47,48.

² Renald Showers, *There Really Is A Difference*, (Bellmawr, NJ: Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc.), p. 53.

³ Take the time to collect all the advertisements for Leadership Conferences (Evangelical, New-Evangelical, and Fundamental) being held around the nation this new year and write down the Workshop and Seminar Titles by categories. You will notice that almost all of them deal exclusively with horizontal, earthly relationships and methodologies. The well worn cliché, "Beware that you are not so heavenly minded that you are no earthly good" is hardly applicable. **Many today in our churches are so earthly minded they are no heavenly good!**

⁴ F. V. Dabold, *The Mystery of Iniquity*, (Fort Pierce, FL: Printed by Author, 1966), p. 36,37.

*Teaching Tips**by Doris Peppard*

Questions, Questions, Questions

Teaching children to answer questions both orally and in writing requires a steadfast resolve on the teacher's part. This very important skill must be practiced in order for our students to gain a command of the English language. Students need to learn to state their answers in a clear, concise way. The skills that must be mastered include conversation and reasoning, as well as writing. Learning these skills will enable your students to learn to think and reason in a logical manner and then to express their thoughts well. Scripture tells us that as Christians we must be able to give "a reason for the hope that is in you;" therefore, it is essential that our students learn to answer questions properly.

Be Consistent

Teaching children this skill should begin as soon as they enter school. Pre-school children are full of questions that need to be answered. The teacher needs to set the example by answering these questions properly and then teach the children how to answer questions themselves. Students need to learn not only when to speak but how to give their answers in the correct manner. Of course, they need to learn to follow required classroom rules in this regard. This training requires students to answer their teacher's questions with short, simple answers voiced in complete sentences. This training should continue with short, simple, written answers and finally progress to detailed essay responses and continue to expand as the child passes through many stages of development. Specific training must be reinforced throughout a child's elementary, middle school, and also high school education. It is advisable that the school establish a procedure for all the teachers in the school to follow, so that consistency can be maintained.

Practical Practice

First of all, teach children to speak to you each morning. Greet them warmly and insert a question that they must answer. They should then be taught to answer politely and also back up their side of the conversation by asking you a question in return. This teaches children to think. A short, curt answer will not be accepted. Our students need to learn to speak using complete thoughts. A typical greeting may go something like this:

"Lisa, good morning. Did you have a good rest last night?"

"Yes, Ma'am, thank you. Did you have a nice weekend?"

This not only teaches students to learn to carry on a conversation, but it sets up the process for learning to respond properly. This skill should begin in pre-school and continue throughout the lower elementary grades. Learning to carry on a good, intelligent conversation is one skill that will help children "get out of their shell" and wake up to the world around them. Children need to learn to think of others, not just themselves, and answering questions is one way to develop this art.

Complete Sentences

Secondly, teach the children to turn the words of every question into a part of their answer. We must teach and require our students to use complete sentences. If the question says, "Who was our first president?", our students need to learn to say or write, "Our first president was George Washington;" or, "When did the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor?" they would say or write,

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(Continued from page 9--TEACHING TIPS)

"The Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941." This skill develops logical progression in the thinking and reasoning processes. It can be taught soon after the students have learned to read and write independently. Upper elementary children need many opportunities to practice this essential skill. The notebook approach to teaching utilizes this skill.

"Think On Your Feet"

Thirdly, students need to learn to add their own reasoning skills to their short answers. If a question asks, "Who is the best soccer player?" a child can be taught to respond, "I believe John

is the best soccer player because he always keeps his eye on the ball." This process includes teaching students to (1) restate the question, (2) give an answer, (3) tell why they believe it, and (4) support their belief with facts. Reasoning and thinking skills are notably well taught in the middle school grades. Since middle school young people seem to naturally *love to argue* their point anyway, we might as well take advantage of this natural developmental stage and steer it toward their benefit. This provides a wonderful outlet for their minds to think and reason in a positive way. If you are about to give up on the idea of teaching middle school students to think, just have your class write an

essay on this hot topic: "The school day should be lengthened thirty minutes each day." Believe me, they will have plenty of valid, logical points to express in their writing assignment!

Teacher's Resolve

Teaching these skills requires patience, determination, and resolve on the teacher's part. Learning how to give a good answer leads to better oral communication and writing skills, developing logical thought patterns, and preparation for future employment, witnessing, and Christian service opportunities. Time spent on such training is time well spent that will benefit your students today and the rest of their lives!

Ω



50 YEARS ALREADY?

by

Carolyn Hobbs

Yes, 2004 is the 50th Anniversary of The Children's Bible Club! How could it be? Some may say, "I didn't know 'Aunt Carolyn' was that old!" Most will say, "I thought the old girl was already *dead*!"

Either way, 50 years ago the Lord raised up this ministry of reaching children for Christ in the piney woods and sand beds of north Florida, in humble homes, in unsung neighborhoods, in small churches opened to us, and under the trees in parks and housing areas. These little Bible classes gave many children the opportunity to hear the Gospel and learn of the Lord Jesus Christ's love for them. Those beginnings led to

the first "Children's Bible Club" radio broadcast in 1954. We gathered a few children in an old laundry van and took them to the station, where we did the program "live." Dr. Hobbs was the "M.C." and led the children's singing and Bible Quiz, and "Aunt Carolyn" played the piano and did Bible Story Time. It was quite an exercise every Saturday morning, but children responded enthusiastically!

Later the broadcasts were recorded and sent to other stations to be aired, and gradually the coverage grew. Many people have worked in many ways to make the programs possible. After 50 years, although not big compared to many TV and radio ministries, The Children's Bible Club is still faithful in its calling of reaching youngsters for the Lord Jesus Christ and making the Bible

and eternity real to them without the froth and hype associated with much children's work these days.

The Lord also made it possible to print visualized Gospel stories for use by teachers and other children's workers in many churches, youth groups, camps, Bible clubs, etc. We

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(Continued from page 7--PROVERB PRACTICALS)

thinking as our children are given to God to love and to serve him.

The Reward of Chastening

This passage ends with the word *delighteth*. Delighteth means to be pleased with, to enjoy. If you don't enjoy your children it is because you have not made them enjoyable. They *can* be enjoyable but only through biblical correction. Ω



Stars of the Morning

HIDE AND GO SEEK

By
"Aunt Carolyn"



Trisha hid her face in her hands against the big oak tree and began counting. "One...Two... Three... Four..." The children squealed at the first sound of "One" and scattered, running as quickly and quietly as possible to find a good hiding place. The right hiding place was mighty important. It had to be secluded enough so "It" could not see them, yet it had to be near enough to the oak tree so that when "It" looked the other way, they could break away from their secret place and run "Free" to the oak tree home base.

Benny loved to play Hide and Seek. He could run fast, and he was sure he could outrun Trisha. He darted under the berry bush first, but it was prickly and he didn't want to stay there. He ran behind the rose trellis but decided it was too close to home base. Trisha would see him if he broke to run from there. Under Mama's flower potting table would be a good place. "No," he thought. "She could see me there too easily."

Benny's mind and eyes darted every direction. Where should he hide? It might not really matter anyway, he thought, for he could beat Trisha to the tree and be home "Free" from any spot in the yard. Just as he was ready to run and duck behind the woodpile, Trisha lifted her head and called, "Forty-eight, forty-nine, fifty! Ready or not! Here I come!"

Trisha wheeled around just in time to see Benny's shirt tail disappear behind the woodpile. "One, two, three for Benny!" she called as she turned back around and slapped the oak tree hard! "Benny's the next "It," she cried as she continued to look for others.

In the excitement, other children burst from their hiding places. Some got caught, and one or two got home "Free," but none of that mattered to Benny. He got caught, and he didn't *want* to get caught! He didn't *want* to be the next "It!" He was angry! He was outdone!

"You cheated, Trisha Malone! You cheated!" Benny cried as he stomped his foot!

"No, I did not!" Trisha retorted.

"You did! I know you did, because you couldn't have counted that fast to fifty! Not you!"

"Ha, Ha! That's what you think, Mr. Biggity! I did, too, count to fifty! You are just pokey! I guess you thought I would just wait around until you found a comfy little nook in which to hide and then you would take your time prancing in 'home!' Ha, ha, ha," Trisha laughed, and some of the other children chimed in.

"Hey, I gave you plenty of warning!" Trisha insisted. "You knew I was counting all the time. You knew time was passing; and you heard me holler, 'Ready or not, here I come!'"

"Yes, but I wanted more time!" Benny insisted.

"Well, don't get so upset about it. It's only a game! C'mon!"

But Benny was miffed! He *knew* he could have been home "free" if Trisha had just counted slower or given him more warning, although inside he *knew* time had really run out. Benny plopped down by the lilac bush, puffed out his ruddy cheeks and pouted, while someone else volunteered to be "It" and the game and fun continued.

Poor Benny! He wanted to play as long as the game went his way. He had the same amount of time and warning as the other players, but he missed his opportunity. In a much more serious way, the Lord Jesus Christ calls us to Himself as the only hiding place from God's wrath and judgment to come. He warns us of His sudden return for those who believe in Him and of the terrible trouble on earth to follow. When He comes, there won't be extra warning or extra time given. His cry will be far greater than the game's, "Ready or not, here I come!" Jesus warned, "Surely I come quickly" (Rev. 22:20), and in great might and power God exclaims, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout" (1 Thess. 4:16). God urges us "to flee from the wrath to come" (Luke 3:7). He plainly declares in His Holy

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★ (Continued from page 11--STARS)

★ Word that as sinners, we must
★ admit and repent of our sins, that
★ we must turn *from* our sins *to* the
★ Lord Jesus Christ and receive Him
★ by faith. This leaves no room for
★ our will or ideas. It leaves us no
★ choice to rush from one false hope
★ to another as Benny darted from
★ one hiding place to another. We
★ cannot try just “being good” and
★ hope that will work. We cannot
★ simply join a church or be
★ baptized, or be a kind helper to
★ others, or give our money to the
★ poor, or any other thing that
★ seems to be good enough to
★ escape God’s judgment for sin in

hell. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12). Man's ways, *our* ways fall short. God's way is perfect! "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 2:5). Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

Don't try to play "Hide and Go Seek" with God. You cannot win! He is already seeking you. "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). To try to hide

from Him is useless, for "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good" (Prov. 15:3). So come out from your hiding place, from whatever you are trusting in for salvation. Trust the Lord Jesus Christ as your *only* Savior and be saved, but do it soon! There is no guarantee of more warning or more time. "**Today** if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your heart" (Ps. 95:7-8). "**Behold, now** is the accepted time; behold, **now** is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2). Receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior today. **Be ready** when He calls! Ω

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"Lukewarmness is the worst kind of blasphemy: to say, 'I believe in you, God, but you don't excite me too much.'"

G. Campbell Morgan

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(Continued from page 10-50 YEARS)
trust many children have come to Christ through this means. Many of God's people have supported these efforts through their giving and prayers.

Fifty years ago children surely needed the Lord; however, if it is possible, the need is greater now. Shattered children come from shattered homes. Many parents are dysfunctional, youngsters are drowning in drugs and alcohol, babies and children are subjected to

child abuse, and some suffer the unspeakable at the hands of perverted adults. The news media reports that the majority of children in the U.S. now come from broken homes. In foreign countries some are in shelters, but most are left to fend for themselves in the harsh reality of the streets. We are glad for those rescued by 911, HRS, or benevolent people, but they desperately need the good news that Christ died for their sins. They need hope, love, and life! They

need the wondrous
message of Christ's love
and sacrifice.

In 2004, may we who know the Lord Jesus Christ, pastors, teachers, homemakers, and others carry the children in our hearts and earnestly *seek* them. Lead the boys and girls to Christ! It's wonderful when any person gets saved, but it is thrilling to see a child come to Christ and have his whole life to give in the Lord's service!

LASTING TREASURES

Some would gather money
Along the path of life;
Some would gather roses
And rest from worldly strife.

But I would gather children
From among the thorns of sin;
I would seek a golden curl
And a freckled, toothless grin.

For money cannot enter
In that land of fadeless day;
Roses that are gathered
Soon will wilt along the way.

But, oh, the laughing children,
As I cross the sunset sea,
Gates swing wide to Heaven,
I can take them in with me.

(By Billy Davis)