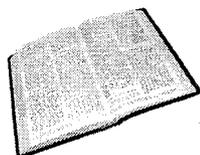


The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, FOUNDED EDITOR

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



FOUNDER'S FORUM

GOD'S HOLINESS AND SEPARATION

From the Notes of Dr. Dayton Hobbs

(1924-2006)

Deuteronomy 22:9-11

Continued from last issue.

The article to this point: Some think Christian separation is out-of-date or a matter of opinion. Not so! The reason for separation is God's holiness! Christ suffered without the camp, and Christians are to be separate from the world to carry the Gospel message. God's law teaches three principles of separation. The first: Do not sow "divers seed." Keep the Gospel and Bible doctrine pure. Now, continue.

Service

(Second) *Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together.* As we carry this message, we are to be separated in the labor or service of carrying that message. We are not to run with apostates. In other words, the oxen and donkeys are not to labor together. Believers

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The Image's Ten Toes

by Ludwig Opager

God chose to reveal to a Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar, by the means of a dream, what was to come with regard to the nations that would affect His people Israel. He chose the prophet Daniel to describe and interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream which contained a great image given by God to reveal the history of certain nations which were to evolve one from another.

Nebuchadnezzar's concentration was upon the head of gold which stood for his kingdom and that is what moved him to build the great golden idol as the centerpiece of a new religion designed to unify his nation and to oppose the outcome of the dream which foretold his kingdom's demise. However, the outcome could not be thwarted, for God had spoken!

Through the intervening millenniums most of the remaining nations have come and gone, but we know that the nations that are pictured by the feet and toes still remain to be revealed. The feet and toes are those parts of the image which received the direct smiting of the stone that was cut out without hands and were broken into microscopic pieces along with the remaining parts of the great image. All of the materials of the image from the gold to the clay simply became like the chaff beat from the wheat and were carried away by the wind and found no more.

The great image portrays the history of those kingdoms, who oppressed and will oppress God's chosen people and are called the kingdoms of the Gentiles and the period of time in which they are on the scene, the Gentile age. This age started with Nebuchadnezzar and continues to this day.

The present day Jews, although in the land, are not free in Israel and continue to be affected by the power of Gentile kingdoms, in fact, they are

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EDITOR'S DESK



by Pastor Tod Brainard

It's Time to Wake Up!

By the time you receive this we will have a new president in the White House. President Obama has on several occasions given us his understanding of the Bible. In March of 2008, Candidate Obama disparaged Romans Chapter 1 (dealing with the abomination of homosexuality) and opted for the exclusive use of the Sermon on the Mount (liberal interpretation of Matthew 5-7 as a Social Gospel) as the principle of government. He justified his support of legally recognized same-sex unions and then said, *"If people find that controversial, then I would just refer them to the Sermon on the Mount, which I think is, in my mind, for my faith, more central than an obscure passage in Romans."* Obama's theology is molded by his liberal philosophy of life, not the other way around.

Former-President George W. Bush was recently interviewed by the ABC News program Nightline. Cynthia McFadden asked questions of President Bush concerning his religious beliefs. I was interested to hear his responses because I had come as many others to the conclusion that President Bush was probably a born-again Christian. As I listened to the interview though I grew more and more discouraged with each answer. I realized that Former President Bush does not believe that all the teachings of the Bible should be taken literally. Is this consistent with genuine conversion? When asked about creation and evolution, Bush said, *"I think you can have both, I think evolution can—you're getting me way out of my lane here. I'm just a simple president. But it's, I think that God created the earth, created the world; I think the creation of the world is so mysterious it requires something as large as an almighty and I don't think its incompatible with the scientific proof that there is evolution."*

That statement is both non-sensical and heretical. It

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surrounded by kingdoms of obsessed leaders, who with all of their being, desire their ruin. But as we see by the imagery given in the king's dream, the only way that God's chosen people become free of Gentile powers is by outside means, means that only God can execute, and those means are pictured as a stone made without hands which destroys all remembrance of the Gentile kingdoms. God removes Gentile domination totally by means of this stone made without hands, which comes at the time when the Gentile kingdom consists of a loosely formed coalition of nations, which are pictured in the statue as two feet which contain ten toes.

The message of this **one** statue is that this coalition of nations begins with the kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar and continues down to the toes, which are pictured as a mixture of iron and clay. In other words, these nations are made of nations that began with Babylon and morphed into other powers by the demise of the previous power. We know from history that Israel has been under the domination of the Babylonians, who were overcome by the Medo-Persians, who were overcome by the Greeks who were overcome by the Romans. These powers have gone by the board, but one power remains and that is the feet and the ten toes of the image.

The past powers are being morphed into an empire composed of iron and clay, which awaits the coming stone of destruction. This empire is divided with strength of iron and weakness of clay. It is partly strong and partly broken. There is a mingling of men but not a cleaving one to another even as iron is not mixed with clay. This is a loose confederation with one goal that unites them, and that is the annihilation of the nation of Israel.

This is given to us in Daniel 2:41-43, **And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron**

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The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, (1924-2006) Founding Publisher and Editor
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 Published Quarterly by Grace Bible Church

Please address all correspondence and requests to:
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The Projector is a fundamentalist publication that seeks to "project the light of the Word of God on the issues of the day." It desires to honor Christ by articulating a clear testimony for Biblical separation from error in these last days as God's answer to the deepening apostasy of the visible church.



FOCUS ON RELIGION



Results Based Mission Statements

by Curtis Sluss

A common fad in churches is to create a mission statement. They usually state that they exist 'to glorify God by...' Unfortunately, following the word 'by' is then added a result such as soul winning, making disciples, or some other way of increasing church attendance; as if tangible results are the one and only way God is glorified (or at least at the top of God's list of how He is glorified). To specify how one will glorify God is presumptuous, especially when the way we choose to glorify God is almost always most favorable to us (results when we preach, bigger church, continued growth, increased respect from our peers, invitations to speak at big conferences). Is not God glorified when we preach His truth and are despised and rejected with no apparent results? Is not God glorified when we faithfully labor for the Master in an obscure field in the face of persecution and opposition? Is not God glorified when men speak all manner of evil against us falsely? Be that as it may, my real concern is the behavior that 'results based' mission statements drive.

Some who have these 'results based' mission statements become troubled if they feel the amount of growth or salvation 'decisions' is too small! If one evaluates their bringing glory to God by results, then what is to be done in their absence? Sadly, some cast a wistful eye at the new evangelical churches that are growing. Tragically many read the books of the church growth experts. To their ruin, they then 're-evaluate' their methods and discover that the evangelicals have something to offer when it comes to results.

They, of course, start reading the popular evangelical books on church growth looking for something to copy 'without compromising' their convictions. But once started down the road of reading evangelical books they do compromise! They do so because it is impossible to feed on a diet of compromise without being affected; as the Scriptures say, "A little leaven leavens the whole lump". It is obvious to all that a church abounding with results appeals to our sinful pride. The subtle change from results for God to results of man is a natural course that must be guarded against. Numerical growth, peer approval, and speaking invitations are ours simply by "bringing glory to God". With small compromises results come; the camel's nose is brought in the tent (often starting with music). Before long, the savor of numerical success is so intoxicating that the whole camel is housed in the tent. For the compromiser, there is nothing better to soothe a troubled conscience than souls counted (not necessarily saved), church growth, and peer approval!

When our Lord had occasion to specify how the Apostle Peter would glorify God He did not mention any results of his life, He mentioned how Peter would die. (John 21:18,19). Isaiah, Jeremiah and Noah would certainly be considered failures if measured by results. Likewise, our precious Savior was despised and rejected. His claim "I have glorified your name" was not based on numerical results; it was based on obedience. Our bringing glory to God is not due to results, but to faithfulness and obedience.

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(Continued from page 2 - The Image's Ten Toes)

mixed with miry clay. ⁴²And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. ⁴³And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

When this final kingdom comes to power, the end is near, for this statue shows the chronological progression of the kingdoms. Over the years there has been much speculation about this kingdom and it will no doubt continue until the stone comes to accomplish its destruction.

During my life the speculation has been that Europe will come together with ten nations forming the loose confederation that is described by the ten toes. Some had thought that this confederation would come out of the European Union but already this union has far surpassed ten nations and is now composed of twenty-seven nations. Among the twenty-seven are such far removed nations as Denmark, Estonia, Poland, and Sweden, nations unconnected to Biblical geography. None of these nations emanate from Babylon as the one statue indicates they should if they are to be considered as being a part of the ten toes.

We are told that the nations composed of iron and clay do not adhere well, that is, they do not have a close association but are loosely aligned. This is not a

picture of the European Union, for the member countries are closely aligned with common markets, free flow of people and goods across borders, the sharing of the same currency, and the majority of the countries having a common defense in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

One thing I believe is that the church age is a parenthesis in the plan of God, the plan, always having as its center, the nation of Israel. Once the church age is complete the stage seems to return to almost Biblical geography and the focus will be intently upon Israel. Therefore, I think the ten toes are composed of traditionally Biblical countries which are interested in dominating Israel as was Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome. These nations were world powers and at the coming of the stone, as we are told in other Scriptures, the world will be under the domination of a world leader, most likely a man arising from the middle east.

Bible prophecy always centers on Jerusalem, Israel, and the Middle East. Presently the nations around Israel are enemy nations who desperately wish the utter destruction of Israel and their actions are constantly aimed toward that result. They desperately wish to live in a world without memory of this hated nation. They are like snarling, growling wolves surrounding their prey.

It is interesting to note that Psalm 83 describes such a hatred of God's nation by a confederation of nations which surround God's land. This hatred took place in Biblical

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We do not have the option when we preach the gospel of Christ of specifying what the results will be; our obligation is to proclaim the truth. We must not in any way assume we have any responsibility to secure results, that is God's prerogative. (Paul planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 1 Corinthians 3:6.)

I am not anti-evangelism; I believe in Biblical evangelism of the lost (Romans 15:15 - 21; II Corinthians 5: 14 - 21; I Thessalonians 1:5 - 10.) However, "soul winning", the man-made superstructure of success in most churches, has been the primary bait of compromisers to seduce fundamentalists from a militant stand for truth to a soft accommodation for new evangelicalism. 'Results based' mission statements can be a new variation of: "Brothers, it is for the cause of souls!" This clarion cry has taken captive thousands of men who once stood for the truth. God's requirement for servants has always been faithfulness and obedience, not results. Ω

"We must change our opinion to match the Scripture, not change the Scripture to match our opinion."

-Dayton Hobbs



Which Words Are Scriptural?

by Pastor John E. Ashbrook
Painesville, Ohio

This is the fifth installment in an ongoing series written by Pastor Ashbrook. These articles are taken from his booklet, *Axioms of Separation*. You can purchase the booklet online at either: www.hereistand.com or www.childrensbibleclub.com.

Let me repeat what I have already said: separation from apostasy is the fork in the road between fundamentalism and new evangelicalism. The fundamentalist says, "I believe and will practice separation from apostasy." The new evangelical says, "I do not believe and will not practice separation from apostasy." The watchwords of the fundamentalist are: "Be not unequally yoked;" "Come out from among them;" "be ye separate;" "touch not the unclean thing;" and "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness." The watchwords of the new evangelical are: "stay in;" "associate;" "infiltrate;" and "dialogue." The big difference which I see in those two sets of words is that one set is Scriptural.

When you turn to the Bible, new evangelicalism seems easily defeated. However, it has overwhelmingly won the hearts of the "Christian" public. The colleges which were fundamental in the 1940's are largely new evangelical (*editor's note: many are now liberal*) today. The publishers which once published fundamental books are largely new evangelical. The seminaries which were fundamental are turning out

men to infiltrate denominations, or to establish a new breed of non-separatist Bible churches. The music publishers who once helped us sing the glad songs of the gospel are busy setting gospel words to the world's sound. I am tempted to fill in the names; but that is not the purpose of this booklet. New evangelicalism, with its appeal to man's intellect, its invitations to the non-controversial road, its easy adjustment to the world's lifestyle and its use of the rich and famous, has captured the masses of professing Christians.

Enough for definition. Let me get back to the axiom that Scripture teaches us to separate from disobedient brethren. In 1962 I was speaker at a meeting of independent churches in Michigan. After one of my messages, the President of a Bible School accosted me with the statement: "It is not right to separate from other believers; for, after all, we will all be together in heaven... We believe in separation, but we do not believe in second-degree separation." That viewpoint is popular. It just happens to be Scripturally wrong. Let's look at some Scripture on the subject:

Matthew 18:15-17, "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou has gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear

them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican."

This procedure is given for dealing with a disobedient brother. It does not specify what his disobedience might be. However, if he will not repent, the ultimate action is to withdraw Christian fellowship from him – to treat him as an heathen man or publican who is excluded from such fellowship.

I Corinthians 5:11, "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat."

Again, the man in question is a brother. If he continues in sin there is to be a separation from him.

I Timothy 6:3-5, "If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; he is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings and evil surmisings, perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself."

Again, it is a brother in question. In fact, the brother is a teacher. The

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(Continued from page 5 - Which Words)

question is one of doctrine. Paul's command is, "from such withdraw thyself." That is separation.

II Thessalonians 3:6, "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us."

What do you do with a brother who will not obey the Scripture? The command is the same as in the

previous passage, "withdraw yourselves."

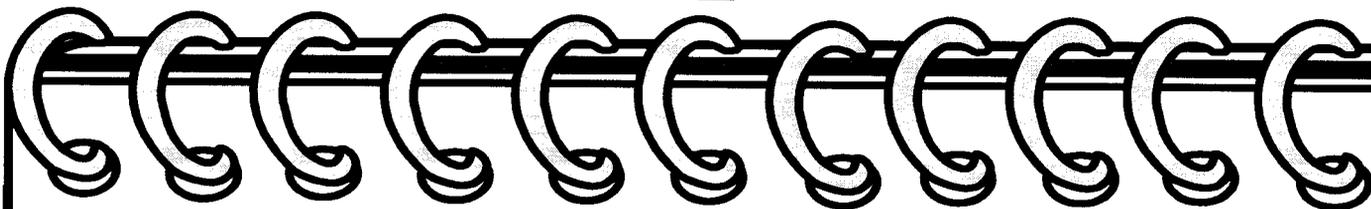
Romans 16:17, "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which you have learned; and avoid them."

What is the command about disobedient brethren? "Avoid them." That is separation.

It seems very clear to me from all of these passages of Scripture that Scripture teaches us to separate from disobedient brethren. In the

case of the new evangelical, the disobedience is the refusal to obey God's commands to separate from apostasy. God says, "come out." New evangelicalism says, "No, we will remain; we will infiltrate it; we will associate with it; we will dialogue with it." I submit to you that if it is not proper for fundamental believers to separate from new evangelical believers, then God has left the fundamental church with no procedure for defense against new evangelicalism.

Next Issue: Van Impe Exegesis and Axiom #6 Ω



Teaching Tips

by Doris Peppard

Difficult, Yet Necessary Grading

There are zeros, and then there are zeros. There are zero degrees on thermometers. There are zeros in the number system, and there are sometimes zeros used in grading students' work. There are times when a zero grade is deserved, such as when a test is literally flunked with no correct answer (heaven forbid), or if a student cheats. A zero, however, is not appropriate in every situation. Teachers often have a zero-tolerance policy for assignments that are not turned in or not finished on time. Those assignments are often given a grade of "0" and the student's academic grades suffer! That's well deserved, right? Well, wait a moment and think about these facts:

An "A" grade covers 11 points: 90 – 100

"B" covers 10 points: 80 – 89

"C" covers 10 points: 70 – 79

"D" covers 10 points: 60 – 69

"F" covers 60 points: 0 – 59

Students who do not do assignments on time or just display a lazy spirit should receive an academic penalty, but why deliver a whammy all at once when there is absolutely nothing a student's parents can do at that time to teach the student a valuable lesson.

Because the "F" grade covers 60 points, perhaps schools and teachers should re-evaluate their policy and use a sliding scale to help students learn initiative. If a teacher gave a student a "60" for any assignment not done on time, the student could have an opportunity to turn it in the next day; and, while still receiving the "F" (but a high "F") for their lack of diligence, they would be taught to persevere and get it done. If the assignment does not come in the next day, the grade would lower to "50", etc.

A phone call home to the parents would then be warranted and go something like this:

Teacher: "Mrs. Jones, Johnny did not do his assignment that was due today. He received a "60" and if it is not turned in tomorrow, it will go down another ten points. Would you be able to help me make sure this is turned in tomorrow? I would hate to see that grade go any lower."

Mrs. Jones: "Thank you, Mrs. Smith. I will be happy to see that the assignment is ready tomorrow. Trust me, I will see about this. Johnny will not only do the work, but his father and I will have a discussion about this. Just let me know if you have any more problems getting Johnny's work turned in on time."

The parents now have the opportunity to build character in their child's life. However, if the student had received a "0", the parent, as well as the student, would have no incentive to get the work done at all; they would have just gotten upset over the situation. The truth is that some students would rather take a "zero" grade on a paper, notebook, or project than to have to go through the effort of completing it. Allowing such a conclusion would not only be harmful in the development of good and disciplined character in the student, it would also be unfair to the rest of the students in class. Ephesians 6:4 states, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." The purpose of discipline is to bring the child into compliance, not to tear down or destroy. The "F" grade of "60" will sting, but will not bring the student's overall average totally out of norm as a "0" would.

Teaching students these character building lessons requires more effort for the teacher than just giving a "0", but the rewards in a child's life can be well worth the extra effort. I believe parents would appreciate this policy and use it to help their child develop maturity. Let's not "Throw the baby out with the bathwater." Teachers have sixty points to work with that represent an "F" grade. We should use them to everyone's advantage and always consider what will be for the good of the child. Ω



(Continued from page 4 - *The Image's Ten Toes*)

times but continues with even more vehemence today in a loosely confederated manner. What is described in Psalm 83, the Prayer of Asaph, would be expected to be repeated when Israel is again surrounded by ravaging wolves seeking whom they may devour.

Psalm 83 starts out this way, **Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God. For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from *being* a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:**

This is what unites the nations surrounding Israel today. They seem unable to unite in any other way and, therefore, are loosely connected to each other as iron and clay are loosely connected.

Some are strong, others are weak. Some have charge of great oil deposits which give them an ever greater position in the world, for the world worships riches, while some are poorer and without the same means as their neighbors. Some are attempting to amass great weapons with which to destroy Israel, while others simply support such efforts by crafty counsel. They are not cohesive, they do not get along for they are self serving. They fight against

themselves, they are broken on most issues. The iron in them contributes to some strength, but the clay contributes to their breaking. They cause harm to God's land, but they are limited in strength at this time with which to annihilate God's people. Their confederation is based upon one consent, one thing only, and that is to push the Jews into the sea and to rid the land of all reminders of their presence. They seem to be joined in one bloodthirsty heart against God and God's chosen people, and their goal is the total extermination of the Jews. They wish to do to Israel what the stone made without hands will inevitably do to them, and instead of no remembrance of Israel, there will be no more memory of them.

Psalm 83:4-5, **They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from *being* a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:**

Note the confederation language here. "Let us cut them off." This speaks of a group. This group is described in Psalm 83. The members of this group do not match the present names of the countries we know, but we know the areas described. They describe Israel's neighbors to the north, to the south and to the east, ten in all.

Psalm 83:6-8, **The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot.**

Present day southern Jordan derives from the tabernacles of Edom. Edom is the nearest of kin to the Jew, the heritage of Esau, the twin of Jacob. Esau despised the birthright, and his generations continue to despise the possessors of it.

The Arabs call their father Ishmael, the son of Abraham by Hagar, and still harbor the enmity which came between Ishmael of the bondwoman and Isaac of the free woman.

Present day central Jordan was the homeland of Moab, the offspring of the son of Lot born of incest to his older daughter. Here again the law of unintended consequences applies. Never in any moment would Lot have thought his compromise would have resulted in such unending hate against the offspring of his uncle, Abraham.

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Letters to the Editor

Ever since (I was) introduced to your magazine, I've really enjoyed finding the "other 7,000 prophets," who have not worshipped Baal. Enclosed is \$25. for books you offered a while back. (*Classroom Discipline* and *62 Suggestions*) I'm a substitute teacher . . . I've seen dozens of behaviors, some of which I would like to abolish in my classroom, even if the students are in secular school. . . ME

Just to let you know that I really enjoy and appreciate *The Projector*. It has been a help and blessing to me and my family . . . Thank you for your continued strong stand for the Lord! OR

My husband and I appreciate *The Projector* being sent to us, and we read it from cover to cover. PA





(Continued from page 1 - God's Holiness)

are not to unite in a spiritual work with the unsaved, with apostates, with compromisers, or others of such nature. This is separation in our service and ministry. God cannot bless or be honored in such a union.

Personal

(Third) *Thou shalt not wear a garment of divers sorts, as of woollen and linen together.* Separation must be personal. It has to do with our personal righteousness. God said that you are not to wear a garment of divers sorts as of woollen and linen together. Linen in the Bible speaks of the righteousness of Christ and the righteousness of saints. Remember in the Book of Revelation that the saints will be arrayed in "fine linen, clean and white" (Rev. 19:8). Wool in the Scripture is indicative of false teachers and false doctrine. For instance, how do the wolves come? They come in sheep's clothing dressed in wool. So in the Scripture, the matter of putting a linen and a woollen garment together was forbidden to God's people. Why? Why should that make any difference in separation? Well, it taught a certainty, a truth that God wanted them and us to understand that purity of life is demanded. The truth is established in the Scripture and still stands today that there must be personal separation, personal righteousness, and personal holiness unto the Lord.

Separate People

So we have three laws or three aspects of this law of separation. In the Old Testament God had a special people. He commanded them not to mingle and mix with the people of the land who they were replacing. God drove out those people, the Canaanites, Ammonites, and the others, because they served false gods. They were corrupt, immoral, and wicked. God said His people were not to follow their heathen practices or their

heathen gods. They were to be God's separate people!

In the New Testament and in our times, God still has a separate and special people -- the Church of Jesus Christ, made up of individual believers. God recognizes three classes of people now. The Jews are still Jews. The Gentiles are still Gentiles, which includes all races other than the Jews. Then there is the Church, which is made up of believing Jews and Gentiles, now classified as members of the body of Christ, His Church.

Now if I had an apple here and I took my Bagdad boxing glove here (big pocket knife), (I'm not talking about Bagdad, Iraq; I mean Bagdad, Florida), -- if I took my knife and cut a piece off of that apple and laid it over here, I would have sanctified that piece of apple. That is exactly what the word sanctify means. I would have cut that piece off from the rest of the apple and put it apart unto itself. That little piece of apple would be sanctified. It would be severed, cut off from that old body and would now be a separate, distinct piece cut off for myself. It would be sanctified, set apart. Now that is exactly what happens to you when you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. You are saved by grace, and the Holy Spirit takes up His abode in your body. You, in fact, are cut off from the world and are now a part of the body of Christ. You are separated unto the Lord Jesus Christ. You become part of a peculiar people as we read about in Hebrews. You no longer have a part with Belial or with infidels (II Cor. 6:15). You are a part of Christ and His body. We are a separated people. That is what we call *positional separation*.

Positional Separation

Positional separation means that from God's standpoint we are separated unto Him. The world and others may not understand this, and we may not understand it fully. The old

nature, the devil, and our sins, may cause us to have "guilty fears," but if we are true believers, as the song says, "Before the throne my surety stands" and "My name is written on His hands." Our salvation is settled the moment we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Settled forever! You may have ups and downs, you may not be everything you ought to be, but you are separated unto God. You are His, declared to be righteous in Christ. Now that is positional sanctification.

Practical Sanctification

Practical sanctification is the work, the exercise of God making you what He has already declared you to be. It is the process of God making you into the image of Christ. He begins the process of putting you through experiences, testings, trials, and opportunities to make you "be conformed to the image of his Son" (Rom. 8:29). At the rapture when we get our new bodies, our practical sanctification will become the same as our positional sanctification. Until that time, there is a gap as far as reality and experience in the matter is concerned, but God has a special, separate people today -- believers, who are the body of Christ. "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." Ω

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(Continued from page 8 - *The Image's Ten Toes*)

Other descendents of Abraham are the Hagarenes, distinct from the Ishmaelites, dwelling to the south toward Egypt. These are those which Galatians 4:24 tells us "gendereth to bondage."

Lebanon or Edom may have been the home of Gebal. If Edom, they would share in the hatred emanating from Esau.

And occupying the present day northern Jordan, from the offspring of the son of Lot, born of incest to his younger daughter, came Ammon, the father of the Ammonites.

And seventh among the haters is Amalek, the grandson of Esau living in the Sinai Peninsula.

The Philistines, the constant thorn in the flesh of Israel, remain there today occupying the Gaza Strip. These were they who blinded Samson and captured the

ark of the Lord and are the perpetual enemy of Israel.

This league can count on the inhabitants of Tyre to the north in Lebanon to join with them in crushing Israel out of existence. They are the mercenaries willing to kill for their own advantage.

And last of the list, making up the ten arch enemies of God's people, are those of Assur. This is present day Assyria, which continues its heritage of hatred. These people desire the return of the Golan Heights, which was taken by modern day Israel over forty years ago, but underneath the age old hatred of the Jew motivates this desire.

This is the prayer of Asaph, the writer of the 83rd Psalm, but it may be that which describes the time of the ten toes made of iron and clay.

These peoples have opposed Israel throughout its generations and,

by observation of today's events in combination with Psalm 83, it is most likely that their descendants will comprise the nations that confederate together to war against the Israelis in the last days before our Lord's return.

However, as we learn from Daniel two, those materials which picture the nations wishing the pulverization of Israel, instead, will be pulverized themselves by the stone made without hands, the stone the builders rejected, our great and mighty King, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are blessed by our Lord to know the end from the beginning!

Ω

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Obituary for Common Sense and a Welcome to Uncommon Sense

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years.

Common Sense lived a long life, but died from heart failure at the brink of the Millennium. No one really knows how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals, homes, factories and offices, helping folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, life isn't always fair,

and maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not children are in charge).

He watched in pain as good people became ruled by self-seeking lawyers and enlightened auditors. His health rapidly deteriorated when schools endlessly implemented zero tolerance policies; when reports were heard of six year old boys charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; when a teen was suspended for taking a swig of mouthwash after lunch; when a teacher was fired for reprimanding an unruly student. It declined even further when schools had to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student but couldn't inform the parent when a student is pregnant or wants an abortion.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for

doing the job they themselves failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the posting of the Ten Commandments became unlawful; churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar can sue you for assault.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by three stepbrothers; I Know my Rights, Someone Else Is to Blame, and Ima Whiner.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. He is now being replaced by Uncommon Sense!

Ω

Author Unknown



Stars of the Morning

WALK HONESTLY

(Romans 13:13a)

by "Aunt Carolyn"

Steve crossed the street and darted through Gabe's gate. He was startled! There was Gabe doubled over, shaking like a leaf. Steve panicked! Was Gabe doubled over in agony and pain or laughter? He hoped it was laughter, but he had to make sure! If pain caused such an attack, his buddy was in real trouble! Steve must find out what was wrong and get help!

yard, snatched her doll, tore it apart and ran off, and that there was no telling where it went!"



Steve spurted, "Gabe! That was an awful thing to do! No wonder Dottie was upset!"

Mother continued, "This is serious having stray dogs running loose through our yard! What if they had snatched Dottie instead of the doll? Which way did they go, Gabe? I'm going to call Animal Control and report this! I hope they catch those dogs before they do more harm or attack a child! Where did they go, Gabe," she pressed.

By the time Steve reached him, Gabe was still shaking and cackling in laughter. Knowing it was laughter was a relief to Steve, but now what was so hilarious?

"Hey, you should have seen the look on her face! She burst into tears and went running into the house, wailing and screaming to Mother! Boy, did I ever scare that little kid!"

Gabe didn't want to answer and shrugged his shoulders.

"Gabe! What in the world is so funny? I saw you doubled over from way across the street! I didn't know whether you were laughing or crying! What - What's so funny?" he demanded!

Gabe tried to join in his friend's fun, but his laughter went flat. "Steve," he said, "I don't think you should have done that. I think you'll be in big trouble!"

"No, no!" Mother spoke sharply. "That won't do! Don't ever shrug your shoulders when I ask you a question! God gave you a tongue, and you must answer!"

"Oh, it was funny! You wouldn't have believed it!" giggled Gabe, trying to control himself.

"Ah, why? Why would I be in trouble? It was only a joke! Just a joke!"

"I don't know where they went!" Gabe blurted! "I'm not even sure how many there were!"

"What would I not have believed?" Steve shook Gabe trying to make him come to his senses.

Just then, Gabe's Mother came out the back door with little Dottie clinging to her skirts and crying her eyes out.

"You don't know how many there were? Well, what color were they? How big were they?"

"Oh," Gabe continued, "You wouldn't have believed it! You know Dottie, my little sister? Well, I found her doll in the shrubs behind the house, and I got a keen idea. I grabbed her doll and hid it in the shed. When Dottie came out to play she was hunting her doll, and I told her I didn't know where her *dolly* was. She got all upset, so I told her some big dogs came through the

"Gabe!" Mother's voice was shaking. She was angry and distressed! "What happened? Dottie says you saw big dogs snatch her doll, rip it apart and carry it off! Why didn't you yell? Someone might have caught them or at least have seen where they went. Dottie is heartbroken and there's no consoling her. Whose dogs were they? Where could they be by now?"

"I don't know, Mother! I don't know! They went by so fast, like a blur!" Gabe declared!

Steve couldn't believe his ears. Gabe was getting himself in deeper all the time. His own Dad's often repeated warning rang in his head, "Stay away from wrong doers and troublemakers - far away!" Steve uttered, "I - I'll see you later, Steve. I have to go home now!" He backed away a few feet and then turned to run. He had to get away before he got in trouble himself.

Gabe winced at Mother's anxiety. His conscience hurt, but his voice was silent.

(To Be Continued Next Issue)



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(Continued from page 2 - Editor's Desk)

is clear that he does not believe in the veracity of the Scriptures. Can you be a believer and deny the veracity of the Scriptures?

Neither President Obama nor President Bush take the Bible literally. Christians need to wake up and realize that it is easy for Presidents to make professions of faith, but the proof is in their view of the Scriptures. To deny the veracity of the Scriptures, to reject portions of the Holy Bible that are considered incorrect politically is telling as to whether or not spiritual life in Christ is a reality in their lives. We must continue to pray for a spiritual awakening in America!

Fundamentalists have been too quick to jump on the political bandwagons of so-called "Christian" or "Right-wing" politicians only to be bitterly disappointed. We do what we can to promote morality and Biblical principles in our local, state and federal legislatures, but there must be an underlying realization that America and its politicians are by and large apostate and any "Christians" elected will be very limited in their roles in government.

God help us to turn our hearts back to Biblical understandings. Conservative politics is not the answer to America's problems. The shed blood of Jesus Christ and His righteousness is the answer. It is this message that must be proclaimed by godly preachers and evangelists from the pulpits of America. Our pulpits for the most part are mute when it comes to this kind of preaching. We are living in the days of Nineveh and time is short. The politicians of Nineveh are powerless to stop the judgment of God. Only the preaching of repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ from the lips of Jonahs can possibly make any difference. The realization is this: repentance is hardly likely when so many of our preachers are cruising in their luxury liners on their way to Tarshish. God Help America!

¹ Q & A Campaign Event in Nelsonville, Ohio - Fox News release quoted by Baptist Press, Will Hall editor, June 24, 2008

² ABC News Nighline Monday Night, December 08, 2008 - Associated Press newswire quotation