



# The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, FOUNDING EDITOR

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

## Transitional Fundamentalism

by Dr. Milton Jones  
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There are many non-negotiables for New Testament believers. Most certainly the fundamentals of the faith are never open for dialogue or debate. Even those who are currently in transition away from the Fundamentalism of the past admit that there are some issues upon which there can be no compromise without departing from the Word of God. **The emphasis of Scripture for believers is not upon change but upon stability.**

1 Corinthians 15:58 *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*

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

*are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*

Acts 2:42 *And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

Colossians 2:5 *For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.*

We are continuously warned to be aware of the temptation to compromise and accommodate the ever-present pressure to change.

2 Peter 3:11-18 *Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according*

*to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*

Jude 3 *Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.*

This is not to suggest that Biblical faith is static. Quite the contrary, it is very dynamic! This dynamic however does not lie in finding ways to be flexible with truth in order to fit a changing culture. The dynamic of Biblical faith lies in its unchangeableness and eternal power to confront the culture demanding a submissive response. In

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## Editor's Desk

### PRINCIPLED MEN

by Evangelist Harold Vaughan, Guest Editor

Principled men are at a premium in an age of expediency. When pragmatism is the ruling philosophy in a society, it is rare to find anyone who does not cave in. In the days of king Nebuchadnezzar, he signed a decree requiring all citizens to bow down at certain times in obeisance before his image. While most were compliant, there were three Hebrews who bucked his mandate: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These three were honorable, righteous, and just. They did not bow. They did not budge. And they did not burn! Role models for all ages, these men had backbone and boldness.

**Men of Principle STAND UP.** Failure to comply with this governmental dictate would bring certain death in a blazing furnace. But, *“When all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of music, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image...”* (Daniel 3:7). Notice that practically everyone did as they were told. Yet here we see a trio who refused to conform. Their religious convictions would not allow them to violate their consciences. In the face of death, they refused to be bullied into compromise.

What a contrast to many today who are nameless, faceless, and gutless. Scores grovel for recognition, position, and power in today's establishment. But God's giants not only have convictions, they have the courage of their convictions! There's more than lip service to the cause, these souls are compelled to put their futures and reputations on the line for the sake of “right.” Men of principle always STAND UP for their beliefs.

**Men of Principle SPEAK UP.** The Chaldeans, the political establishment, informed the king about the Hebrew's rebellion. Nebuchadnezzar was outraged and commanded them to be brought before him. There they stood with heads lifted high and their minds made up. After the king's interrogation and death threats; Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and gave an unflinching declaration to the king. They did not “plead the fifth”, back-peddle, negotiate, or attempt a political maneuver. They spoke plainly, *“O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up”* (Daniel 3:16-18).

WOW! This threesome actually spoke up to the highest authority in the land. They were not afraid of losing their jobs,

their position, their place, or their heads. Their values meant more to them than life itself. In an age of unbridled accommodation, we need courageous men who are compelled to SPEAK UP for truth... no matter what. Speaking truth into lives, families, churches, denominations, organizations, and into our culture at large is the crying need. Principled men SPEAK UP, even when it is costly.

**Men of Principle STAND OUT.** Nebuchadnezzar was furious. He commanded to heat the furnace seven times hotter than normal. The mightiest soldiers threw them into the blazing fire. The flame was so hot that it slew the soldiers as *“Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace”* (v. 23). The king and his pawns were spell-bound as they saw not three, but four men loose and walking in the fire. The fire could not hurt them, and the only thing that burned were the ropes that bound them! On top of that, the fourth man was like the “Son of God.” Amazing. Jesus did not get them out of the fire, He got in there with them... and delivered them!

Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and told these “servants of the most high God” to come forth. And they came forth out of the midst of the fire. Everyone present noticed that the fire did not burn them, their hair was not singed, and their garments did not smell like smoke. The king was so moved by this spectacle that he changed his decree. His image was trashed, and only the Hebrew's God could now be worshipped. These three STOOD OUT because they refused to compromise. No other God could deliver like that! “Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon” (Dan 3:30).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego dared to STAND UP, SPEAK UP, and consequently they STOOD OUT. This was in total distinction to the idolatry and corruption during Nebuchadnezzar's reign. We need men and women who are blind to the winds of culture. Men, women, and youth who only pay attention to the wind of the Spirit. People of character with a zeal for God's glory! Principled souls who dare to defy the norms in a defiled age. Individuals like the Hebrews who took a stand for truth. Ω

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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.



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other words, Biblical Christianity is not about making the Bible fit the culture; it is about calling upon people in the culture to submit to the authority of Scripture.

### The Winds of Change

There is a sense in which people have always been in motion away from Biblical faith. It is the result of the strong vacuum pull of unbelief. In the 1970's and early 1980's Fundamentalism saw a significant defection centered in Lynchburg, Virginia and spreading through the sphere of influence dominated by Jerry Falwell. At that time those who were in motion were called "Pseudo-Fundamentalists" and then "embryonic New Evangelicals." Those who shifted during that time frame have now arrived as full-fledged New Evangelicals. Then as now, decisions were made, sides were chosen, and separations in fellowship followed.

Rather than trying to coin a phrase to describe what has been going on in Fundamentalism over the last number of years, we would serve a better purpose by simply referring to those who are in motion as Transitional Fundamentalists. The very word "transition" indicates movement. Motion is not inherently evil. Walking with God (Genesis 5:22, 24) implies motion. The real question has to do with direction. In what direction are the feet of Transitional Fundamentalists pointed?

One of the spokesmen for those in transition has called for a "radical center" in which conservative evangelicals and fundamentalists in transition can find a home. The vision articulated indicates

that Conservative Evangelicals are moving to the right and certain fundamentalists which the author characterizes as "mainstream" are moving to the left to meet in the "radical center."

The problem with that model is the reality that Conservative Evangelicals are not moving at all. While they have become more vocal in decrying the radical shift to the left within the evangelical world, conservatives within that world stand exactly where the movement has stood since its inception. The only people who are actually moving are the Transitional Fundamentalists. There really is no "radical center."

### The New Direction

The evidence of movement toward New Evangelicalism is found in the very spirit of accommodation that has long characterized that movement. There is little question that many from the fundamentalist camp have embraced various forms of Contemporary Christian Music. Some have attempted to alter the scores from Sovereign Grace Music in order to utilize the lyrics. Others have succumbed to the sirenic allurements of new sounds. Others are responding to consumer demand for music that emulates that which the world produces. As controversial as music issues often are, the direction in which the musical feet are pointed have historically been telling of where the theological feet will soon follow.

Another characteristic of this movement is the increasingly casual atmosphere created in previously fundamental ministries. No real fundamentalist insists upon a dead somber approach to the worship of God; but neither is he looking to

soften edges by dressing casually for church or opting for entertaining environments. A tuxedo is hardly required for the pulpit, but a reasonable suit and tie would be nice. The attire is not the issue; the attitude is the issue.

In no area is the fact of transition more apparent than the willingness to closely associate with the Scripturally disobedient.

Increasingly there is "pulpit swap" between Conservative Evangelicals and Fundamentalist ministries. In that process the evangelical is promoted, and the resolute Fundamentalist is vilified. Every pastor of an autonomous church is free to bring whomever he will to his pulpit, but he must realize that in the choices he makes he is also authenticating the position of every guest speaker. A willingness to become participants in the Together for the Gospel and Gospel Coalition movements are clear indications of a change in method as well as direction.

**Fundamentalists do not have anything theologically that New Evangelicals want or think that they need. They want access to our people, institutions, and finances to be utilized for purposes other than those for which they were established.**

### Why are They Moving?

It must also be recognized that the nuclear glue for the new coalition that is forming is undoubtedly Reformed Theology. Reformed Theology with its covenant perspectives, open church membership, and increasingly radical Calvinism is the new impetus for a new brand of ecumenism. As surely as the foundation of New Evangelicalism found its roots in men from

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# Proverb Practicals

by Ludwig Opager

**Proverbs 27:22, Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.**

The Bible tells us that correction exists that will drive foolishness from a child. In Proverbs 22:15, God tells us that: Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him. So, a child's foolishness can be driven to a faraway place by the rod of correction

What is described in our Proverb is not the correction of a child, but of dealing with a confirmed fool. This Proverb describes a most drastic and strict punishment and yet this does not bring success in driving foolishness away. This is the foolishness of a fool! This Proverb is about the fool that has said, "There is no God!"

God uses language in this proverb to describe an act that conveys to us a process that is used to crush a structure into another form whereby the original structure is no longer recognized. He asks us to picture a mortar and a pestle. A mortar is an inverted bell-shaped vessel in which substances are pounded or bruised with a pestle which is an instrument for pounding and breaking substances.

In the mortar we are to picture wheat that is there to be separated so that something useful will be produced by that separation. God has given us grain that it is contained in a husk. We must work to get the grain out of the husk. The husk must be crushed to recover the

grain. This process of separation yields a reward to the laborer and all who partake of the bread made with the wheat.

Now God wants us to picture a fool inserted in the mortar with the wheat. The fool is to undergo the braying of the pestle along with the wheat. To bray means to pound, beat or grind small. This is the picture of an extremely harsh act of an attempted correction of a fool to make the fool useful for God. But are we to expect profit from this pounding, this beating, and this grinding of the fool? Are we to expect a transformation of the fool into another form like the transformation of the wheat into a useful grain? This proverb is clear. A fool cannot be transformed into something useful for God by such measures.

Did God cure the foolishness of man by bringing the flood? No, He destroyed the race, but not the foolishness. As Pharaoh was pressed in the mortar did he depart from his foolishness that sought to destroy the Israelites? What will be the result of the braying that God performs during the tribulation upon those committed to evil? Will this turn the fools around? Read the scripture!

Revelation 16:10,11, "*And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed*

*their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds."* Why not? Because they are fools!

This proverb convinces us that there are deep implications of judgment to those who say, "*There is no God.*" The belief in the necessity of affliction for the saving of a fool is a delusion. Never by itself will it bring one soul to God. A fool may be crushed, but never humbled. The blows in a fool's life may come but he will continue clinging to his foolishness.

Jeremiah 13:23 touches on this important lesson, "*Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? (If he can) then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.*" No, a fool is a fool is a fool. The harshest punishment that you can imagine, will not turn him into something that he is not. Only by the grace of God and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit will a man's "*foolishness depart from him.*" There must be a supernatural work done in the heart to bring about the needed transformation. God must create a new man. The old man is hopeless and therefore punishment as drastic as can be imagined is of no avail. It is God's grace and God's grace alone that can do anything for man. Man cannot be punished into the kingdom! Ω



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the Reformed Tradition, so is the appeal to Transitional Fundamentalists. The show of intellect and evident scholarship has captured a generation of younger preachers. There have always been Calvinists in the Fundamentalist Movement, but their Calvinism has never been the cause. The greatest case in point was C. H. Spurgeon. In the last great battle of his life, the Downgrade Controversy, he demonstrated that fidelity to truth superseded his personal understanding of the mechanics of soteriology. It is not accidental that concurrent with the rapprochement of evangelicalism by those in transition from Fundamentalism there has been an acceptance of the Reformation Bible (ESV) on a broad scale.

Whatever your position on textual issues, it is a plain fact that this reworking of the old liberal Revised Standard Version has been designed to be the Bible of a renewal of Reformed Theology.

It is incredibly sad that we learn so very little from history. There has never been a more stridently Calvinistic pastor than John Gill in the eighteenth century. It is most revealing that charges of antinomianism were levied against those who were associated with him. Antinomianism refers to a rejection of rules of conduct. It is strange that a theology that purports to honor the majesty and holiness of God should be guilty of worldliness to excess.

It is very much a part of the Transitional Fundamentalist mindset to raise debate about issues that have been long settled in the hearts of godly people.

Fundamentalists have long believed in personal separation as well as ecclesiastical separation. This translates to a rejection of the use of alcohol as a beverage as well as other overtly worldly practices. Standards of modesty and conduct are as Biblical as the major doctrines. Increasingly Transitional Fundamentalists dismiss such discussions as irrelevant and characterized them as the restrictions of a past tense Fundamentalism. It should be noted that failures in ecclesiastical separation usually precede the erasure of standards of personal separation. The "spiritual pride" that would countenance worldliness as insignificant appears to parallel the pride of intellect too often found in Reformed circles.

#### **The Danger**

Fundamentalists cannot "live and let live" in this matter. Disastrous effects are already accruing. Several institutions, agencies, and many churches have already been delivered into the hands of compromise. It is to be feared that there will be no return for these because their leaders seem to think that they are doing God service (John 16:2) by "reclaiming authentic fundamentalism."

Sadly the "authentic fundamentalism" claimed is bereft of accurate history and intellectual integrity.

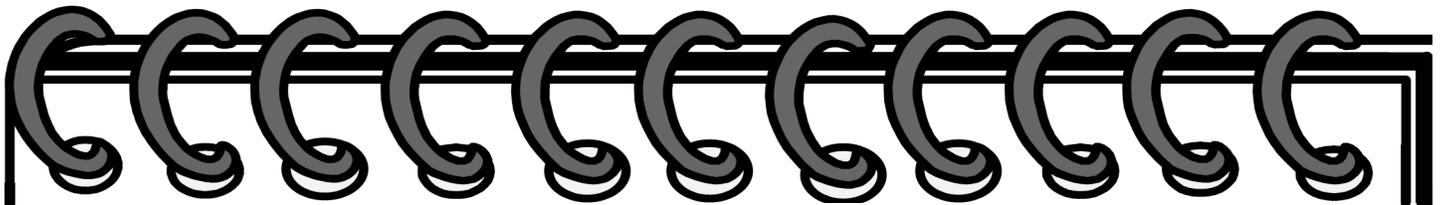
Worse, a whole new generation of believers will be influenced to embrace compromise as normative Christianity. This is especially true since the centers of learning that were previously well within the Fundamentalist Movement, are training a new generation of leaders to imbibe the transition to Evangelicalism as wholesome and desirable. Perhaps the most dan-

gerous aspect of this tragic transition is its drafting effect. Everyone who has experienced the rapid passage of a large vehicle has felt the motion effect in the direction the vehicle was travelling. The larger the vehicle and the greater the speed, the greater will be the effective draft. It is to be feared that more and more institutions, agencies, and churches will be drawn toward Conservative Evangelicalism. At the moment at least it has the appearance of some resurgent success in articulating conservative values and gaining the public ear. Beware of pragmatism that would ride the coattails of this compromise. Disobedience cannot bring about revival. Only God-sent Biblical renewal can stem the tide of political liberalism and religious apostasy. A major component in revival is repentance and restoration to obedience to the authority of Scripture.

We must also recognize the minimalism inherent in this movement. The core of the Bible is not the gospel! The core of the Bible is Christ! Much is being said about the gospel, its definition, and the need for its promulgation. Fundamentalists embrace the necessity of the gospel but do not reduce Biblical Christianity to a general agreement about the gospel. It is the old paradigm battle that has reappeared many times in the past. Will we be soteriological in approach or doxological? Preaching the gospel glorifies God but so does obedience. A gospel preached at the behest of disobedience will eventually become a compromised gospel. It has in the past and will be again.

As Transitional Fundamental-

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*Teaching Tips*

*by Doris Peppard*

## Sharing Christian Philosophy with Parents

Here are some thoughts for parents considering Christian education. We go over these with parents before registration and try to set the groundwork for success at our school. With so many students considering Christian education for the first time, we have found it necessary to help our parents understand the differences in philosophy between secular and “Christ-centered” education.

### Info for Prospective Parents:

We believe God gives children to parents. As a school, we are an organization that cannot take the place of a mother and father in a child’s life. Because the home was created first, it bears the responsibility of “training up their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord.” So, we rely upon our parents to support us as we deal with their children.

We use a form of discipline in our classrooms known as “voice obedience,” and if at whatever point it is noticed that children are not listening to our correction, we contact parents. If a child likes to talk, cut-up, or disrupt class, the teacher will first correct with a look or voice command. It should never need to go beyond that because the students know, “My parents and my teacher are friends, they talk.” Most of our parents want to solve discipline problems when they are small. “Nip it in the bud!” We want parents to train our students to respond to the teacher’s voice; and, we rely upon our parents to back us up.

I realize that some parents do not want their child to be spoken to strictly, but we instruct our teachers to use their authoritarian voice when needed. We have many students in our classrooms, and the teacher’s voice must command attention. If this does not line up with your thinking, consider whether this school is the best “fit” for your children. I realize that there is no “one size fits all” school. If we are not the best “fit,” it would be best in your child’s best interest if you would find a school more in line with your philosophy.

For the child’s good, we require our parents to support the teacher. If you believe that the teacher is unfair or dealing with your child in a wrong manner, it is your right and responsibility to ask questions. If you do not trust in that teacher, then it is most likely not a good “fit.” In Dr. Hobbs’ pamphlet, **For the Good of Your Child**, there are suggestions for disciplining children that will give you a Christian philosophy and approach. Dr. Hobbs founded SRCS and established our policies and procedures for teaching and training children back in 1962. It is in your child’s best interest that you understand the Christian school’s philosophy – it is always the hope and prayer that the school and home are on the “same page,” and we can work together!

We do not want any of our students to ever feel intimidated; however, they will sometimes feel uncomfortable when being corrected. Corrections are not “fun” but sometimes are necessary. Please consider if your Christian school is meeting your child’s needs and if your philosophy is in line with theirs. If it is not the right “fit” you’ll need to find another placement that is in line with your beliefs. However, it is a wonderful relationship when the home and the school are in sync with each other. Those children will benefit from that relationship. Ω



# *Stars of the Morning*

By the late "Aunt Carolyn"

## The Abandoned Pup—A True Fox Tale



Continued from last issue:

All the change of environment, diet, or companions could not change Foxy. He was a fox from his inner natural desires, ways, and appetites never changed even though he was transplanted to a different life when only a pup. A pretty red harness could not cover the inner urge to roam free. The soft boxbed could not substitute for a leaf and bark-covered den; butcher shop meat could not satisfy the taste for the live catch from the wild; incessant pacing in a cage could not substitute for a free run through the forest in pursuit of prey. No, the captive was a fox by nature, and no outward changes could overcome the inner condition. God made the cunning fox with all his stealthy, determined ways, and in its natural habitat it fulfilled the purpose for which God created it.

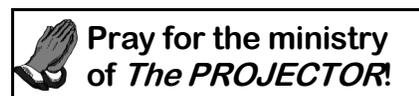
Man was created by God also, but man deliberately turned against God, disobeying God's command to do his own will. Since that time, every boy or girl born has had a sinful nature, one that does not love or obey God or seek to come under His control. Just as the wild nature in the fox made him unyielding to his rescuer, the sinful nature in a child makes him unyielding, unbending, unwilling to do right or to obey authority. No change of environment or promise to do better can fix the problem. He must have a new nature. He must realize that he is a sinner and that his sin is against God. God loved him so much that He sent His only begotten Son to die for his sin. If he really believes in Christ as the only payment for sin and trusts Him, he will be saved. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life" (John 3:16). Christ will give him a new heart, a new

nature—"Old things are passed away, behold, all things have become new" (II Cor. 5:17). The "wild", wayward, sinful spirit is changed to a humble, obedient spirit that desires to honor, please, and obey the Lord Jesus Christ according to the Word of God.

Have you received a new nature? Have you become a new creature in Christ Jesus? Perhaps someone has talked with you or tried to get you to do better or different, yet you continue in your sin and cannot change your ways even when you desire to do so. Then come to Christ. Let Him make you a new creature.

Related Scripture:

Romans 7:18-25, "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin." Ω





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ists crusade for change we must be aware that the change envisioned is not a return to orthodoxy and orthopraxy; it is a compromise of the truth. It is informative to note that mainstream evangelicals have gone on record as stating that there is no appreciable difference between Conservative Evangelicalism and Fundamentalists who are in transition.

#### How Shall We Respond?

We must be found in the same heart and mind evidenced by our Lord in the first letter to the churches of Asia Minor.

Revelation 2:5 *Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*

This is the ever-present ministry of reproof and challenge to peo-

ple who are genuinely saved, but sadly disobedient.

Further we must refuse to surrender resources to those institutions, agencies, and churches who are moving. It is not wise to continue to send our children to colleges, give our money to agencies, or support churches that are in transition while we wait to see where they will land. By then it is too late! Look at where their feet are pointing! At some point there must be separation from this disobedience. It is the only tool which God has given to us to police ourselves and to maintain the priority and purity of our position.

In doing these things, we need not expect to be applauded. Regardless of how lovingly we reprove and how carefully we withdraw fellowship we will be labeled as unloving and judgmental. We do not judge in order to condemn; that is God's business. We judge

righteous judgment to the end that we may maintain obedience and fidelity to the truth.

We will one day (short of the Rapture) become part of a new remnant. Every age has its remnants. We exist today as Fundamentalists because of previous remnants. We must not fear being marginalized, vilified, or even persecuted. We must fear to compromise. We must endeavor with all that is within us to honor God above men, truth above movements, and faithfulness above success. We must be sensitive to the Holy Spirit so that we can take our stand without a censorious spirit, without pride, and with compassionate desire to see our brethren recovered from the error of their decisions.  $\Omega$

Reprinted from the *In Defense of the Gospel* website