

Education



Education Is Power

By THOMAS E.
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The educational system in the United States leaves much to be desired. This may sound rather strange coming from one who has spent his entire adult life within the system itself. However, a close look at the system will reveal the veracity of such a statement.

Let's look at the facts. Many of our high school graduates are considered to be functionally illiterate, meaning that they cannot read material printed at the sixth grade level. Their mathematical skills are low. Scientific skills are dropping. General test scores are at a new low.

What does all of this mean in relationship to educational skills? It means that many of our young people are being "passed on" without having mastered the necessary skills in the respective areas. It means that we, as teachers, are closing our eyes to the fact that many of our students are not putting out the effort needed to master certain skills. It may even mean that many of our teachers are not doing their best job of providing the proper instruction for their students.

No attempt is being made to localize blame for our students' achievement or lack of achievement. However, we must all realize that the system is willing to share in the blame for our students not achieving as much as possible. These groups are the students, the parents, the teachers, and society in general. The student must shoulder the responsibility of attending to task, studying, making proper preparations for class, behavior in class, and general motivation and attitude toward school. The parents must take responsibility for seeing that the student has a quiet place and time for study, for seeing that the student does indeed study, for seeing that the student gets plenty of sleep, rest, and proper nutrition, and for promoting formal

education as a viable alternative in life.

The teachers should assume the responsibility for assuring a proper learning environment, for proper instruction, for keeping up with new development in his/her field, and for projecting a caring and helpful attitude toward all students. Society in general must be willing to take the responsibility for providing adequate teaching staffs, for providing adequate space and materials for proper instruction, for helping to reduce class loads, for adequate pay for teachers, and for the development of a positive attitude toward education. Society must also become willing to provide special help for those students whose needs cannot be met in a regular classroom.

The educational system in the United States may not be doing its job in the way it should be done; however, we must all realize that the system is laboring under many burdens, such as too little finance to get the job done, too little cooperation from the other groups mentioned above, inadequate facilities, and from too much destructive criticism from groups that tend to lower the morale of the persons involved in the educational arena. By pulling together, a much better job can be done for our students.

Church

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In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
St. John 1:1

WHAT IS MAN? THE SHALL BE...

In the gospel of John 1:41-42, Simon is brought to Jesus. When the Lord beheld him he said, Thou art Simon...thou shalt be!" This future promise of becoming is to all. None of us that comes to the Lord is complete. We may be full grown physically, but upon being born-again, we also become babes in Christ. Shall be. The

Lord never gets us for what we are, but for what we can become. For in each of us there is room for improvement. This is one of Christendom's greatest challenges...to become.

In Matt. 10:16 the Lord issues one of life's greatest challenges: to be wise as a serpent, harmless as a dove. Look at this verse. Here



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we find the Lord in the personal pronoun I. A man in the personal pronoun you, a sheep, a wolf, a serpent and a dove. The challenge is to be as wise as the serpent. The serpent has no feet, yet he catches rabbits. He has no wings but catches birds. He has no hands but climbs trees and picks fruit. He builds no house or fire but he does not freeze to death. He has no storehouse but lives

through the winter.

Life is a constant struggle. We were made to progress; from a seed to a baby. From a baby to a child, from a child to a man. Then to reproduce; and from production to death. But it is in dying that we are born into eternal life. I know I am not all I should be; I am not all I shall be. Thanks be to God I am not what I was.

by Pastor A.J. Thompson

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