ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

The Getwell congregation is made up of many homes. We have stressed of late the importance of Christian homes: homes where Christ is involved in every decision and action; homes where His Word is our guide, His authority is our rule, His example is our strength, His church is our life, and where His devotion is our advantage over the world. Great men have long realized the importance of the Bible in the home and in the lives of all.

Abraham Lincoln wrote: "I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book."

George Washington: "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

Queen Victoria stated: "That book accounts for the supremacy of England."

Thomas Huxley: "The Bible has been the Magna Carta of the poor and oppressed. The human race is not in a position to dispense with it."

Horace Greeley said: "It is impossible to enslave mentally or socially a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom."

Immanuel Kant said: "The existence of the Bible, as a book for the people, is the greatest benefit which the human race has ever experienced. Every attempt to belittle it is a crime against humanity."

Charles Dickens wrote: "The New Testament is the very best book that ever was or ever will be known in the world."

We urge all to go back to the Bible for life, guidance, and hope!
Jesus dictated these words to the apostle John for the church in Laodicea: “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten” (Rev. 3:19).

After this Bible reference appeared on a sign in the front of a church building, a phone call was received from a somewhat irate woman inquiring as to what was meant by this saying. It was evident that she did not know it was from the inspired Scriptures. When she was kindly informed that it was written to the church at Laodicea, with the further exhortation to “be zealous, therefore, and repent,” she said, “Oh,” and hung up. Supposing that she was against any and all chastening, especially of children, many more scripture references came to mind which could have shown the importance of the same thought. But she gave no time to mention these scriptures and indicated little regard to the one she had seen on the sign.

No Discipline Theory

So many of the liberal persuasion have “decided” against the Bible and rather to go along with the widely-read Dr. Spock of the 1960s, that children should receive no discipline. Dr. Spock later acknowledged that his anti-Bible advice had raised an entire nation of misguided rebels! But the harm to several generations was done, and many, both parents and children, suffered as the result.

If you are interested in seeing further references concerning this Bible teaching, see Deuteronomy 8:1-6; Job 5:17; Psalms 94:12; Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; Ephesians 6:4; Hebrews 12:6, 8-9, 11.

Parents Seeking Help

Today’s parents should follow the Bible instead of the liberal talk shows’ propaganda about raising children. They refuse to talk about spanking a child but rather refer to “beating” or “hitting.” We do not condone either! No one could be more against the abuse of children than this writer! No one could have greater concern and interest in our young people. But, if we want children to grow up being responsible, we must teach, train, and discipline them with the proper thinking of reaping what you sow (Gal. 6:7-9) and that wrong acts bring swift punishment. And, we need to be aware of the fact that when a child is not disciplined he will bring shame to his mother (Prov. 19:15). But the Proverbs also wisely say, “Correct thy son, and he will bring thee rest [peace]; yea, he will give delight unto thy soul” (Prov. 29:17).

Show Them Love

Correct chastening shows our love for our young and their future, even their eternal future! Pity to the child that grows up not knowing the real meaning of the word “no.” These children will not have the guidelines for living that will make them good law-abiding citizens or faithful members of the Lord’s church. Without discipline and training, they will miss the structural principles that will help them throughout life (Prov. 22:6). They will grow up in careless, irreligious, and scandalous actions like the two sons of Eli, who lacked parental authority with his children (I Sam. 2:21-26; 3:12-15). Neither, with the proper discipline, will they be so surprised when the eternal Judgment and punishment of God comes upon the ungodly and disobedient (Eccl. 11:9-10; 12:13-14; Rom. 1:18).

The parents who do not love their children enough to chasten them are described in Proverbs 13:24: “He that spareth his rod hateth his son.” This teaches that those who withhold useful correction and discipline from their children act as if they do not love their children.

We should be thankful that God loves us, chastens us, and does all things, even chastening, well (Heb. 12:5-13). Faithful and loving parents will strive to do the same.
2056. This chapter begins with God telling Abram to get out of his country and ends with Pharaoh telling Abram to get out of Egypt.

2057. This chapter shows us where we get the term Sodomy, referring to homosexuality, and ends with Lot fathering two children by his two daughters.

2058. This chapter begins with God blessing Noah and his sons and ends with Noah cursing Canaan.

2059. This chapter begins with Abram having no children and concludes with Abram having a son.

2060. This chapter contains the promise to Abraham of a son by Sarah and Abraham bargaining with God.

2061. This chapter shows two aspects of Abimelech, one in asking Isaac to leave his country and then, later, in wanting to make a covenant with Isaac.

2062. In this chapter Joseph reveals himself to his brothers in Egypt.

2063. This chapter begins with Sarah dying and ends with Sarah being buried.

2064. This chapter contains God’s decision to destroy man and his instructions to Noah.

2065. This chapter contains the first recorded prohibition given to man, the naming of the animals, and the creation of woman.

— Ron Wallace

Creation Fact #78
Evidence from Biology

The largest known cooperative community of mammals spend their summers together inside Bracken Cave near San Antonio, Texas. During the day 20 million Mexican free-tailed bats raise their 20 million pups, while each night they gulp down an estimated 150 tons of insects! The bats winter in Mexico and mate in the spring. Then, for a reason unknown to scientists, only the females fly to Texas.

During their migration, the bats fly at 40 miles per hour at an altitude of eight to ten thousand feet. Once settled in at Bracken Cave, they become pregnant from the sperm of male bats which they have carried on the journey with them! Four months later each has a single pup. Although the cave’s one-room nursery has 20 million noisy pups, a mother bat released anywhere within the cave can find her own baby in as little as twelve seconds.

How marvelous is our God who created such wonders!

— A Closer Look at the Evidence by Richard & Tina Kleiss

Missing Container
Please check your dishes for a plastic, rectangular container that was brought to the fellowship room the night the Harding chorus performed here. The container belongs to Norma McCoy.
I WAS SICK AND YE VISITED ME (MATT. 25:36)

W. T. Hardwick is recuperating at home from pneumonia. Gordon Stalcup is in ICU at Baptist Hospital Memphis; he and his wife visit with us often. Paula Perkins is recuperating from pneumonia and some heart irregularities and is at the home of her daughter Susan. Addie Nelms has returned home from the hospital.

Please also remember with your cards, calls, and prayers those of our number who are confined at home or in nursing homes: Hazel Bizzell, 356 Calle Escada, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459-3698; Buddy Brandon, 11714 Macon, Eads, TN 38028, 853-4720; Nell Brandon, Quince Nursing and Rehab Center, 6733 Quince Rd., Room 2006A, 38119; Emma Brotherton, Landmark of DeSoto, 3068 Nail Rd. W., Room 310B, Horn Lake, MS 38637; Frances Collins, 4779 Amboy Rd., 38117, 682-6917; Mary Haynes, 274 S. Highland, Apt. 808, 38111, 327-2127; Addie Nelms, 4007 Dunn Ave., 38111, 743-7554; Skipper Schulz, 139 Magnolia Dr., 38117, 683-3049; and Minnie Wayne, Gallaway Healthcare Center, Room 106, 435 Old Brownsville Rd., Gallaway, TN 38036, 317-4590.

THANK-YOU NOTE
A note of appreciation from Frances and Leslie Costin is posted on the bulletin board.

DIRECTORY CHANGE
Shappley, Rodger & Charles
2191 Court Ave., 38104 (2)

LADIES CLASS LUNCHEON
The Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Class will have its monthly luncheon following class next Tuesday, March 24.

PHOTO UPDATES
Each Sunday in March following our morning worship service, pictures will be made in the large meeting room to update our hallway picture board.

SPIRITUAL SWORD GIFTS
Donations to THE SPIRITUAL SWORD have been received from Pauline Flynn (TX), M/M Duain Hogue (OK), and M/M Doyce Shumate (AR)

ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 22, 2009
Welcome: George Cloys
Lead Singing: Dewey Murray (a.m.)
Jacob Wallace (p.m.)
Opening Prayer: Tom Harris (a.m.)
Doug Miller (p.m.)
Bible Reading: John Chaney
Sermon: Pat Phillips (a.m.)
Ron Wallace (p.m.)
Closing Prayer: Ransom Reaves (a.m.)
Leonard Hillis (p.m.)

OUR ATTITUDE
March 8, 2009
Bible Study  91
Morning Worship  104
Evening Worship  56
Wednesday (3/4)  58
Contribution  $3,122.00
Weekly Budget  $3,706.00

PACK OUR PANTRY
Soup
Canned Fruit

VERSE TO MEMORIZE
ON UNITY
Galatians 1:3-9

Dedicated To The Restoration Of New Testament Christianity

Address Services Requested
Memphis, TN 38111-7246
111 Central Road
Getwell Church of Christ