

Why Is Christian Education So Critical?

Pastor Jim Scudder, Jr.

April 25, 2021

Colossians 2:8

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

“A Christian boy or girl can learn mathematics, for example, from a teacher who is not a Christian; and truth is truth however learned. But while truth is truth however learned, the bearing of truth, the meaning of truth, the purpose of truth, even in the sphere of mathematics, seem entirely different to the Christian from that which they seem to the non-Christian; and that is why a truly Christian education is possible only when Christian conviction underlies not a part but all, of the curriculum of the school.”

John Gresham Machen – Professor at Princeton Seminary

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Deuteronomy 11:18-21

Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. ¹⁹ And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. ²⁰ And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:

²¹ That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.

Joshua 4:20-22

And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal. ²¹ And he spake unto the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean

these stones? ²² Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land.

Romans 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

In 1962, the US Supreme Court ruled in *Engel v. Vitale* against school-sponsored prayer – even nonsectarian prayer.

In 1963, the US Supreme Court banned organized Bible reading for religious and moral instruction.

In the 1980 case of *Stone v. Graham*, the court found unconstitutional a Kentucky law requiring all public schools to post a copy of the Ten Commandments.

In 1985 the Supreme Court case *Wallace v. Jaffree*, an Alabama law was requiring public schools to set aside a moment each day for silent prayer or meditation.

In 2000 school-sponsored prayers at high school football games were banned.

The Supreme Court ruled in the 1968 case *Epperson v. Arkansas*, that Arkansas could not eliminate from the high school biology curriculum the teaching of “the theory that mankind descended from a lower order of animals.”

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Conclusion – Mom and dad, not the government (or the village), are responsible before God to train their children in the ways of the Lord.

Christian education is critical to the survival of godly offspring.