THE BIBLE VIEW

In This Issue:
Child Training
How Old Ought I Be?
School — 1957 vs. 2007
A Lesson from the Chinese
Two and a Half Conversions
Other This Week's Puzzle

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Child Training

Bill Brinkworth

The most important responsibility we will ever have is not paying our bills, getting a new house, or moving up the corporate ladder in our job. It is rearing properly the children God has allowed us to have. If you are a Christian, your children are your main ministry. "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Psalm 127:3

God should know best how to rear children; after all, He has reared billions of them. Our heavenly Father does know the right way, not necessarily the way suggested by child psychologists, child welfare workers, and teachers. He should be sought first in obtaining advice on rearing our children.

God's Word has much to say about how a child should be reared. Here is some of the Bible's advice on rearing children:

 Children should be trained. Nowhere in the scriptures is the responsibility of training children given to anyone but the parents. Others can assist, but it is the parents that are responsible for the child's training.

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

Proverbs 22:6

Children should obey their parents! Those
 assisting in the education of other people's children
 should remember this and never encourage a child to
 disobey or question their parents' authority.
 "Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and
 attend to know understanding."

Proverbs 4:1

"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee." Exodus 20:12

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

• Children should not intentionally be provoked to anger. Although, little Seymour may get mad when he is asked to do something, it should not be the parents intent to purposely offend or make him angry.

"And we fathers provoke not your children to wrath:

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: ..." Ephesians 6:4

"Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged." Colossians 3:21

 Children should be educated by reading and feeding on the Word of God and taught to follow its instructions. The thinking that, "I will not force religion down my child's throat; he can make his own decision about 'religion'", is not biblical. If that is how the parent feels, then how is it they do not leave it to the child to decide if they go to school or not?

"... but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word." Psalm 119:9

Children can be saved at a young age.

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." II Timothy 3:15

Children should be disciplined and corrected.

"Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying." Proverbs 19:18 The longer discipline is put off, the more bent a child will be to do his own will.

"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." Proverbs 22:15

Disciplining a child is hard work, that takes much patience. For this reason, many children are not disciplined. Another reason a child is not disciplined is that they are not loved.

"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." Proverb 13:24 "Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul." Proverb 29:17

• Children that are undisciplined will bring dishonor and havoc to themselves and their parents.

"The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to

himself bringeth his mother to shame." Proverbs 29:15

"O fathers and mothers, the ruin of your children or their salvation, will, under God, very much depend on you." — Spurgeon

How Old Ought I to Be?

Michigan Bible Club Beacon

"Dear Mother," said a little maid "Please whisper it to me, Before I am a Christian, How old ought I to be?"

"How old ought you to be, dear child Before you can love me?" "I always loved you, Mother mine, Since I was tiny wee."

"I love you now and always will,"
The little daughter said,
And on her mother's shoulder laid
Her golden, curly head.

"How old, my girlie, must you be, Before you trust my care?" "Oh, Mother dear, I do, I do. I trust you everywhere."

"How old ought you to be, my child

To do the things I say?"
The little girl looked up and said
"I can do that today."

"Then you can be a Christian too.
Don't wait till you are grown.
Tell Jesus now you come to Him,
To be His very own."

Then as the little maid knelt down
And said, "Lord, if I may,
I'd like to be a Christian now,"
He answered, "Yes, today!"

SCHOOL — 1957 vs. 2007

Dr. Don Boys

Scenario: Jack goes quail hunting before school, pulls into school parking lot with shotgun in gun rack.

1957 - Vice Principal comes over, looks at Jack's shotgun, goes to his car and gets his shotgun to show Jack.

2007 - School goes into lock down, FBI called, Jack hauled off to jail and never sees his truck or gun again. Counselors called in for traumatized students and teachers.

Scenario: Johnny and Mark get into a fistfight after school.

1957 - Crowd gathers. Mark wins. Johnny and Mark shake hands and end up buddies.

2007 - Police called, SWAT team arrives, arrests Johnny

and Mark. Charge them with assault, both expelled, even though Johnny started it.

Scenario: Jeffrey won't be still in class, disrupts other students.

1957 - Jeffrey sent to office and given a good paddling by the principal. Returns to class, sits still and does not disrupt class again.

2007 - Jeffrey given huge doses of Ritalin. Becomes a zombie. Tested for ADD. School gets extra money from state because Jeffrey has a "disability".

Scenario: Billy breaks a window in his neighbor's car, and his Dad gives him a whipping with his belt.

1957 - Billy is more careful next time, grows up normal, goes to college, and becomes a successful businessman. 2007 - Billy's dad is arrested for child abuse. Billy removed to foster care and joins a gang. State psychologist convinces Billy's sister that she remembers being abused herself, and their dad goes to prison. Billy's mom has affair with psychologist.

Scenario: Mark gets a headache and takes some aspirin to school.

1957 - Mark shares aspirin with principal out on the smoking dock.

2007 - Police called, Mark expelled from school for drug violations. Car searched for drugs and weapons.

Scenario: Pedro fails high school English.

1957 - Pedro goes to summer school; passes English; goes to college.

2007 - Pedro's cause is taken up by state. Newspaper articles appear nationally explaining that teaching English as a requirement for graduation is racist. ACLU files class action lawsuit against state school system and Pedro's English teacher. English banned from core curriculum. Pedro given diploma anyway, but ends up mowing lawns for a living because he cannot speak English.

Scenario: Johnny takes apart leftover firecrackers from 4th of July, puts them in a model airplane paint bottle, blows up a red ant bed.

1957 - Ants die.

2007 - BATF, Homeland Security, FBI called. Johnny charged with domestic terrorism, FBI investigates parents, siblings removed from home, computers confiscated, Johnny's Dad goes on a terror watch list and is never allowed to fly again.

Scenario: Johnny falls while running during recess and scrapes his knee. He is found crying by his teacher, Mary. Mary hugs him to comfort him.

1957 - In a short time, Johnny feels better and goes on playing.

2007 - Mary is accused of being a sexual predator and loses her job. She faces 3 years in State Prison. Johnny undergoes five years of therapy.

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" — Isaiah 5:20

A Lesson from the Chinese

Author Unknown

In the distant past, there were about 3,000 Chinese boys and girls in a certain area of New York City. During a period of eight years there were only two cases of juvenile delinquency. A legislature and court investigation discovered that Chinese percentage of delinquency was the lowest of any racial or sectional group. Chinese teachers were questioned by the investigators concerning the reason for this remarkable showing. What they learned should be broadcast throughout America. It was a precept they believed and followed: "The misconduct of the child is the fault of the parent."

Two-and-a-Half Conversions

Author Unknown

D. L. Moody is said to have once returned from a meeting with a report of "two-and-a-half conversions."

"Two adults and a child, I suppose?" queried his host.
"No, two children and an adult," said Mr. Moody. "The children gave their whole lives. The adult had only half of his left to give."

"Children need love, especially when they do not deserve it." — Hulbert