



THE BIBLE A TEXT BOOK



Why do you wish to educate your children? No parent or guardian can, perhaps, give an answer to this question better than this:

There are duties in every life and the child should be educated so as to be able to perform these duties well and wisely. There is happiness growing out of duties well and wisely performed, and the child should be so educated as to be prepared to enjoy such happiness. In pursuit of happiness the children need that their social qualities be wisely cultivated. Proper education fits men and women for such.

Obstacles unthought of loom up often in path of duty, these can be provided for only in a general way, but sometimes obstacles manifest themselves beforehand so fully that we may prudently prepare to overcome them. The course of many schools forecasts obstacles in the social and religious life of our children. Yes, many of the Universities of the world have at their heads, now, men who criticise the Bible and teach that it is not suited for this age of advanced thinkers. They hold forth to their pupils a "new religion" having for its principles many lessons that are good and, therefore, right. But they teach that these principles have for their authority the customs of society.



Now, who can fail to see that the customs of society is a variable standard, for society unrestrained will soon change its customs and will change these principles to suit the changed customs. The ultimate outgrowth of such teaching, unless checked, will be the wrecking of families and homes.

Our children will have these things to confront them, they should be prepared to oppose this error so destructive to happiness. Without doubt he who knows what the Bible says is the best equipped to oppose successfully all criticism against it.

When we consider that the greatest nations of earth today were founded, and their policies outlined, by men who believed the Bible and were influenced by its teaching: When we consider the home life of those who have believed the Bible and have been influenced by the Bible: When we further consider the Scriptures thoroughly furnish the man of God unto every good work: We must say that all who love home, all who love the purity taught in the Bible, all who believe that death does not end all, that our life here is but the cradling period of our real life, and death is but the doorway to that life, should urge that the Bible the only text-book on these subjects, should have a place in the curriculum of every school equal, at least, to that given to any other science.

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THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

D. A. Cole.

Joel prophesied of the out-pouring of the Spirit (Joel 2:28). This prophecy had reference to the baptism of the Holy Ghost; but was not fulfilled until the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:16-19).

When John the Baptist was baptizing in Jordan he said: "I indeed baptize you with the Holy Ghost (Matt. 3:11, 12). This prophecy was also fulfilled on the day of Pentecost (Acts 1:4, 5), and when Jesus told the apostles to tarry in the City of Jerusalem until they were indued with power from on high, he had reference to the baptism of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost (Acts 1:4-8; 2:2-4). These are the first recorded cases of the Holy Ghost baptism, and none of them were baptized with the Holy Ghost before the day of Pentecost. People received the Holy Ghost before, but if any one received the baptism of the Holy Ghost before I would like to have chapter and verse. Were they baptized with the Holy Ghost at Pentecost—to save them? No. They were already saved. John did baptize in the wilderness and preached the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, and they were baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins (Mark 1:4, 5). Thus John made ready a people, prepared for the Lord (Luke 1:17). If those baptized by John with water (Mark 1:4, 5), were not saved until baptized with the Holy Ghost at Pentecost, water baptism came before salvation and John did not prepare and make ready a people for the Lord—the very thing he was sent to do (Luke 1:17). If the apostles were not saved until they received Holy Ghost baptism at Pentecost they were out preaching to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, with power to perform miracles, in the name of Christ, three years before they were saved. So the baptism of the Holy Ghost was not to save them, but was to bring to memory what Christ had taught them (John 14:26) and guide them into all truth (John 16:13). When they were baptized with the Holy Ghost

they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:4). And the gospel is preached by the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven (1 Peter 1:12).

Some think the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38) is the baptism of the Holy Ghost; others think not. Be that as it may, it was not to save, as it was only promised to such as would repent and be baptized for remission of sins. People that are already saved (Acts 2:38).

In the 8th chapter of Acts we find persons that were saved under the gospel dispensation and had evidence of the fact who had not been baptized with the Holy Ghost. Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ unto them (Acts 8:5). When they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, they were baptized, both men and women. Where is the evidence that they were saved? Jesus says: "He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved." They did believe and were baptized (Acts 8:12).

And when the apostles, which were at Jerusalem, heard that Samaria had received the Word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John, who, when they were come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost; for as yet he had fallen upon none of them; only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:14-17). So they received the Word of God, believed; were baptized and saved before the Holy Ghost fell on them.

In Acts, 19th chapter, we find that believers were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus and after their baptism Paul laid hands upon them; the Holy Ghost came on them and they spake with tongues and prophesied. In all these cases of conversion they were baptized with water before they were baptized with the Holy Ghost. And if they were not saved until they received the Holy Ghost, water baptism came before salvation. If they were saved before they

...zed with water were not of the Holy Ghost. But the baptism of the Holy Ghost he received water baptism (Acts 10:47). And if he was saved by the baptism of the Holy Ghost before water baptism, the Lord has different ways of saving people under the Christian dispensation.

But why was Cornelius baptized with the Holy Ghost—to make a believer of him? No. He was a Gentile, and it was God's choice that the Gentiles should hear the gospel and believe (Acts 15:7). Did the baptism of the Holy Ghost purify his heart? No; that was done by faith (Acts 15:9). But the baptism of the Holy Ghost did save Peter and his Jewish brethren. Gentiles were entitled to the blessings of the gospel equally with the Jews (Acts 10:45) and that God is no respecter of persons. All that fear him and work righteousness are accepted with him (Acts 10:34, 35). And was I also a witness to the Gentiles (Acts 15:8). The commission was for all nations, to every creature (Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16); water baptism for all believers (Mark 16:16).

Holy Ghost baptism was given to some believers and all that were baptized with the Holy Ghost spake in tongues (Acts 2:11; 11:46).—Granby, Mo.

THE PURE GOSPEL.

E. S. B. Waldran.

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel; which is not another, but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach another gospel unto you than that we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:6-8).

Here the apostle warns these Christians against a perverted gospel, and shows very conclusively that there is but one true, pure gospel of Christ. And we should bear in mind that the true gospel is the power of God unto salvation. His gospel is fixed, and is the only power he has ordained for the salvation of the world. His call to mankind was conveyed by those glad tidings. The churches which the apostles had planted were God's husbandry—"God's blessings"—and woe to the man who would dare lay vile hands on or tamper with his work, or seek to lay another founda-