

"BABY TROUBLE"

No doubt the above heading will cause the reader to wonder why such a caption should be the subject for a young peoples' page. It might not seem appropriate but I believe it will be applicable to many of us. Most of our troubles come because we are still babies. The expression, "Grow up" is all too uncommon these days. We need to apply this to our own lives, and also to be sure that when we tell others to "Grow up" we ourselves have left the baby stage.

The arrival of a child in the home brings its troubles. It is helpless as far as looking after itself. From the moment it makes its appearance until 4 or 5 years old it has to be cared for and watched continually. It has to be fed with milk from a bottle for a number of months. It cannot eat beef steak as soon as it is born. The heavier foods are added as the child begins to gain weight and add teeth. Yet how much trouble is caused to the household even when everything is done for it. There are its crying seasons. These generally begin when the parents go to bed to sleep. They often lose their sleep. Perchance the baby does go to sleep sometime before dawn comes, yet it will awake right early!! Then will follow the cares of the day. Mixing the milk formula, washing of the bottles, the clothing and unclothing of the little thing, all these things and a lot more that one could safely put under the heading of "Trouble."

Of course one thing is obvious the baby cannot help itself. It is completely reliant upon its parents. Its nature is to be helpless of itself. If no one cared for it it would die.

Let us take this thought into the spiritual. So many grown up persons are still in the baby stage.

They have pains when the milk is mixed too strong. It causes them to have a distressed feeling. Of course when they are afflicted like this they become very touchy. To handle them a little roughly causes real trouble. Their cries become audible to other people, and these in turn get nervous.

We must confess that this is the cause of the trouble in the Church of God these days. We who have left the age of childhood are still holding on to childhood practices. We have reached and passed the age of accountability yet still retain the bottle. We like to make a fuss occasionally. When we should be quiet we make a noise. We get indigestion so easily. We find ourselves treated a little harshly and so commence to make it known to everyone. We have "Baby Trouble."

What is the remedy for such a thing. To leave the baby stage. Forget those childhood practices and get to the stage of living the Christ like life. The scripture says, "Grow in grace", there will be no growing without we leave our sensitiveness, sulkiness, touchiness, and other baby ailments in the place where we got them,—the cradle.

Are you a baby, is your church a nursery, do you go there to be rocked to sleep? Are you easily offended? If these things be true it is high time we examined ourselves. "Quit ye like men, be strong."

"Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye"? (Math. 7:3).

DO YOU SWEAR

(Reprint from Beacon)

William Morgan

Does the suggestion of this title shock you? I feel that most of my readers would be shocked, indeed, if I were to suggest they would even consider swearing. Yet, perhaps you will be shocked again and again as you read this article.

Let me say first of all, that my purpose is not to be harsh or critical with anyone. I am not unchristianizing anyone who swears (unknowingly) in the manner of which I am about to speak. I know you are doing it unintentionally and without the least pretense of swearing. I do hope however, through this article, to provoke you to serious thought and, perhaps, to help you check your looseness of speech in regards to certain words and phrases.

I took the trouble, recently, to look up a few words and slang expressions that are paramount today. What I discovered in the dictionary may prove a revelation to you. I looked up the word "GEE". Here is what I learned concerning its origin: "Derived from 'Jesus', an expression of amazement." I leafed over a few pages until I found the word "GOSH", and discovered this comment: "Evasive corruption of 'God' used in mild expletives or curses." For "DARN" or "DURN"; corruption of 'damn'; a word of mild profanity." We commonly hear good people using these slang expressions, and often they use the last two words in a combined expression "GOSH/DARN." I do not think for a moment that Christian people would use such language if they understood what they were actually saying.

I want to mention one more type of improper word usage. I will not call it swearing, though I feel it is very close to it. I speak of expressions such as "HOLY MOSES", "HOLY COW" and so on.

The dictionary defines "HOLY" thus: dedicated to the service of God; consecrated; pure; sinless." A further comment says, "Holy is used in allusion to the special sacredness of whatever is associated with God." These comments show clearly that "HOLY" is a sacred word. It includes God. To use the expression "HOLY MOSES" is to take a sacred word and a man consecrated to a holy person, and lower them to the realm of the profane and un-holy. Again, to use such expressions as "HOLY COW" is to put "HOLY" into the same category and on the same level as "COW," or else it is to lift "COW" to the level of sacredness.

Much more might be said concerning this subject and a number of other slang expressions might be dealt with similarly to these, but I feel the suggestions here offered will suffice any sincere and honest heart.

WHAT IS THE BIBLE

"Tis a fountain ever flowing,  
Whence the weary may obtain  
Water for the soul that's thirsty,  
That shall never thirst again.

"Tis a lamp for ever burning,  
By whose never failing light  
Sinners from their errors turning,  
Are directed in the light.

"Tis a mine of richest treasures,  
Laden with the purest ore;  
And its contents without measure  
You can evermore explore.

"Tis a tree whose fruit unfailing,  
Cheers and stays the fainting soul,  
And whose leaves, the nation healing,  
Carry joy from pole to pole.

—Zion's Tidings.

A minister in England was one time visiting in a hospital. He came to an old lady, whose home had been badly bombed. She had several broken bones, and her head and other parts of her body were badly cut. She looked up and to her visitor she said, "Preacher, I've lost everything — I've lost my husband, my furniture, my home — I've lost everything." Then after a pause she added: "Preacher I've told a lie." How's that?" asked the minister. She pulled from under her pillow a little faded linen parcel from which she produced a well-thumbed Bible. "I told a lie—I've got this to start my home with." She had realized that tragic circumstances do not change the promises in God's Word—which are sure if we only believe.

CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS

Until you have learned to control your thoughts, you will never be able to live a Godly and righteous life. "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he"; and it is because the thoughts we entertain in the hostelry of our soul are such worthless and vain ones that our words and acts often bring so heavy a disgrace on the name we love.

Well might the wise man say: "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life". When the heart is right, the eye and the ear and the mouth and the foot will necessarily obey its promptings; but when the heart is wrong, filled with tides of ink, like the cuttle fish, it will develop itself in the impurity to which it gives vent.

If you habitually permit evil things to have their right of way through you, or lodging within you, remember in God's sight you are here equally guilty with those who indulge in evil acts; because you are withheld, not by your fear of Him, but by your desire to maintain your position among men.

—Michigan Christian Advocate.

ALL NATIONS! ... ALL MEN! ...  
EVERY CREATURE!

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our devotion at home will be as complete and intense as if we had gone. Whether it be at home or abroad, if only the ranks of the obedient, the servants of obedience, the obedient unto death, are filled up, Christ shall have His heart's desire, and His glorious thought—the Gospel to every creature—find its accomplishment!

Blessed Son of God! Here I am. By Thy grace, I give my life to the carrying out of Thy last great command. Let my heart be as Thy heart. Let my weakness be as Thy strength. In Thy name I take the vow of entire and everlasting obedience. Amen.