



Youth And Morals

by Rev. B. C. Cochrane*

It is the moral quality in humanity that is distinguishing. The proper function of the moral senses, the normal development of moral strength, the consistent acceptance of moral obligation, will result in our living on the higher elevations which God intended us to occupy.

The deadening of moral senses, the dissipation of moral strength, and disregard for moral obligation, will result in tragic decline. Through this process, man is lowered to a mere earthworm existence, and becomes a slave of the base and the evil.

The popular trend of modern times is to mix evil and good together so as to produce a deceiving grey rather than adhere to a clear black and white classification of morals. The dire result of this trend is an increasing tolerance towards sin and the strangling of moral conviction.

Christian youth at its wholesome best diligently seeks the right and wrong of every decision and situation, adheres loyally to the pure and good, and maintains, under the threat of any loss, an up-right position.

The proposition "popularity at any price" is delusive and destructive. To "go along with the crowd" when the crowd is going in the wrong direction is both unwise and unprofitable. Believing in the right, standing for the right, steadfastly doing the right, brings rich rewards of present satisfaction and future good. To sow to the wind, is to reap the whirlwind. To cast aside moral standards, live without moral restraint, ignore moral obligation, will be to take a course that leads to disastrous collision with the laws which God has established for our good and His glory.

The law of God, written on tablets of stone or the fleshy tables of the heart, is "holy, and just, and good". Adherence to it will invoke blessing upon our souls, benefit upon our lives.

A great opportunity is thrust upon the Christian youth of this generation. God seeks for youthful lives through which He can demonstrate a truth as ancient as Eden, namely, that every desire, purpose and plan of the Lord is for our happiness and well being. To refrain from wrong is to escape harm and heart-break. To do right is to follow the path that leads to the highest and best we can know in this world.

The world does not accept this idea. It must be convinced by a living demonstration. And it is at this point of crisis that God calls for Christian young people, young people with "won't power" as well as will power, young people who have strong convictions which are based on the Word, convictions that they will be true to under pressure, ridicule, or the threat of social ostracism. We cannot win by stepping down to the world's level. We must, by God's grace, resist this subtle temptation if we would lead other young people to the high and shining way that grace has cast up for them.

Daniel and the Hebrew worthies convinced a heathen king and a godless kingdom that there was no god like their God, no way to compare with His way. To reach this goal they had to go by the way of the fiery furnace and the lion's den, but they had the courage

KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIBLE

Everyone who has a thorough knowledge of the Bible may truly be called educated; and no other learning or culture, no matter how extensive or elegant, can, among Europeans and Americans, form a proper substitute. Western civilization is founded upon the Bible; our ideas, our wisdom, our philosophy, our literature, our art, our ideals come more from the Bible than from all other books put together. It is a revelation of divinity and of humanity; it contains the loftiest religious aspirations along with a candid representation of all that is earthly, sensual, and devilish. I thoroughly believe in a university education for both men and women; but I believe a knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without the Bible. For in the Bible we have profound thought beautifully expressed; we have the nature of boys and girls, of men and women, more accurately charted than in the works of any modern novelist or playwright. You can learn more about human nature by reading the Bible than by living in New York City.

—William Lyon Phelps,

Human Nature in the Bible

MARTIN LUTHER

Since then Your Majesty and your lordships desire a simple reply, I will answer without horns and without teeth. Unless I am convicted by Scripture and plain reason—I do not accept the authority of popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other—my conscience is captive of the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. God help me. Amen.

Martin Luther, Quoted in Roland Bainton,
Here I Stand

DID YOU KNOW?

In the present day there are 20 well-known gowns and 70 veils of the Virgin Mary, each pronounced to be the real one; 12 heads of St. John the Baptist, in tolerably perfect condition, besides numerous large fragments of his skull and seven extra jaws, each of great note, and held in much reverence in different parts of Europe. St. Julienne has 20 bodies and 26 separate heads, whilst St. George and St. Pancras each possess 30 bodies, and St. Peter has 16; St. Peter the Dominican only possesses 20 bodies, but he makes up for the deficiency in the number of his fingers, 56 of which are scattered throughout Europe.

—Eveline B. Mitford in
"The Monthly Review" (1906)

and they won the day. Similar victories can be won in the schools, offices, hospitals to-day. It is for you, young people, to grasp the opportunity of this hour, the golden opportunity, and by a steadfast loyalty to God and a deep consecration to His will and way, lead other young people from the disappointments and disasters of moral descent, to the "upper road" of happiness, safety, and glorious prospect.

*Editor Y. P. Page 1936-1943

WOODSTOCK REPORTS

Dear Highway Friends,
Greetings from Woodstock, N. B. Our Young People's society was organized on September 15 with fifteen members present. We are to hold our regular weekly meetings on Thursday.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

- President Timmy Gray
- Vice President Marjorie Faulkner
- Secretary Freda Boyer
- Assistant Sec. Gloria Milbury
- Treasurer George Hopkins
- Pianist Joanne Elliott
- Assistant Pianist Joan Mutch
- Editing committee George Clark
- Jean Orser
- Joanne Elliott

We endeavour in the coming year to go further with the Lord. A friend in Him,
George Clark

REFORMATION BIRTHDAY

October 31, 1517, is one date of Church history that ought to stand out in the mind of every true protestant. That is the day on which the bold Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on Indulgences on the Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther's action, simple though it was, set in motion one of the greatest movements of human history—the Protestant Reformation.

It was the abuse of indulgences in the late medieval period which called forth Luther's protest and the posting of his Theses. At that time, the Church believed that an "indulgence" could be granted to people for the payment of money whereby they would be released not only from punishment for sins committed but also from the guilt of those sins. In his famous Theses Luther contended that the Church can only remit the ecclesiastical penalties it has imposed; it can remit neither guilt nor divine punishment, which are in the hands of God alone.

It is interesting to note that it was during an exegetical examination of Romans 1:17 that Luther discovered the true meaning of the Christian gospel, namely the disclosure of God's forgiving love in Christ which must be apprehended in faith and repentance.

This concern caused Luther to publish his 95 theses on Indulgences. The papal practice of selling indulgences appeared to him as religiously harmful, because it tended to destroy the true spirit of repentance and the gospel.

Thus four hundred and thirty-eight years later, we owe a debt of gratitude and thanksgiving to a man of rare courage and deep spiritual insight—a man who dared to face his enemies and reply, "Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise, so help me God."

—L. K. Mullen

ADVERSITY

Adversity introduces a man to himself.

—Anonymous

God brings men into deep waters, not to drown them, but to cleanse them.

—Aughey