

For the Souls of Children

Taken from Ronald L. Dart's Notes, Updated by Allie Dart

A young man in his early twenties, walked into Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C., the evening of June 8, 2015. He sat in a Bible study with a group of mostly black worshipers. All seemed well to the church members until Dylann Roof allegedly took out a gun and massacred nine of the worshipers. What brought this confessed killer to do such a violent thing? Many say he had been radicalized. How did that happen? Are our gun laws to blame? That's what many talking heads would have us believe. But is that where blame should be placed?

This shooting happened to take place in a church, not a school this time. In the middle of last century, gun laws were much less restrictive than now. Rather than asking about gun laws, why doesn't someone ask, "What are we going to do about the kids—the direction which kids are going?" What causes a young person to take such insane, diabolical actions to carry a gun to school or church? Then because someone makes fun of him, he kills him?

Has anyone of us escaped being made fun of? Haven't we also made fun of another person? It's part of life. For every kid who takes a gun and shoots somebody, there are probably hundreds who think about it and don't do it.

The youth of our country are descending into a spiral of violence and darkness that is absolutely frightening. How does our society contribute to this? Movies they see, television programs they watch, and music they listen to contributes to our state of affairs. You'd be shocked if you walked through the mall and heard what children are listening to as they go about their play, shopping, or whatever kids do today.

Robert Bork, in his book, *Slouching Toward Gomorrah*, drew the contrast between the 1930s and today's music. The song went; "You are lovely with your smile so warm and your cheeks so soft. There is nothing for me, but to love you just the way you look tonight." Mr. Bork

contrasted this with lyrics from two new songs. The lyrics are too vile, too violent, and to obscene to print here.

Why doesn't anyone write good music anymore? There were beautiful love songs in the 30s and 40s. For those

who are old enough to remember, Jo Stafford sang, "See the Pyramids along the Nile" in "You Belong to Me". These were gorgeous songs with beautiful melodies and lovely lyrics. Many World War II songs were written because lovers were separated, yearning for one another.

Where has all of this gone? Bork's book said the obscenity of thought and word is staggering, but also notable is the deliberate rejection of any attempt to achieve artistic distinction or even mediocrity. What is notable about this is the obscenity and trash. There is no effort to reach up to a level of art or even mediocrity.

It is not merely that musicians can no longer write music. It has come to the point where beauty and music are despised art—a loathing of beauty. There is a spirit of

continued on page 5 . . .

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

For the Souls of Children

From Ronald L. Dart's notes,
Updated by Allie Dart 1

It's Not the Time to Procrastinate 1

2015 CEM Feast of Tabernacles 2

Righteousness Exalts a Nation
By Richard Glasgow 2

Persistence of Evil 3

In Memory 3

August Reading Program. 4

It's Not the Time to Procrastinate. . .

The Supreme Court flexed its muscles and we lost some of our freedom. It's more urgent than ever that the Gospel go out. Your help is vital. We need more radio stations—*Born to Win* needs to do more. Your help is always greatly appreciated.

2015 CEM Feast of Tabernacles

CEM's 20th Anniversary

Join us at the Bella Vista Resort, in Flint, Texas, for the 2015 Feast filled with spiritual food and fellowship. Bella Vista is the former CGI property located on Lake Palestine. God has blessed us with this facility that meets our needs beautifully. It provides rooms for YEA classes, seminars, breaking bread together, and a lovely area for worship.

Step away from the hustle and bustle of life to enjoy the natural beauty and amenities of Lake Palestine. It is a great get-away for persons of all ages and interests. No matter what takes you out of your front door, Lake Palestine and East Texas have what you're looking for, from boating, fishing, and zip lining, to water parks and museums. Don't forget the unique shopping opportunities and wonderful food that can only be found in East Texas.

November 28, 2015 will mark 20 years of CEM's ministry. We plan to celebrate this milestone at the Feast. This is a wonderful opportunity to rejoice before the Lord as we are commanded in Leviticus 23:40, "... and rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days." And Deuteronomy 16:11: "And rejoice before the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name—you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, the Levites in your towns, and the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows living among you."

CEM provides a full schedule of events and activities—many opportunities for making new friends in Christ and spiritual growth:

- Dynamic speakers including Mr. Daniel Botha and Mr. Mardy Cobb
- Christian living seminars

- YEA classes
- Family picnic
- Golf and fishing tournaments
- Pie and ice cream social
- Morning coffee/breakfast
- Daily fellowship luncheon
- Praise and worship sing-along

Above and beyond CEM's full schedule, check out the local sites: the famous rose garden and Caldwell Zoo, a wide array of family attractions, and great shops. Lake Palestine offers: opportunities for boating, fishing, waterskiing, and swimming. (A boat launch is on the Bella Vista property.) Play golf at Pine Dunes Golf Resort in Frankston. Enjoy First Monday Trade Days in Canton (started more than 150 years ago as a flea market), and find the most exciting antiques and collectibles.

All of this and we haven't even touched on zip lining in New York, Texas, The Villages Water Park in Flint, or Fire Mountain Amusement Park in Tyler. Children of all ages love East Texas. Treat yourself to a memorable, affordable 2015 Feast of Tabernacles with us. Pre-registration is not necessary, but it would be helpful to know you're coming.

Great housing is available for every price range—camping at Lake Palestine Resort and Marina, nearby RV parks, nice B&Bs like the Duck Inn, many hotels and motels like Lakeside Getaway, and Silverleaf Resort timeshares. Check out Vacation Rental by Owner (VRBO) and www.airbnb.com. Call Linda at CEM, 1-888-242-5344 for help, information, and discounts for hotels and suites through Dreamshare Vacations.

Righteousness Exalts a Nation

By Richard Glasgow

Our founding fathers were well aware of the fact that godly righteousness exalts a nation. This belief was based on the Word of God in which so many of our founders were well versed. Passages throughout the Bible affirm that the righteousness of a nation is determined by how well public policies conform to God's sacred standards. Deuteronomy 28; 1 Kings 18, and 1 Chronicles 21 are just a few biblical examples.

Samuel Adams was one who believed that only God-honoring policies can exalt a nation: "(Divine) revelation assures us that 'Righteousness exalteth a nation.' Communities are dealt with in this world by the wise and just Ruler of the Universe. He rewards or punishes them according to their general character." Frederick Douglass, a minister of the Gospel, was also a

continued on page 4. . .

Persistence of Evil

By Ronald L. Dart

In preparing a recent radio program on the persistence of evil in the world, I came to Revelation 20 and the binding of Satan. I noted two curious items about this. One was the fact that the devil would be released again at the end of a thousand years. It would have seemed better to have left him in the Abyss. But then having considered that, I came to the other question: Why is the old Devil not bound right now? Since God obviously has the power to do so, why leave him on the loose to deceive the nations?

There are a few speculative answers to this offered, and when I mentioned it to my wife, she observed that it was so we would come to see the real nature of evil and where it must finally lead. There is some sense in that, but it doesn't quite close out the question.

The next item in my outline was this statement: It should be obvious to anyone that there exists great good alongside great evil in the world. These things reside in nature and in human actions. I say this should be obvious. There are those of a persistently pessimistic bent who feel that man, since the "fall", is all bad.

But when I phrased the issue in terms of good and evil, I found myself inexorably drawn back to Genesis 2 and 3, to the two trees in the Garden of Eden. I keep ending up here, like so many teachers before me, and I am keenly aware of the potential for boredom with repeating this old story yet again. But this time, something rather new occurred to me that had not before.

I am probably treading ground others have trod before me, whatever the terminology they have used. But I don't see a "Fall of Man" in Genesis 3. This implies that the fundamental nature of man was changed, something that is not stated in the text and seems contrary to logic. I think there is another way of looking at what happened here.

Adam (and Eve) stood at a fork in the road. Ahead of them lay two "ways." I think it is appropriate to speak of the two trees in terms of "ways," partly because the last verse of the episode speaks of "the way of the Tree of Life." I recognize that modern translations seem to agree on "The way to the tree of life," but I would like to have that confirmed. Prepositions are notoriously difficult in translation.

Without casting any doubt on the reality of the Genesis account, I think that Genesis 3 is still intended to serve as an allegory; i.e. the two trees are representative of something more significant. And it is in the exploration of the ideas of "The Way of Life," and "The Way of the Knowledge of Good and Evil" that something significant seems to emerge.

What Eve and Adam did on this day was to make a choice of two ways that are mutually exclusive—at least for man. And having embarked on this way, the way to the other tree, the other path, was closed to them. And life for them and their descendants from that time forward would be good and evil (evil, by the way, is a synonym for adversity in the Bible). Hence childbirth would be beautiful and hard. Food would be good, but earned by the sweat of the brow.

It was, after all, the ground that was cursed, not Adam. His nature wasn't changed, only his environment. And his children were all born on that one road with no access to the other. And the reason Satan is not bound is because he is the adversary. The road we travel includes him in the environment.

Is there a way to go from one road to the other? Ultimately, yes, and the bridge is Christ, who is salvation. Salvation is the rescue from the wrong road.

This goes a long way toward explaining the terrible mysteries of the persistence of evil in the world. To learn more about the evil that exists in our world order Ronald L. Dart's CD series, *The Origins of Evil*, by calling, 1-888-242-5344 or returning the enclosed card.

In Memory

Christian Educational Ministries gratefully received a generous contribution in memory of Frederick (Fred) Winston Porter, Sr. who passed away June 17, 2015, in his home after a long illness. He was the pastor of a Sabbath-keeping church in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Mr. Porter is survived by his wife of 47 years, Billie Jean, one son, Frederick "Rick" Porter, Jr. (and Carrie) of Little Rock, Arkansas; and one daughter, Angela Compton (and Michael) of Hot Springs, Arkansas. A constant in his life was involvement in his church. He will be greatly missed and our sympathy and prayers are with his family.

August Reading Program

Aug 1: Isaiah 64-66

Aug 2: 2 Kings 20-21

Aug 3: 2 Chronicles 32-33

Aug 4: Nahum 1-3

Aug 5: 2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chronicles 34-35

Aug 6: Zephaniah

Aug 7: Jeremiah 1-3

Aug 8: Jeremiah 4-6

Aug 9: Jeremiah 7-9

Aug 10: Jeremiah 10-13

Aug 11: Jeremiah 14-17

Aug 12: Jeremiah 18-22

Aug 13: Jeremiah 23-25

Aug 14: Jeremiah 26-29

Aug 15: Jeremiah 30-31

Aug 16: Jeremiah 32-34

Aug 17: Jeremiah 35-37

Aug 18: Jeremiah 38-40; Psalms 74, 79

Aug 19: 2 Kings 24-25; 2 Chronicles 36

Aug 20: Habakkuk

Aug 21: Jeremiah 41-45

Aug 22: Jeremiah 46-48

Aug 23: Jeremiah 49-50

Aug 24: Jeremiah 51-52

Aug 25: Lamentations 1:1-3:36

Aug 26: Lamentations 3:37-5:22

Aug 27: Ezekiel 1-4

Aug 28: Ezekiel 5-8

Aug 29: Ezekiel 9-12

Aug 30: Ezekiel 13-15

Aug 31: Ezekiel 16-17

Righteousness Exalts a Nation
continued from page 2 . . .

political leader long before and after the Civil War told his fellow citizens: “I have one great political idea. . . That idea is an old one. It is widely and generally assented to; nevertheless, it is very generally trampled upon and disregarded. The best expression of it, I have found in the Bible. It is in substance, ‘Righteousness exalteth a nation; sin is a reproach to any people.’ Sir, this constitutes my politics—the negative and positive of my politics, and the whole of my politics. . . I feel it my duty to do all in my power to infuse this idea into the public mind, that it may speedily be recognized and practiced upon by our people.”

Pastor Francis Grimke, was born in 1850 to a slave mother in South Carolina. He served as a valet in the Confederate army until Emancipation. After the war he attended Lincoln University, Howard University and then Princeton Theological Seminary. Even though he lived through the Civil War as a boy and experienced the ravages of a terribly divided country, he was still convinced America would survive and remain united.

In a sermon given in 1909 he warned what America would become if we should depart from godly righteousness: “The Stars and Stripes—the old flag—will float. . . over all these states. . . If the time ever comes when we shall go to pieces, it will. . . [be] from inward corruption—from the disregard of right

principles. . . from losing sight of the fact that ‘Righteousness exalteth a nation, but that sin is a reproach to any people’. . . The secession of the Southern States in 1860 was a small matter with the secession of the Union itself from the great principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, in the Golden Rule, in the Ten Commandments, in the Sermon on the Mount. Unless we hold, and hold firmly to these great fundamental principles of righteousness. . . our Union. . . will be ‘only a covenant with death and an agreement with hell’ (Isaiah 28:18). If it continues to exist, it will be a curse and not a blessing.”

These are a few of the quotes from our forefathers who loved and feared God and his righteousness and recognized the need to look to him and uphold his righteous ways. Our history is filled with similar examples showing how this country was built on the fundamental framework and truths set forth by God which we should follow if we wish to prosper individually and nationally.

We would be wise to revisit these eternal exhortations found throughout the Bible and put them to use in our own lives and national policies if we want to recapture the greatness of this once godly nation. (source: *The Founder’s Bible*, pp. 958-959)

For the Souls of Children
continued from page 1 . . .

pure hatred in what is called art and what is called music today. From the obscenities in rap and hip hop, to the excrement and urine now featured in what is called art. It consistently reflects contempt for beauty and also for love. Love is passé. It's not important. Even all of the sex that has entered into music is violent and degrading. It's not even a question of love. For decades artists and musicians have tried to shock the bourgeois and middle class with trash. They had to go further to shock people. Bork concluded that we now have become like a strain of bacteria that is resistant to all kinds of drugs. We can no longer be shocked by anything presented to us.

You have not been unaffected by this. You are not nearly as shockable as you were ten, 20 or 30 years ago. For us to have heard some of the things a few years ago that are commonly said today in prime time evening television, it would have shocked us out of our chairs.

The objective is not to advance art. It is to trash art. It is to make art ridiculous. Where once one might have looked at a painting of Madonna and child, today we see a picture of the Virgin Mary with elephant dung all over the picture. There is preoccupation with excrement becoming a dominant feature of art. Once we saw sculptures like Michelangelo's *Pieta*, a statue of Mary holding the dead Jesus across her lap and gazing down at him. Think of the work, the time, the effort, and the love that Michelangelo bestowed on that piece of marble.

Once we had that, now artists display a crucifix in a jar of urine. This is a display of art sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, paid for with tax dollars. Once we might have seen a painting of a rose with a drop of rain, or moisture suspended on a petal, so real you could almost touch it. Now the artist gives us a fruit jar of his own feces to consider as his entry into the world of art.

Beethoven continued to write music he could no longer hear. For half-time entertainment at the Super Bowl, there was a rap band that played. One member had a phonograph there with a needle on the record. With his finger he moved the record back and forth, making a screeching sound in the grooves of the record. He used it as an instrument to create rhythm for this band.

Now ask: Who is the bigger fool—the one making the music or the people who applauded it? Someone somewhere is laughing his head off as he watches people spending millions of dollars on total trash. The people

who are producing this stuff are laughing the loudest . . . all the way to the bank, thinking what fools these people are to buy the stuff that we are producing.

Artists and the public have lost their ability to love. Is it time to realize that we are in the latter stages of a war for men's souls and the war is all but lost? It was started a long time ago. The Prophet Ezekiel told us where the whole battle actually started.

In Ezekiel 28:12ff there are two individuals—one the prince of Tyre and the other the king of Tyre. The prince, who God decided he would take down, was very arrogant. Verse 12 switches over to talk about Lucifer, the one we have come to know as Satan.

He said, "Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus and say to him. Thus saith the Lord God, you seal up the sum, full of wisdom, perfect in beauty. You have been in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering. The sardius, the topaz, the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, the carbuncle, the gold." This being was created by God—an incredible, beautiful work of art. Not only was he beautiful, he was talented—a musician who could create beauty, who could present art, who could create something really worth listening to and that is the reason God made him as he did.

"You are the anointed cherub that covers (14). . . You were perfect in all your way from the day you were created until iniquity was found in you. . . Therefore, I will cast you as profane out of the mountain of God.

"Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty. You have corrupted your wisdom because of your brightness. I will cast you to the ground. I will lay you before kings that they may behold you. You have defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities by the iniquity of your traffic. So I will bring forth a fire from the midst of you and it will devour you. I will bring you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold you. All they that know you among the people shall be astonished at you. You will be a terror, and shall not be anymore."

Rollo May said in his book, *Love and Will*, "When men lose the power to love, they often substitute what he called "power over". Satan became corrupted, including his wisdom. When he lost the power to love, all that was left of him was power over. He came to hate because those things that were beautiful were things that were made by God."

continued on page 6 . . .

For the Souls of Children
continued from page 5. . .

It doesn't take a very vivid imagination to grasp what is going on when an artist wants to urinate on Christ and to throw dung on the picture of the mother of Christ. It seems obvious what is in the mind of the author—hatred of staggering dimensions that none of us would understand. You have likely never felt that kind of hatred expressed in these things. This hatred probably predates man's presence on the planet.

You need to understand where that hatred is going. It is going after your children and has been trying to get to children for hundreds of years. Generation after generation has had to civilize their children lest they grow up as savages. Some believe that we lost the battle to civilize the next generation in the 60s when the whole thing came to a head.

The extreme affluence of those years made the difference. Idleness, boredom, indifferent parents who are so caught up in affluence that they no longer give the consideration to loving their children and taking care of families. Children today have too much money, too much time, and too little adult attention. This is a simple combination and a recipe for disaster. I recommend *The Lost Children of Rockdale County* to help you fully understand what is said in this article.

Think about it. If you were the devil and wanted to destroy what God is doing, where would you start? This is not rocket science. You would start with the children. So where should you start when you're ready to fight back? With the kids.

Today's kids eat, drink and sleep mischief, wickedness, and violence. It is with them all the time. They are totally immersed in it. It is on television, in movies, the music they listen to and in the books they read. And it is in those little things they carry with them. They put their headsets on and off they go around the mall listening to violence and our ugly sex-obsessed world.

It takes love to produce beauty. And when the love is gone, the beauty is gone. What is left is just plain ugly. Why, when the kids are immersed in it day and night in our society, should anyone be surprised that it breaks out in school violence? Why should the South Carolina church shooting surprise us? Why do ordinary civilized, middle class parents who live in the suburbs produce these kinds of children? What is totally amazing is that so few parents have a mind to fight back. Yes, there is a

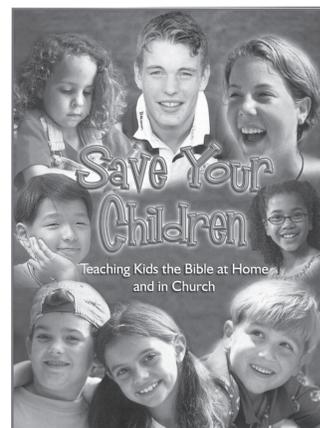
battle to be fought and won. If you don't fight, you lose, and your children lose. It may be that too many parents assume the battle is already lost. They have lost sight of the precious treasure they have been given.

There is a war going on right now for the souls of your children. Too often we see apathetic parents who are too much like the Jews in World War II who lined up to get on a train to go to Auschwitz.

Without God, the Bible, the absolute moral authority, you don't have a leg to stand on. Without these things, you have no weapon with which to fight. Reason is not good enough.

Before your children get exposed to the world, expose them to God persistently, systematically, and intensely. When you get up in the morning and when you go to bed at night. When you walk with them, when you sit down at the table, and when you get up from the table. The Scripture is very explicit.

Born to Win is making you an incredible offer to guide you in teaching your kids and grand kids. It is *Save your Children: Teaching Kids the Bible at Home and in Church*—a how-to manual. Parents and churches haven't known the ways to reach kids in this very permissive age. Your church needs it as much as every parent and grandparent. It's FREE. Just return the enclosed card or call us at 1-888-242-5344 and we'll ship this 28-page manual to you. Also, request your FREE copy of this message, *For the Souls of the Children*, and hear the rest of the story.



Born to Win

The Media Ministry Arm of Christian Educational Ministries

PO Box 560 • Whitehouse, Texas 75791

phone: 1-888-BIBLE-44 • fax: 903-839-9311

e-mail: adm@borntowin.net • website: www.borntowin.net

That the man of God may be proficient and equipped for every good work.