

Personal from. . .

Ronald L. Dart

A World Gone Mad

I am beginning to think the entire world is suffering from an epidemic of stupidity. I'm used to a *little* stupidity. Foolishness in small doses adds a certain amount of spice to life, but it is really getting out of hand.

I can't imagine what is going on in the French mind on the issue of Muslim girls wearing head scarfs. They have immeasurably increased the odds of some fool blowing up a part of Paris over this, and for what? They weren't willing to fight Saddam Hussein, but they will fight a couple of school girls? Maybe that explains it. The French are embarrassed over their approach to the Iraq war, and they are showing how tough on Muslims they can really be. Or maybe the French have just gone mad.

But they aren't the only ones who have gone around the bend. I am used to strange ideas coming out of California, but staid old Virginia? According to *The Kansas City Star*, "third-, fourth- and fifth-graders in Herndon, Virginia are to be given lessons in the three Rs: Reading, 'Riting, and Ramadan. During this instruction, public school children will play act

being Muslims. Pupils from a nearby Muslim school will visit classes in the town's public schools to educate their counterparts in Islam. They will be accompanied by something called 'a multicultural trainer' named Afeefa Syeed." (*Muslim Re-Education* by Alexis Amory).

Somebody needs to explain this. And where is the ACLU? If someone was attempting this with the Christian faith, there would be lawyers jamming the halls of justice to put a stop to it. The *New York Times* would be running the story. But no. Teach Islam in the public schools, and we have to learn about it over the Internet.

It is not as though this is the only place this is going on. California

also has been bitten by the stupidity bug. A social studies class "required seventh graders to memorize verses of the Koran and to pray, 'In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful,' and to chant, 'Praise to Allah, Lord of Creation.'"

The school officials discontinued the project, even though a federal judge said they couldn't do it. They abandoned it because it created an outcry in the community. And I would certainly hope so. I would think parents would be beside themselves over something like this, especially when the courts have ruled that our boys can't pray even to a generic god at football games. Praying to a generic god is wrong. Praying to a Christian or Jewish God is wrong. But praying to an Islamic God is okay in social studies class.

continued on page 3. . .

Because You Give. . .

Teresa is handicapped and housebound from a car accident and her finances are extremely tight. She writes: "I have wanted to thank each of you for the radio program and the materials I am able to receive free because of your generosity and obedience to God." Many people cannot afford to pay for a cassette tape, CD, YEA or other materials. Because of you – your faithful donations – you are making it possible for people like Teresa to get them free. CEM is counting on you to give so Teresa and others can have free tapes and materials. Thank you for your generous donations. They are making a difference!

Godly Expectations for Teens

Why are so many of our teens disinterested in church? Why have we lost at least two generations of our youth? Have we created expectations that the most important thing for teens is to bond with other kids through summer camp, sports events, and other activities? But should that be a parent's or a church's number one priority for our youth?

After a child passes his 12th birthday, are you providing him with an interesting and challenging systematic learning program that will anchor him to Christ and turn every teen in your church into a leader? Is it working? Then how can you tell if your priorities are in sync with God's?

Here are three tests you can make. Design and give a survey to every teen in your church asking simple Bible questions. It could include such things as: Name the four Gospels. List what each of the Ten Commandments are about. How many Apostles did Christ originally have? List, in order, the holy days God commands us to keep. In what book is the Sermon on the Mount found? Name the 12 tribes of Israel. Which Apostle betrayed Jesus? Grade the test. What do the results show?

The second test is to announce that you will be holding YEA Sabbath School for all the teens next week. Give each teen a YEA Sabbath School book. Ask them to read their lesson before class and learn their memory verse. See how many teens show up, how many have read their lesson, and how many have learned their memory verse. Now compare this with the next test.

The third test is to have a beach or swimming party for the teens with all the pizza they can eat. Compare the number of teens who show up with the number who came to Sabbath School, who had read their lesson, and learned their memory verse. What do these three tests tell you about how good a job you are doing in anchoring the teens in your church to Jesus Christ, rather than to activities?

Physical activities and relationships are important, yet *very temporary*. They are not the primary purpose of a church, nor should they be the number one priority of a converted parent for his child. Sports and youth activities alone are not likely to ever bring teens to repentance, baptism, and to gain eternal life. So how can you reclaim the teenagers in your church and anchor them to Jesus Christ?

Teens rarely exceed our expectations. So you must first expect them to be interested in the things of God. Our teenagers are like none before. We can't use yesterday's approaches and programs. YEA has researched the needs of your teens. We've studied their world and gotten into their heads. With these things in mind, YEA has published a curriculum of books for kids from three years old until they are 20 that are age appropriate, grab their attention, and meet their needs.

Students should have their own relevant and meaningful book. A teacher's guide goes with each book making preparation and teaching easy. But you've got to start great classes and create the expectation that kids and teens should learn and follow God's way. YEA will get you headed in the right direction with wisdom, understanding, insight, and valuable tools. But you must put forth the prayers and effort to love and reach each student who shows up. YEA classes are not boring lectures. They are action-packed lessons designed to involve kids in the learning process, in the church, and in their community. They are crafted to make students biblically literate, change behavior, anchor young people to Christ, bring them to repentance and baptism, and turn them into church leaders. Your church needs these kids. Don't let our teens down. Our youth are our greatest asset. Try the YEA lessons – your kids will like them. And as a teacher, you'll earn a greater eternal reward.

— Allie Dart

*A World Gone Mad
continued from page 1 . . .*

Now I understand where this is coming from. In the wake of 9/11, we don't want our school kids hating Muslims and acting out against them. But is immersion in the Islamic culture really necessary for this? Truth to tell, the best way to create tolerance and understanding, to abandon hatred, is to teach the kids *Christian* principles. Failing that, just teaching good old American values might do the job. But the immersion in the culture technique is just as likely to breed resentment. They could easily make the problem worse.

One wonders if the classes will teach things about the real Muslim influence on American history. It is likely that everyone does not know that Muslim Arabs were major traffickers in the slave trade that brought many African Americans to this continent. Shouldn't the students be told that?

The prophet Jeremiah warns us, "Learn not the way of the heathen," but that warning would be politically incorrect. We shouldn't refer to people of other religions as "The Heathen." But you do know, don't you, what Muslims call "Christians?" Infidels. One wonders if it has ever occurred to school authorities that what the Muslim facilitators are doing is, in their minds, teaching the infidels.

Now this particular brand of stupidity is not likely to reach your school anytime soon. I am not telling you this to sound an alarm about the insidious infiltration of Islam into the curriculum of your schools. But I am telling you this as a warning about people with wonderful, progressive ideas that no one has really thought through. Some idealist somewhere dreamed all this up and thought how wonderful it would be if we could all live together in peace. And they are following their own path, lighted by their own understanding toward a distant light that they think represents peace.

The problem is, they don't know the way to peace. I developed this theme recently in a program I would like to send to you. The title is, "A World Gone Mad," and you can have a cassette tape of the program by checking the box on the enclosed card and sending it back to us. Don't delay. The madness is creeping forward every hour.

Waiting for your reply,

Ronald L. Dart

P.S. The cassette tape is *FREE* of charge, but if you would like to help us get this message out, your contribution would be very much appreciated.

**Christian Educational
Ministries**

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Three Months Ended
October 31, 2004

Receipts	
Contributions	\$281378.40
CEM Bookstore	28275.16
Youth Ministry	1828.06
Interest Income	1383.41
	\$312865.03
Expenses:	
A/V Supplies	\$ 6866.89
Rents	10116.30
Computer Operations	3629.86
Office & Adm. Expenses	1475.09
Mailing Expenses	4293.20
Postage	18507.93
Printing	16811.69
Radio Expenses	141802.31
Telephone & Utilities	2697.02
Youth Ministries	3035.01
Conference	386.27
CEM Bookstore	7881.24
Foreign Operations	2111.87
Employee Benefits	20913.64
Wages & Payroll Taxes	72680.60
Total Operating	
Expenses	\$ 313208.92
Decrease in	
Fund Balance	<u>(\$ 343.89)</u>

**Feast of Tabernacles
Statement of Operations**
2004

Total Offering	\$28066.35
Total Expenses	29719.21
Fund Deficit	<u>(\$ 1652.86)</u>

Letters to the Editor

"I am truly blessed by your *Born to Win* program. I have got a lot of tidbits and things to ponder over from your teachings." BB

"Thank you for the first tape of the 'Book of Psalms.' Your reading of

the Psalms, along with your added comments, is a true gift bringing beauty, meaning and understanding to me." MC

"I wanted to be able to express my deepest gratitude for the strong

effort that you and your ministry have been putting forth, especially in the area of our young people. Our children don't stand a chance if we as their parents don't learn to stand on truth." MG

Calendar of Events

Lexington, Kentucky - Come hear Ronald L. Dart speak at the Winter Family Tournament in Lexington, KY at 2:30 p.m., December 25, 2004 at the Griffin Gate Marriott Hotel, located at I 75 and Newtown Pike. The Winter Family Tournament begins at 2:30 p.m., December 22 and concludes at noon, December 26. Call Larry Watkins at 1-888-Bible 44 for further information.

Pasadena, California - You are invited to hear Ronald L. Dart at the Apostolic Christian Church building, 434 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena, CA, 10:30 a.m., February 19, 2005. Mr. Dart will also conduct a seminar that afternoon. The Church of God Southern California is hosting this event and a noon potluck. For further information call Molly Antion at 626-585-0700, or Larry Watkins at 1-888-BIBLE 44.

Modesto, California - You are invited to attend a "Meet the Teacher" sponsored by Christian Educational Ministries, with Ronald L. Dart, the voice of the *Born to Win* radio program speaking at the Courtyard by Marriott, 1720 Sisk Road (Highway 99 at the Briggsmore-Carpenter exit), Modesto, CA, Saturday, February 26th at 2 p.m. For further information, call Jan Oehlmen at 408-739-7744 or Larry Watkins at 1-888-BIBLE 44

Family Bible Retreat - You are invited to a Family Bible Retreat sponsored by Christian Educational Ministries over the Memorial Day weekend at the Bel Arco Resort, Bull Shoals, Arkansas. It begins Friday evening, May 27, and ends at noon May 30, 2005. Bring your entire family for a full schedule of sermons, seminars, workshops, YEA classes, delightful activities, and adventure. Ronald L. Dart will enlighten, inspire, and delight you with God's Word. Other outstanding speakers will be heard as well. Reasonably priced accommodations at the Bel Arco Resort are limited, so call toll *FREE* today at 866-235-2726 to reserve your room and tell them you're with CEM. For information on an RV park and other accommodations in the area call Larry Watkins at 1-888-BIBLE 44 or check out our website at www.cemnetwork.com.

Radio Update

WTJT
Baker, FL
90.1 FM
9:00 p.m. M-F

Christian Educational Ministries



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