

Reformation: Christian Education

What's the difference?

Martin Luther

- "I am much afraid that the universities will prove to be the great gates of hell, unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, and engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution in which men are not unceasingly occupied with the word of God must become corrupt."--
D'Aubigne, b. 6, ch. 3.

Educational Reform



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“The teaching in our schools is not to be the same as in other colleges and seminaries. It is not to be of an inferior order; the knowledge essential to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God is to be made the all-important theme. The students are to be fitted to serve God, not only in this life, but in the future life. The Lord requires that our schools shall fit students for the kingdom to which they are bound. Thus they will be prepared to blend in the holy, happy harmony of the redeemed. . . .” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 289.

Educational Reform

“Now, as never before, we need to understand the true science of education. If we fail to understand this, we shall never have a place in the kingdom of God. "This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent" (John 17:3). If this is the price of heaven, shall not our education be conducted on these lines?”
Christian Educator, August, 1897.

Educational Reform

- The Place of the Bible in Education

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- Ancient and Modern Worldly Classics

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- Reforms in Diet
- The Proper Location for Schools and Country Life for Students
- Simplicity in Buildings

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- Manual Training and the Practical in Education

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- Manual Labor Displaced by Athletics, Sports, and Games

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- Manual Training and the Practical in Education
- Manual Labor Displaced by Athletics, Sports, and Games
- Student Self-Government and Christian Democracy

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- Manual Training and the Practical in Education
- Manual Labor Displaced by Athletics, Sports, and Games
- Student Self-Government and Christian Democracy
- Training Missionaries to be Self-Supporting, a Layman's Movement

“Something Better”

“‘Something better’ is the watchword of education, the law of all true living. Whatever Christ asks us to renounce, He offers in its stead something better. Often the youth cherish objects, pursuits, and pleasures that may not appear to be evil, but that fall short of the highest good. They divert the life from its noblest aim. Arbitrary measures or direct denunciation may not avail in leading these youth to relinquish that which they hold dear.

“Something Better”

“Let them be directed to something better than display, ambition, or self-indulgence. Bring them in contact with truer beauty, with loftier principles, and with nobler lives. Lead them to behold the One "altogether lovely." When once the gaze is fixed upon Him, the life finds its center. The enthusiasm, the generous devotion, the passionate ardor, of the youth find here their true object. Duty becomes a delight and sacrifice a pleasure. To honor Christ, to become like Him, to work for Him, is the life's highest ambition and its greatest joy.” *Education*, p. 296.

True Education

- We know that there are many schools which afford opportunities for education in the sciences, but we desire something more than this. The science of true education is the truth, which is to be so deeply impressed on the soul that it cannot be obliterated by the error that everywhere abounds.

True Education

- The third angel's message is truth, and light, and power, and to present it so that right impressions will be made upon hearts should be the work of our schools as well as of our churches, of the teacher as well as of the minister. Those who accept positions as educators should prize more and more the revealed will of God so plainly and strikingly presented in Daniel and the Revelation. *Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 131.

How Was Jesus Educated?

- Every child may gain knowledge, as Jesus did, from the works of nature and the pages of God's holy word. As we try to become acquainted with our heavenly Father through His holy word, angels will come near, our minds will be strengthened, our character will be elevated and refined, and we shall become more like our Saviour. And as we behold the beauty and grandeur of the works of nature, our affections go out after God; while the heart is awed and the spirit subdued, the soul is invigorated by coming in contact with the Infinite through His marvelous works. Communion with God through humble prayer, develops and strengthens the mental and moral faculties, and spiritual powers increase by cultivating thoughts upon spiritual things. *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 40.

How Was Jesus Educated?

- In childhood, youth, and manhood, Jesus studied the Scriptures. As a little child He was daily at His mother's knee taught from the scrolls of the prophets. In His youth the early morning and the evening twilight often found Him alone on the mountainside or among the trees of the forest, spending a quiet hour in prayer and the study of God's word. During His ministry His intimate acquaintance with the Scriptures testifies to His diligence in their study. And since He gained knowledge as we may gain it, His wonderful power, both mental and spiritual, is a testimony to the value of the Bible as a means of education. *Education*, p. 185.

How Was Jesus Educated?

- Since He gained knowledge as we may do, His intimate acquaintance with the Scriptures shows how diligently His early years were given to the study of God's word. *Desire of Ages*, p. 70.

- **John 7:15** And the Jews marveled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?

- **Luke 2:52** And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Educational Reform

- Bible-based
- Work-study
- Practical skills
- Rural Setting
- Active Outreach
- Focus on truth
- Staff working with students
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True Science of Education

- Now, as never before, we need to understand the true science of education. If we fail to understand this, we shall never have a place in the kingdom of God. "This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent" (John 17:3). If this is the price of heaven, shall not our education be conducted on these lines? -- *Christian Educator*, August, 1897.