

Why should the Bible be foremost in our curriculum?

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16, 17

It is clear that all true wisdom and understanding can only come from God. And if the Object of true education is to restore His image in us, would it not be wise to include Him in the education?

The Bible says, In Him "are hid all the treasures of wisdom." Colossians 2:3. "He hath counsel and understanding." Job 12:13.

Why is health an important subject to learn?

"Health is an inestimable blessing and one more closely related to conscience and religion than many realize. It has a great deal to do with one's capability for service and should be as sacredly guarded as the character, for the more perfect the health the more perfect will be our efforts for the advancement of God's cause and for the blessing of humanity." Counsels to PTS, EGW p. 294

Where should these schools be located?

What better place to learn about agriculture and health while getting physical exercise than a plot or farm out in the country.

"For this reason, God bids us establish schools away from the cities, where, without let or hindrance, we can carry on the education of students upon plans that are in harmony with the solemn message committed to us for the world. Such an education as this can best be worked out where there is land to cultivate and where the physical exercise taken by the students can be of such a nature as to act a valuable part in their character building and fit them for usefulness in the fields to which they shall go." Counsels to PTS, EGW p.532

What other practical skills should be taught?

"There should have been experienced teachers to give lessons to young ladies in the cooking department. Young girls should have been instructed to manufacture wearing apparel, to cut, make, and mend garments, and thus become

educated for the practical duties of life. For young men, there should be establishments where they could learn different trades, which would bring into exercise their muscles as well as their mental powers." Fundamentals of Christian Education p.41

Which is more important physical labour or the study of books?

*"And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and **much study is a weariness of the flesh.**"* Eccl. 12:12

It is important for the physical, mental and Spiritual development of a student that there is as much physical labour as book study. If there be one more than the other, let it be the physical labour.

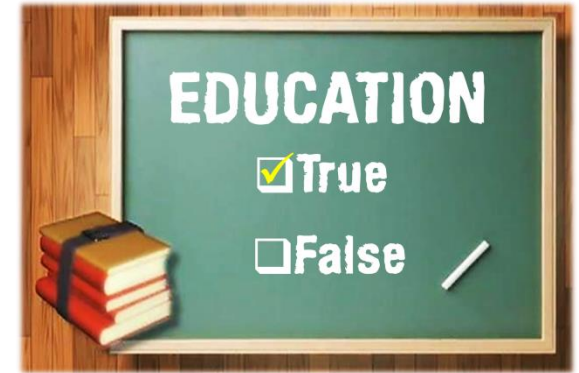
"One way to control content is to be sure the student has at least as much "well-regulated physical labor" as study. Our repeated instruction is to equalize work and study and if there is to be more of one, let it be work. ...This will appear impossible to some, but God promises that He will provide efficiency to make up the difference, and indeed, those who work half-time are those who are superior in studies." – Science of True Education.

If true education is connected with our salvation, it should stand to reason that we try to learn more about it and strive to apply it to our lives.



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DID YOU KNOW?

FACT – There are two types of education “False Education” and “True Education”. A wise student once said, “Everything is educational. It just depends on what you want to be educated in—good or evil.”

FACT – The history of the modern educational system traces back to the idolatrous education of ancient Egypt and Greece, as well having distinct connections to Pagan and Papal Rome.

"Let us...trace the present system of worldly education to its source. The educational plan of our first college was borrowed largely from the popular religious colleges of the Protestant denominations. These denominations received their educational light from the older educational institutions of this country such as Harvard and Yale; Harvard and Yale, as we have seen, borrowed theirs from Oxford and Cambridge; Oxford and Cambridge are daughters of Paris University; Paris University, presided over by the papists, was wholly Papal, and is the mother of European Universities; she borrowed her educational system from Pagan Rome; Pagan Rome 'gathered into its arms the elements of Grecian and oriental culture;" Grecian schools drew their wisdom and inspiration from Egypt. "The ancients looked upon Egypt as a school of wisdom. Greece sent thither her illustrious philosophers and lawgivers- Pythagoras and Plato, Lycurgus and Solon--to complete their studies..."—Painter, pg 32-34

FACT – The Protestant Reformer, Martin Luther, spoke about of the universities of the future (our day):

"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.**" *History of the Reformation, D'Aubigne., b. 6, ch. 3.*

FACT – Biblical history reveals 3 main centers of education one at Corinth, one at Ephesus and one at Athens.

FACT – The Apostle Paul, after spending eighteen months planting Christianity in **CORINTH**, said about the world's educational system of that time: "*After that in the wisdom of God **the world by wisdom knew not God** For...the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;*" – *1 Corinthians 1:21-23*

FACT – According to Paul the world did not know God because of their Educational system. Talking about those in **EPHESUS**, he said that they were, "***alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them***" – *Ephesians 4:18*
They were cut off from God because of their ignorance.

FACT – In **ATHENS** they had an altar with the inscription "*To the unknown god*", and Paul said that it was because of their ignorance that they worshipped this unknown god. (Acts 17:22-31)
He said, "*And **the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent***".

Paul concluded that it was because of the educational system that people no longer knew God, and to not know something is to be in ignorance of it. This ignorance led to Idolatry.

FACT – The Greek philosophers Aristotle, Plato and Socrates believed "Doubt is the way to knowledge." "Aristotle like Plato continued in

education the identical **principle of education** which was entertained by Socrates and continued by Plato: that **doubt is the way to knowledge**. For with Aristotle it was a maxim that **"to frame doubts well" is a service to the discovery of truth.**" – *Christian Education, A.T. Jones, p.6*

The foundation of Greek Education was essentially - "Doubt".
Doubt makes a very shaky foundation.



Doubt = not to know something
Not to know something = ignorance of it
So we can see in Paul's time the worldly education system was the cause for people not knowing God.

FACT – God took 40 years in the wilderness to restrain Moses from the education he had received in Egypt, in order to qualify him to lead His people out of Egypt to the Promised land.

FACT - God has a better way for us too. The wisest man that ever lived tells us its foundation "*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.*" Proverbs 9:10

It's Your Choice – False Education founded on Doubt or **True Education** founded on Faith?



TRUE EDUCATION QUESTIONS

What is the object of True Education?

The object of true education is to restore in man the image of his Maker. Life is a probationary time given for this process. True education involves the physical, mental and spiritual man.

"When Adam came from the Creator's hand, **he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker.**" *God created man in His own image*" (Genesis 1:27), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image--the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator. Through sin **the divine likeness was marred, and well-nigh obliterated.** Man's physical powers were weakened, his mental capacity was lessened, his spiritual vision dimmed. He had become subject to death. **Yet the race was not left without hope. By infinite love and mercy the plan of salvation had been devised, and a life of probation was granted. To restore in man the image of his Maker, to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created, to promote the development of body, mind, and soul, that the divine purpose in his creation might be realized--this was to be the work of redemption. This is the object of education,** the great object of life." *Education, p.15*

If a school were to be built with this sort of education in mind, how should it be done and what should be on the curriculum?

*"The classroom focus should be on things of heaven. The liberal arts and sciences should take second place as vehicles for heaven's goals. And there should be no room at all for arts, literature, social and physical sciences or any other studies which are not true, pure, lovely, of good report, and specifically to God's glory. Much as we realize the importance of other studies, **practical skills and studies of agriculture and health should be first on our curriculum in our studies for heaven, along with the story of redemption.**"* – *Science of True Education*

The main studies of True Education must be:

1. The plan of Redemption (The Bible)
2. Agriculture
3. Health
4. Practical Skills (Trades)