

## When a Nation Forgets God

*Lessons we must learn from Nazi Germany*

**A Bible Study utilizing the book by  
*Erwin Lutzer***

Lesson Five – *Parents; not the State, are responsible for a Child's Training*

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1

## **Review of Lessons One through Four**

- God is Sovereign over individuals, homes, churches *and* civil government – *if man sovereign; we lose liberty*
- Individuality (choice) marks a Biblical economy. *When the free market recedes, economic crises can be exploited*
- Self-government can be maintained if internal control rests on a belief in God. *Otherwise, we move toward anarchy that often results in tyranny*
- Stewardship in the market of ideas is primarily the individual's responsibility, *for lies and distortions multiply when there is little discernment of truth by the people*

2

## The Biblical Principle of Consequences

- Genesis 2:17 – *but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*
  - God told Adam (and Eve) the consequences for disobedience
  - He said you will surely die – “*affirmation, surety, truly, verily*”
- This Biblical principle, introduced in Genesis, highlights:
  - Sowing seeds of obedience or disobedience – in the heart and mind
  - Reaping fruit or consequences – spiritual and then natural life/death

*You can be sure that every individual reaps what they sow, but God’s mercy does not exact the consequences immediately or deservedly*

3

## The Practice of Biblical Stewardship

### Sowing seeds (ideas) in the heart

- What you sow (ideas) you reap
- Where you sow (flesh or spirit) you reap
- How you sow - bountifully

### Reaping fruit in heart, mind, action

- You are what you continually sow
- Fruit will depend on the kind of soil in which seed is placed (heart)
- Reap bountifully (2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 9:6b)

*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. – Galatians 6:7-9*

4



## Deception of Doubt and Pride in the market of Ideas

*“Verily I say to you... have faith and doubt not.”  
Matthew 21:21*

*“Better it is to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud...” - Proverbs 16:19*

*Doubt – waver, hesitate, question*

God’s Word only an opinion,  
question its validity

- Sow seeds of doubt
- Sow in the wrong soil (flesh)
- Sow sparingly (2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 9:6a)

*Pride - inordinate self-esteem,  
conceit*

Settling for synthetic fruit from the  
works of the flesh (without God)

- Reaping spiritual death (sin)
- Reaping mixture (no plowing)
- Reap sparingly (2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 9:6a)

5

## God’s Law on Educational Sowing / Reaping

- Deut. 5:29 - *O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them and with their children for ever!*
- Deut. 5:33 – *Ye shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God hath commanded you, that ye may live and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess...*
- God declares that the heart (dedication to train their children) of the parent will be seen in the proportionate fruit in offspring
- God has given us a *multi-generational promise!*

6

## Parents are Responsible for Training Children

- *For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children. – Psalm 78:5*
- *Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it. – Proverbs 22:6*
- *Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge. – Proverbs 19:27*
- *Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” – Colossians 2:8*

7

## How does God assign Educational Responsibilities?

- *Children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this is right... And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. – Eph. 6:1,4*
  - Obey parents equally, fathers don't provoke (perform without invest)
  - Nurture – *paideia* – *to come alongside – draw out - learning*
  - Admonish – *to pour in and maintain standards - teaching*
- God does not assign educational responsibilities to civil govt.
- Jewish homes employed tutors to train children – Gal. 4:1-2
- The caution was always whether teacher and tutor were in unity  
- *Can two walk together, except they be agreed? – Amos 3:3*

8



## Noah Webster's definition of Education (1828)

- Education - *The bringing up, as of a child, instruction; formation of manners. Education comprehends all that series of instruction and discipline which is intended to enlighten the understanding, correct the temper, and form the manners and habits of youth, and fit them for usefulness in their future stations. To give children a good education in manners, arts and science, is important; to give them a religious education is indispensable; and an immense responsibility rests on parents and guardians who neglect these duties.*
- In America, education was a parental responsibility until the 1880's when compulsory school laws were enacted...

9



## Hitler's philosophy of Education

Lutzer – *He (Hitler) declared that public education was compulsory and that children could not be educated at home (1938)*

*Hitler – The youth of today is ever the people of tomorrow. For this reason we have set before ourselves the task of inoculating our youth with the spirit of this community of the people at a very early age, at an age when human beings are still unperverted and therefore unspoiled. This Reich stands, and it is building itself up for the future, upon its youth. And this new Reich will give its youth to no one but will itself take youth and give to youth its own education and its own upbringing.*

10

## Hitler's Reich trained youth to embrace Nazism

- *The children in Germany were subject to films that presented the Nazis' view that the Jews were subhuman and that they were an unnecessary burden on society.*
- *Darwin's evolutionary notions were also presented in the classroom to extol the virtues of the Aryan race (the Germans) and that the evolutionary idea of survival of the fittest could be hurried along by the extermination of the weak.*
- *With private schools abolished by 1938, all education was unified under the Nazi ideology. Textbooks were rewritten to reflect the view of racial fitness... those who did not fall in line with the Nazi agenda were reprimanded, expelled, or executed.*

11



## Hitler's control of Education

Lutzer – ... by 1937, 97 percent of the teachers belonged to the National Socialist Teachers' Union. Each teacher had to use the official courses and textbooks prescribed by the Reich.

Hitler – *German youth must no longer... be confronted with the choice of whether they wish to grow up in a spirit of materialism or idealism, of racism or internationalism, of religious or godlessness, but they must be consciously shaped according to the principles of the ideology of National Socialism.*

Lutzer – *child, like putty in one's hand, was to be shaped into a... German citizen... surrendered to the larger goals of the State.*

12



## Hebrew (Biblical) Education vs. the Nazis

### Hebrew Education in the Bible

- God created us in His image
- Each child has intrinsic value
- Education centered in the family
- Parental responsibility in education
- Parents teach God's truth
- Goal is *cognitive*; wise use of truth
- Purpose of education is practical
- A Biblical worldview that embraces God's view of everything

### Nazi Indoctrination in State Schools

- You are made to advance the Reich
- Only Aryan children have value
- Education centered in the State
- State responsibility for education
- Truth is what Nazi's say it is
- Goal is *affective*; attitudes/feelings
- Purpose of education is loyalty
- A worldview that embraces racism, eugenics, Nazi rulership of world

13

## The Decline of American Education

- Home and Private schooling with parental choice until 1830
- Public Schools – community run – large parental input
- Compulsory School education laws inaugurated – 1880's
- Public schools transformed into Government Schools – 1920's
- Federal Department of Education begins in 1980
- Curriculum and textbooks run by publishing companies
- No Child Left Behind legislation – 1990's (more control)
- Common Core – reduction of basic learning, increase control

14

## Dr. Chester Pierce – Harvard, 1983

- Lutzer – *there are some public schools that are still committed to education and not indoctrination - but it is indicative of a trend in our schools that cannot be ignored...*
- *Every child in America who enters school at the age of five is mentally ill, because he comes to school with allegiance toward our elected officials, toward our founding fathers, toward our institutions, toward the preservation of this form of government... Patriotism, nationalism, sovereignty, all that proves that children are sick because the truly well individual is one who has rejected all of those things and is what I would call the true international child of the future.*

15

## So what are the Trends in Education today?

- Increased illiteracy – 21% of adults; 43 million, can't read/write
- Decrease in an emphasis of writing essays, research papers and public speaking, with indoctrination in only one viewpoint
- A low knowledge of history; disdain for America increases
  - Only 28% of high school seniors know we fought Hitler in WWII
  - Only 13% know we entered WWII after being attacked at Pearl Harbor
- Literature classics have been replaced by corrupt books/novels
- An increased exposure to sexualized material without the knowledge or consent of the parent...

16



## A Remnant is restoring sound Education

- Christian Schooling exploded in the 1970's, and home-schooling exploded in the 1990's – yet, still only 15% of the evangelical community participated in private education
- Character education (with traditional morals) began to replace Values Clarification in the 1990's
- Bible in some States restored as a literary work in schools
- Now, with Covid-19 – up to 30% of families are keeping children out of the public school... but are they educating?
- Some States are thinking of “education choice” with funding

17

## PEERS TEST: Worldview Spheres

Politics



How we govern

Economics



How we prosper

Education



How we learn

Religion



What we worship

Social Issues



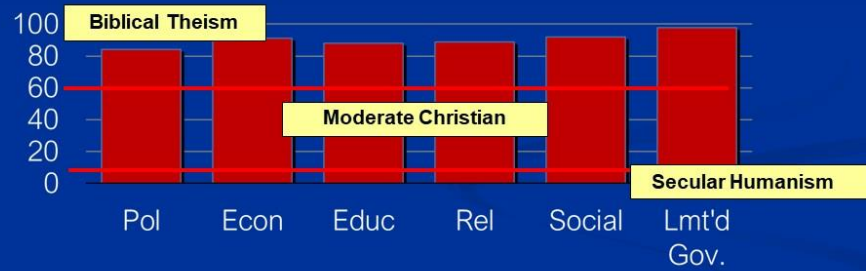
How we relate

[www.nehemiahinstitute.com](http://www.nehemiahinstitute.com)

18

## Construct Validity (beginning in 1988)

### Worldview Teachers/Scholars



[www.nehemiahinstitute.com](http://www.nehemiahinstitute.com)

9

19

### Humanists & New Ager's

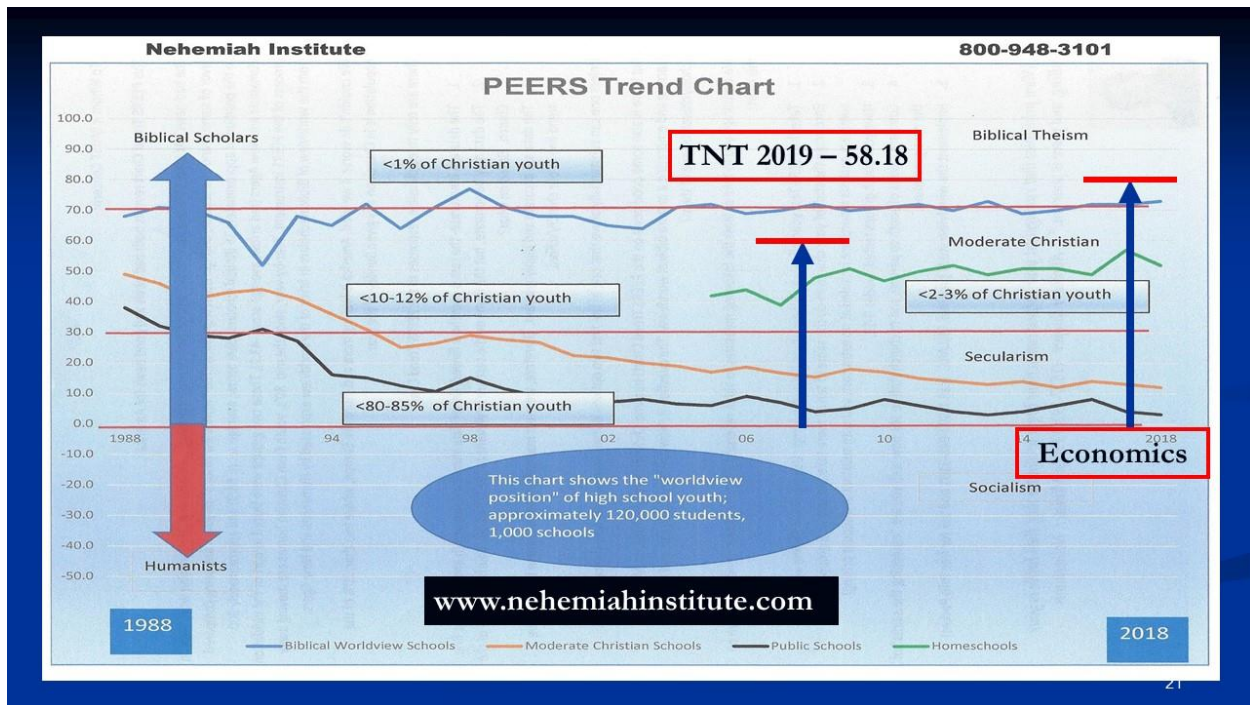


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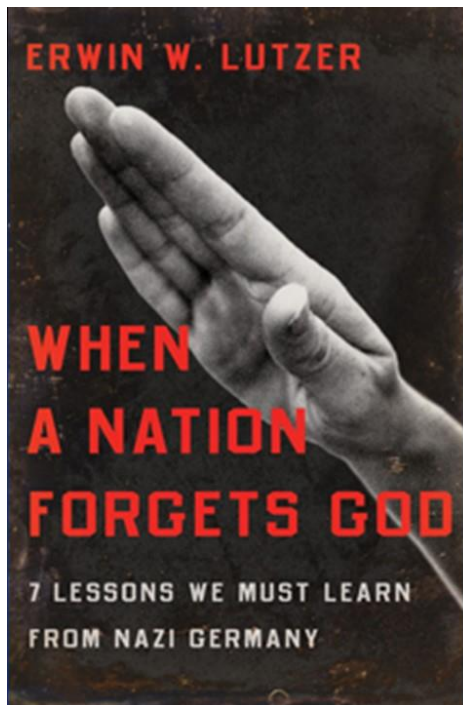
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## So what should we do in light of these Lessons?

- Encourage all parents to be involved in their child's education, knowing what they are learning, reinforcing values
- Support the decentralized responsibility to local school districts as well as increasing the power of parental input
- Encourage parents to home-school or enroll their children in a Christian school that teaches Biblical principles in all areas
- Solicit civil officials to separate school and state, so that school choice is coupled with the funds to follow the child (but not as a grant from the State to subsidize their education)



## Suggested Reading from Lesson Five

- Read Chapter Five (pgs. 97-115)
  - *Do you think the average parent of school age children is taking an active role in their child's education?*
- Consider reading Dr. Jehle's article *The Roots of American Education* (2016)
- Consider Dr. Jehle's life-time work *Go Ye Therefore and Teach All Nations* (HIM)
  - The history, philosophy, methodology, administration and curriculum for a Christian education in two volumes – over 1,200 pages
  - Only \$35 in pdf format on a flash drive!