

A Biblical View of Education



God created Human Beings to Use their Minds

“God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness... So God created man in his own image; in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 1:26-27

- Men and women have the ability to reason
- *But the fall into sin produced habits of false premises and thus we need revelation (the Bible) for His presuppositions*

What is Education?

Webster's 1828 dictionary defines it as

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.

Education is Inherently Religious

- No thought or idea is neutral (Col. 1:15-18)
 - Education is multi-generational (Ps. 78:1-7)
 - Education is teaching *and* learning
 - “educate” - *to instill into the mind principles of arts, science, morals, religion and behavior* – pouring in
 - “educe” – *bring or draw out; to extract* – drawing out
 - The Scriptures support the same ingredients
 - In the Home – Eph. 6:4 – *nurture and admonish*
 - In the Church – Mt. 28:20 – *learner and to teach*
- Biblical Education is *discipleship*

Hebrew Education in the OT

- Israel's unique literacy (alphabetic)
- Universality due to parental responsibility

Hebrew Education	Greek Education
<p>God created the heavens and earth Man made in the image of God Each child has intrinsic, equal value Education centered in the family</p> <p>Goal of education is wisdom Purpose of education is practical Education an individual responsibility Methodology – reflect, express, apply</p>	<p>Nature creates god – Greek mythology God made in the image of man Child's value imputed by the State Education centered in the community</p> <p>Goal of education is achievement Purpose of ed. to redistribute property Education is a State responsibility Methodology - respond to stimulus</p>

Historian E.C. Wines

It is hence plain that Hebrew parents were required not only to teach their children orally, but also to impart to them the arts of reading and writing. There is reason to believe, that the ability to read and write was an accomplishment, more generally possessed by the Hebrews, than by any other people of antiquity... from a survey of the matter, the conclusion seems warranted, that the education of the Hebrew people, conducted mainly though, not wholly, under the domestic roof, was nevertheless a national education, and worthy of the imitation of other nations... The result was that the nation reached a high point of literary attainment and distinction...

Methodology of Education

- 2nd Cor. 3:17-18; Ro. 12:1-2 - Sanctification
 - Reflection – *looking as in a glass* (the notebook)
 - Creativity – *renewing of the mind* (the essay)
 - Application – *proving the will of God* (outlet to use)
- Greek (mind) *dianoia* (deep thought) has the prefix *dia* which means channel, or canal
 - Reflection, expression and practical application is a river-bed – 1st Peter 1:13 - *prepare your minds for action*
 - The **Spirit** of God uses a canal to produce *action*; tearing down strongholds (Ps. 39:3; 2nd Cor. 10:5)

Peter Ramus; *father of Biblical Logic*

- Jim Rose, FACE Journal, 1994-1995

The scholastics were medieval schoolmen who tended to be very intellectual but not very practical. In their thinking, reason and revelation are separate ideas and ought not to be reconciled. Scholasticism made a distinction between the theoretical and the practical; faith is one thing, but man's reason is another. In sharp contrast to the scholastics, Peter Ramus, and subsequently, William Ames, believed that knowledge should be practical; that God gave man the capacity to reason from revelation; that learning and doing walk together.... Peter Ramus felt that Aristotle, the Greek philosophy, was inconsistent..."

Switch on Your Brain

by Dr. Caroline Leaf, 2013

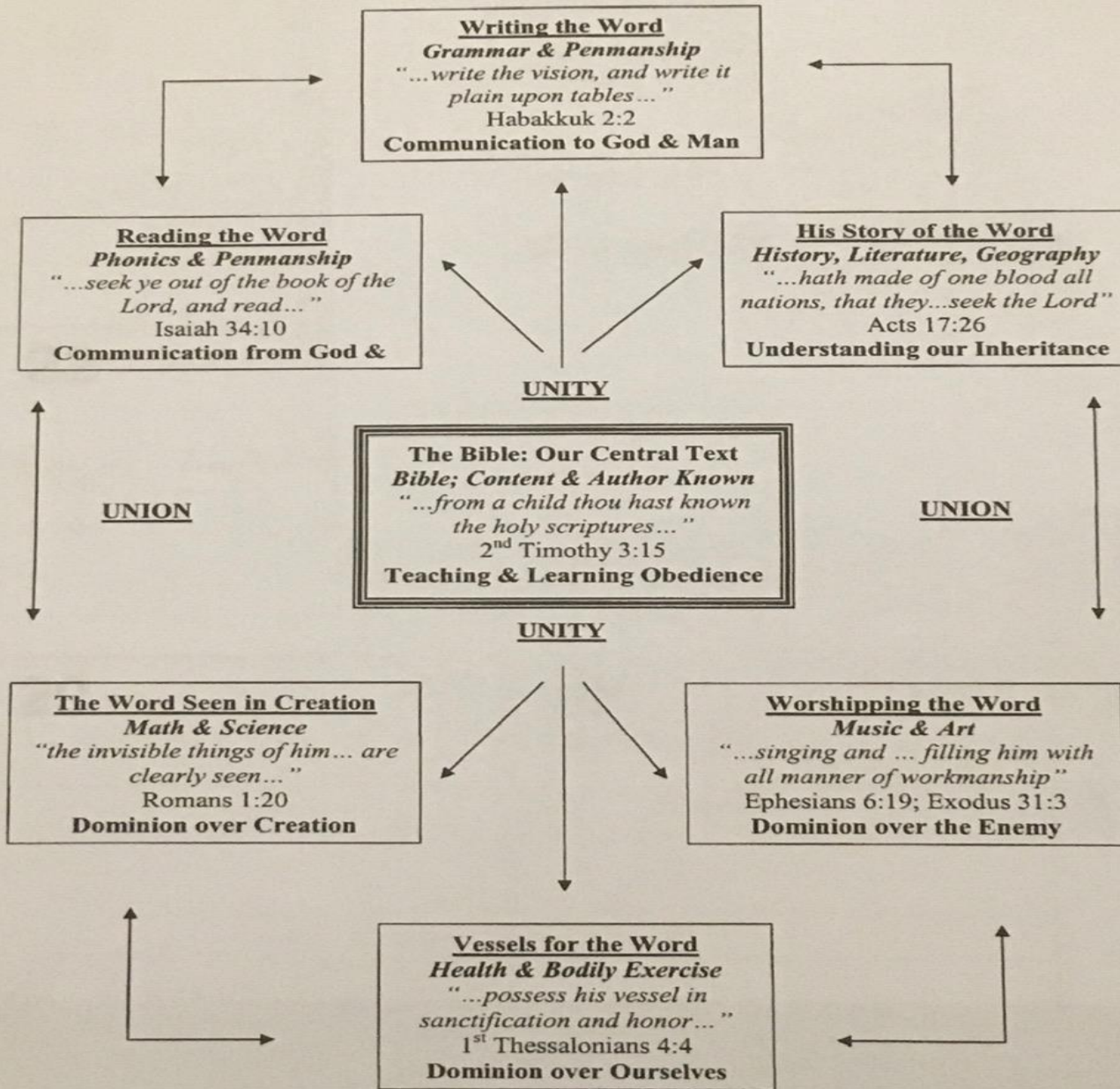
- Human beings are created in God's image
- We can “think God's thoughts after Him”
- *I'm convinced beyond all doubt that our God-given ability to think and choose means that our free will influences our thinking, which produces our state of mind...*
- *Choice has mental “real estate” around the front of the brain...*

A Curriculum for Liberty

■ R. J. Rushdoony – *The Christian Curriculum*

Not only does education find its foundation in religion, but... curriculum expresses the religious standards and expectations of a culture. The Latin word curriculum... means a running, a racecourse, a chariot (currere)... A curriculum is thus the chariot, racecourse, or vehicle whereby a culture expresses its religious faith and standards. The... liberal arts curriculum, 'liberal' from the Latin liber, free... is a course in the arts of freedom... A liberal arts curriculum is thus a practical answer to the question, What is liberty? And, How does a man prepare himself to be a free man?"

GOD'S LAW / WORD: THE MODEL CURRICULUM



Jurisdiction; the *key to restoring a Nation's Education System*

- *Every religion has a corresponding form of government and education philosophy to support its continuity, thus...*
 - It is best to center education in the home
 - Parental choice is critical to maintain to promote in any national system
 - Local community control for public schools balances both unity and diversity

It has been demonstrated that...

- The more centralized, quality decreases
- The more we focus on externals and equipment, the less we do teaching/learning
- The more government oversees education at the state and federal level, cost increases
- The more education is institutionalized, the less the curriculum equips students for life
- The more a “one size fits all” approach is taken, schools violate values of parents

The Scriptures guide us...

- Home education until 7... then tutors until a child turns 20 (college school of prophets)
- The parents decided when a child was mature enough for independent educators
- Civil government required parents to see that their child was educated or “neglected”
- Only role of direct civil government at the national level was the military
- Today, the question is, *to whom do the children belong?* (State or the parent/God)

What should parents do?

- Martin Luther; *“I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution that does not unceasingly pursue the study of God’s Word becomes corrupt.”*
- Parents need to remain vigilant as to what is taught
- Most importantly, are the teachers and school equally yoked with the parent’s faith/philosophy?
- Are parents willing to grow in a Biblical worldview?
- Education has become the main vehicle through which our children’s minds have been corrupted

Christopher F. Rufo writes...

“they (have) settled on a more sophisticated strategy – waging a revolution not of the proletariat, but of the elites. It would proceed not by taking over the means of production, but by taking control of education and culture – a strategy that German Marxist Rudi Dutschke, a student activist in the 1960’s, called the ‘long march through the institutions.’ This idea is traceable to Italian communist Antonio Gramsci...”

Thy Kingdom Come!

*Malachi 4:4-6 - Remember the Law of Moses,
My servant, which I commanded him in
Horeb for all Israel, With the statutes and
judgments...*

*Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet
Before the coming of the great and dreadful
day of the LORD. And he will turn
The hearts of the fathers to the children,
And the hearts of the children to their fathers,
lets I come and strike the earth with a curse.*