



# Preparing Souls To Serve The Lord

Volume XX

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## Christian College Guidelines

By

G. K. Wallace

The following article was written by brother Wallace almost thirty years ago. The truths he expressed have not changed. It appeared also in the May 20, 1971 volume of the *Gospel Advocate*, Editor.

Most Christian colleges are struggling under guidelines imposed, not by the Board of Directors, nor the President of the school, but by Accrediting Associations that exist in the circles of higher education. The guidelines that are being set up for such departments as Science, Art, English, Psychology and Sociology are not disturbing. These things are secular in nature and of course the pressure in that field is not so great. However, in the Biblical field, there are some things that are alarming.

The qualifications of Bible teachers in our Bible departments are being set up by a group of men who know little about the Bible and care less. Their standards are determined largely by philosophy which is equated with divinity and/or theology. All of the higher Divinity Schools (if there is an exception I am not aware of it) are dominated by theologians who either openly deny the inspiration of the Bible or secretly seek to destroy the

faith. It has not been long ago that the Divinity Department of a southern university according to our papers, announced a religious service in order to show the world how to worship without God.

Most of our administrators and members of the Board of Directors are aware of this problem but they are so afraid of the rulings and regulations of the Accrediting Association that they are paralyzed. It does not take a prophet, nor the son of a prophet, nor a dresser of sycamore trees to see where this leads. These so called guidelines rule out of our Bible departments the leading minds of the great Restoration movement in the world. David Lipscomb would not be permitted to teach in his own school today. T. B. Larimore would not be acceptable in a Bible department. F. B. Syrgley and M. C. Kurfees would be ruled out by the so called Christian college

guidelines. Most of the great men who helped to organize and build Abilene Christian College, whose loyalty and devotion to the truth is unquestioned, could not qualify to head the Bible department in my Alma Mater. It was my great privilege to sit at the feet of Batsell Baxter, who for many years served as President of Abilene Christian College, and was one of the greatest Bible teachers who ever lived, and who now could not qualify to head the Bible department of Abilene Christian College. Jesse P. Sewell, who so ably directed Abilene Christian College for years, could not qualify to head the Bible department of Abilene Christian College.

Freed-Hardeman College has had a long illustrious history, and my association with it extends either in a direct or indirect way over a period of twenty-eight years. If A. G. Freed were living today, he would not be permitted to head the Bible department of Freed-Hardeman

College. If N. B. Hardeman were living and was willing to so do, he could not head the Bible department of Freed-Hardeman College. The fact that N. B. Hardeman, whose great Bible knowledge is so generally known, could not head the Bible department of Freed-Hardeman College is not because the Board of Directors, the Administration, would not look favorably upon it, but a group of sectarians from an Accrediting Association would rule him out.

Brethren, we are not only drifting, we have drifted. It appears to be time that Christian colleges stop and take stock of the direction in which we are going. It may be time for all Christian schools to pull their Bible departments out of the college proper and out from under the Accrediting Association and let the Board of Directors and good elders of the church recommend men of stature and character to lead in the teachings of the Bible. . . .

There are a great number of "Schools of the Prophets," that are springing up over the brotherhood and are being conducted by great and strong churches simply because they are permitted to teach the Bible without being inhibited by a group of denominationalists who are unacquainted with the truth of God and who do everything they can to undermine the cause of Christ.



### "Branding People"

This article appeared in a popular publication. It was authored by an

Associate Editor of the paper. This should mean that it represents the philosophy and position of the paper. Lest I be guilty of doing what the article suggested, I will not mention the paper or author by name. However, I must respond to the foolish positions occupied by the paper and editor.

*There is a story of a New York family that decided to leave the Big Apple and head for the wide open spaces. They decided to buy a ranch out west and raise cattle. A month later some of their friends visited the ranch and asked if they had chosen a name for their 200 acre spread.*

*The man said, "Well, I wanted to name it Bar-B since my name is Bob. The wife wanted to call it the Suzy-Q after her own name. One of the boys, Willie, who wants to be a pilot, wanted to name it the Flying-W. Larry insisted we call it the Lazy-L. So in the end for the sake of family unity, we named it the Bar-B/Suzy-Q/Flying-W/Lazy-L."*

*His friend was impressed with the man's sense of compromise. But then he looked over the fence and asked, "But where are all the cattle?" The rancher looked sheepishly at the ground, kicked the dirt and replied, "None of them survived the branding."*

*We are forever trying to brand people with this label and that label. Labels are nothing but verbal prejudice. If we can stick someone into a convenient pigeon hole, then we don't have to consider them as individuals. We know what they are like*

*because, "All \_\_\_\_\_ are like that." When congregations or individuals are labeled "liberal, for example, every one knows what they are like because all liberals are \_\_\_\_\_. And when congregations are labeled "conservative" everyone else knows what they are like because all conservatives are \_\_\_\_\_.*

*If you recall, Jesus was labeled a glutton, a drunkard and a friend of sinners (Luke 7:34). Once conveniently labeled, the Jewish leaders knew what he was like and they could justify not investigating him personally and objectively.*

*Before we are quick to slap a brand on someone, remember that most folks don't survive the branding. Do you want others to brand you? Then don't do it to others. That one rule for living would go a long way toward dispelling all prejudices and enhance everyone's life in the Son.*

### Response

(1) Read the article by brother Hightower in last month's *Harvesters*. He makes a reply to the false philosophy that underlies

## The Harvesters

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TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

this article.

(2) Note that almost half of the article is a human interest story. While stories may be interesting, if they are to be of any religious value they must be supported with truth. The story in this article is woefully lacking in such truth and value.

(3) The editor cites one passage and in doing so misapplies it. It is wrong to mislabel people (liberal, conservative, glutton or whatever). However, it is not wrong to label people. Jesus did so (Scribes, Pharisees, Hypocrites, again see the Hightower article).

(4) Because someone brands another does not make the brand correct. Are we not to evaluate the label to see if the label is true? In fact honesty demands it.

(5) I have no problem with people branding me, that is, if the brand is correct. I take pride in being branded a Christian. It is an honor to be labeled a member of the church of Christ.

(6) The above article is in direct conflict with the following passages that demand that you brand individuals: "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple" (Rom. 16:17-18). "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have

told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)" (Phil. 3:17-19). "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name. And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect" (I Cor 1:10-17).

In the Revelation there are individuals labeled that were not given flowery titles, and it would be a blessing to the church (if they were not prepared to repent) that "they not survive the branding." I have reference to the ones who held to the teaching of the "Nicolatians" (Rev. 2:6, 15), to those who upheld the teaching of Balaam (Rev. 2:14-15), to

those who supported the woman "Jezebel" (Rev. 2:20).

(7) Let it be understood that any teaching that repudiates the clear and explicit teaching of the Bible is false teaching. The position advocated by the article under critique repudiates the clear and explicit teaching of the Bible. Therefore, the position occupied by the Associate Editor of the paper as well as the paper publishing the article is promoting false teaching.

The sad position occupied by the publisher of the article makes it impossible for the author to defend himself against those who are critical of him. Why? He would have to label me, but he teaches that this is wrong—could I survive the branding? Any position that would shackle one from opposing wrong is a false position. Be careful, remember, according to this position, you can not brand another. You can not brand the brander, right? Brethren, think!



## Booster Banquet

October 21, 1999

7:00 p.m.

Dear Supporter,

The Board of Directors of the Florida School of Preaching, staff and administration, wish to take this opportunity to express their appreciation to all who have so faithfully supported the school over this past year. Without your contributions each month, the

work of the school would be impossible. We are inviting you to attend the Booster Banquet as our guest.

The board has chosen the River Road congregation in New Port Richey, Florida, to receive special recognition for this year. This congregation has been very supportive of the school for a long period of time. The River Road preacher, Chris Steele, is a graduate of the Florida School of Preaching.

The Banquet, which is scheduled for October 21, 1999, at 7:00 P.M., will be held in the fellowship hall at the South Florida Avenue Church of Christ, Lakeland, Florida, where the school meets each day. Due to the size of the room, we will need to limit the number attending in the following manner: 1) If you are representing a congregation who supports the school, the elders and their wives are invited; if there are no elders, a total of four people may attend to represent the congregation. 2) If you are an individual contributor, yourself and a companion are invited to attend.

**Please respond by  
October 13, 1999, by  
contacting the school office:**

1. (863) 683-4043

(Answering machine will answer after office hours)

2. 1-800-320-9780 (Office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.)
3. Fax: (863) 683-0750 (24 hours a day)

**If you call after office hours, please leave the following information:**

1. Your Name
2. City
3. Congregation
4. How many will attend

**We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible.**

Sincerely,  
Mr. Jackie M. Stearsman,  
Director



### Triumphant Entry Notes

The conjunction "and," "kai" (Greek), has been wrongly rendered "and" instead of "even." Rightly understood Matthew has Jesus riding only the colt like the rest. (from Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament.) In early Israel mules were traditionally royal mounts (2 Sam 18:9; cf. Zech 9:9 Matt 21:5). (From The New Unger's Bible Dictionary.) The upper classes, judges, (as Jair's 30 sons, and Abdon's 40 sons and 30 nephews,) and kings (as David and Solomon) rode upon donkeys or mules (Judg 5:10; 10:4; 12:14; 1 Kings 1:33). (from Fausset's Bible Dictionary.) Consider the following passages: "Speak, ye that ride on white asses, ye that sit in judgment, and walk by the way" (Judg 5:10). "And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havoth-jair unto this day, which are in the land of Gilead" (Judg 10:4). "And he had forty sons and thirty nephews, that rode on threescore and ten ass colts: and he judged Israel eight years" (Judg 12:14). "And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went away" (2 Sam 18:9). "The king also said unto them, Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule, and bring him down to Gihon" (1 Kings 1:33).

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