

Would this Marriage Work?

For some time the late brother G. C. Brewer wrote a series of articles in the Gospel Advocate in answer to questions received from readers of that journal. A number of these articles were published in 1941 in a book entitled Contending for the Faith. As would be expected, some of those questions brother Brewer discussed concerned marriage, divorce, and remarriage. In one of those articles the author was dealing with the idea someone had advanced that sometimes people should divorce for the simple reason they are not compatible. Brother Brewer wrote:

Let us suppose a case. A man is cast upon a lonely island after a shipwreck. At first he seems to be the only living human being on the island. A true Robinson Crusoe. But later he finds that a woman from the same ship was also cast upon the island....They are strangers; they never saw each other before they met upon the island. They soon find that they are the only human inhabitants of the island. After a time, hope of ever being rescued dies and they become resigned to the idea of spending their lives together and alone, so far as other human beings are concerned. Can anyone believe that a normal man and a normal woman would not under such circumstances become real companions and find consolation and comfort and strength in such a companionship? They might be very different at first. They might have come from different stations in life and might have entirely different ideas and views, but they would become adjusted to each other and each would help the other.

O, hut someone suggests that necessity would be upon that

By Bobby Duncan

pair and they would, of course, make the best of their situation. That is the point. Then, if we can make husbands and wives see that they must, by the necessity of God's requirements and the necessity of their family's needs and by the necessity of their soul's salvation, dwell together in mutual helpfulness and companionship, they will make the best of their situation also.

Can we miss the point of brother Brewer's illustration? Husbands and wives can make their marriages work if both are determined so to do. The reason one or the other is not so determined is not because that one no longer needs or desires marriage companionship, but because he (or she) desires someone else other than his present spouse. He has already become infatuated with someone else, or he is in love with some imaginary perfect person he expects to meet who will not have all the faults and flaws characteristic of that one's present spouse.

Marriages can work if we are determined to make them work. The necessity brother Brewer mentioned in his article will make marriages work. Unfortunately, too many married people feel no necessity for making their marriages work. Those who know and believe what the Bible teaches know there is a necessity to make their marriages work. Jesus said, "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marieth her which is put away doth commit adultery" (Matthew 19:9).



Sick			
Fran Snyder (Mother of Carla Humphrey)	Lori Holloway	Chick Wade	Sandlyn Fultz (Davis Fultz's Sister)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Carrie Chavers (Friend of Sharon Bailey)	Bill Rhodes and James Hall (Toni Herd's Uncles)	Philip Locke (Jeremiah Johnson's Uncle)
Josie Keith (Friend of Heath Fowler)	Grandparents of Mary Ann Roberts	Easton Alexander (Phillip Box's cousin's baby)	Jerry Sandlin (Megan Lee's Grandfather)
Richard Call Seth Humphrey's Uncle	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Erlene Davis (Walker Davis' mother)	Mary Smith (Nathan Smith's Grandmother)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Dave Brown (Friend of the Lanier's)	Dale Herd (William Herd's brother)	Larry Alexander (Friend of Phillip Box)
Marty and Aubrey Meeks, Russell Dickerson (Toni Herd's Nephews)	Frank Johnson (Debbi Coleman's Uncle)	Ann Robinson (Sharon Bailey's Mom)	Mike Reed (Friend of Long's)

August Birthdays

- 2 - Emma Miller
- 5 - Andrew Cagle
- 7 - Anna Leigh Peek
- 7 - David Golden
- 7 - Erin Dallas
- 9 - Elliot Weldon
- 10 - Sarah Tam
- 11 - Walker Davis
- 12 - Jon Coleman
- 18 - Lisa Armstrong
- 20 - Caleb Law
- 22 - David Crawford
- 27 - Stephen Ambrose
- 27 - Chip Freeman
- 28 - Larry Rouse
- 28 - Cole Johnson
- 29 - Blake Edwards

News and Notes

- Let us remember Matthew Johnson, David Golden and Tim Morton in our prayers as they are deployed overseas.
- Congratulations to Tim and Anne Morton at the birth of Charlotte Grace Morton!
- Let us remember Jared Burton and Chris Davis as they undergo treatments.
- Let us remember our expectant mothers in our prayers: Jana Hall.
- There will be group meetings tonight after services.
- There is a study at the Rouse's on Thursday at 7 PM on Lesson 4 of "the Cross of Christ."
- College students will be arriving in the next 2 weeks!

The Auburn Beacon



Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

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The Permanency of Youth

By Harold Carswell, Jr.

This article is about young who are accountable for their actions.

Youth can be a wonderful time of discovery. Good as well as bad things can occur during these years which can have lasting effects as well as everlasting effects. There are still things from my youth that I wish would have never have happened and some things that I am glad did happen. We must however be mindful of the fact that youthfulness can be very deceptive...

Youth can cloud our standard of time. Young people are often told that they have their whole lifetime to make advances to maturity or to fulfill desired accomplishments. However how many older people look back at the former years and don't know where the time went. The Scriptures teach us that we must not be deceived by the probability of time. First of all, time is not a guarantee for anyone. We don't hold time in our hands and control it according to our plans. Life is not as long as one may think.

"Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that

However it must also be understood, that as spiritual growth and maturity develops so does ones spiritual accountability. No matter what level of spiritual maturity a person finds themselves, accountability is required at that level.

appears for a little time and then vanishes away." (James 4:14)

You see life is neither long nor guaranteed. This is an important truth that we must utilize that time that we have. Christians hopefully understand that there is no time to waste in service to the Lord. We cannot afford to be deceived by the prospect of time. We are to utilize our time wisely by "taking, possessing, and laying hold of the time that we have to serve God. There is no time for foolishness and folly, our time must be redeemed (Eph 5:15-19). We cannot afford to waste our time in

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Thoughts to Ponder

In his youth, everybody believes that the world began to exist only when he was born, and that everything really exists only for his sake.

Do You Have a Bible Question?
Call (334) 734-2133 or E-mail: LarryRouse@aubeacon.com



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

Bible Class9:30 AM
Worship10:20 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 PM

Ask about our home Bible Study Groups!

Larry Rouse
Evangelist and Editor

Check Us Out On the Internet: www.aubeacon.com

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wantonness and excess, thinking we have time to get serious later (**Romans 13:10-14**). Perhaps our view of time is not from a Biblical perspective. How many times do the Scriptures remind us of how man's perception of time is not that of God (**Psalms 90:10; 2 Peter 3:8**). The Psalmist (Moses) teaches that time must be spent serving the Lord and not ourselves (**Psalm 90:1-12**).

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." (**Psalm 90:12**)

Young people must not let youth cloud their discernment of time and older Christians must stop giving them the impression that the have all the time in the world to get serious about God. By the way, how much time is all the time in the world?

Youth also distorts ones concept of accountability. Now we all understand I'm sure that with maturity comes accountability. The older we get the more accountable we become. This is understood not only from a Biblical standpoint but also from a secular one as well. It is because of this, that there are juvenile courts and adult courts in our country. However it must also be understood, that as spiritual growth and maturity develops so does ones spiritual accountability. No matter what level of spiritual maturity a person finds themselves, accountability is required at that level. It is my belief that youthfulness is passed of as an excuse for unaccountability as well as irresponsibility. Parents are especially guilty of this as they make excuses for their children based on their age and/or level of maturity. It is interesting to note that these excuses can go even into youthful adulthood as if young Christians have no sin or are incapable of committing sin because they are young.

When did the expectations for faithfulness change? There are several examples of youthful faithfulness in the pages of truth. Great courage, dedication, and zeal have been revealed by God of faithful young people, Joseph, David,

Daniel, and Timothy, just to name a few. Young people should be expected to be faithful and faithfulness is to be required of them. So many parents have forgotten the fact that youth is not and excuse for unfaithfulness! They make excuses for their own children and do not take the necessary actions when their children are in sin and simply making unwise and unsound decisions. Eli was one who did not take the necessary actions regarding his children which cost them not only their lives and souls but also caused the children of Israel to sin as well as, causing dishonor to the holy name of God (**1 Samuel 2:12-25**). Youth does not give one a license to sin. As older Christians we should not only require faithfulness of our young brothers and sisters but also help guide them in making sound decisions that are conducive to their spiritual well being and growth! Solomon tells us that young people will be held accountable for the decisions that they make in life...

"Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment." (**Ecclesiastes 11:9**)

Youth is time for serving God and not a time to enjoy the fruits of sin or folly. There will come a time when ones ability to serve God will be limited and full of obstacles and that youth is the opportune time for service to God (**Ecclesiastes 12:1-7**). Of course, this is not to say that service in our older years is not demanded nor beneficial (**Titus 2:1-5**) but it is saying that youth is invaluable. We must all remember what this life is all about...

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (**Ecclesiastes 12:13-14**)

Decisions made in youth can have lasting and everlasting rewards or consequences!



Where Did We Fail?

By Robert Turner

A mother or father tells me, "My son (or daughter) obeyed the gospel when twelve years of age. He never missed Bible class or worship, and made talks on Wednesday nights. When he went away to college and began to hear arguments on evolution and all that junk, he really stood up for the Bible. I remember the first Thanksgiving holiday he came home, he told us all about the discussion he had with his teachers. He even tried to convert his room-mate. But now — the boy has finished college and is married. He never goes to church, and he wont let us talk to him about it. Bro. Turner, our boy has lost his faith."

The dad is terribly hurt about the matter, and certainly thinks he is telling me the truth about everything. But let's run it through again — if we can bear the pain of doing so.

The boy (or girl) was "brought up in the church," and from early childhood was impressed with the fact that as soon as he was old enough he would be baptized and partake of the Lord's Supper. So he did! He never missed a service, because his parents wouldn't allow it. He "made talks" dutifully, being true to "the system," just as he studied and recited at school. His parents, their social circle, peers of his environment, all, "believed in God and the Bible" so he thought he believed also. Evolution was "that junk" but if he ever heard it intelligently discussed it was ridiculed in specious arguments, or in labored terms he didn't understand.

When he first met evolution, modernism, social theism, etc., as real live concepts, espoused by

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those he now respected (teachers), or his social peers (students), he dutifully responded. (He spent an hour finding **2 Tim. 3:16-17**, and was shocked at its seeming incongruity in this new setting.) They didn't even believe the Bible! Or, he sought to meet a Ph.D. on the professor's ground, and of course was unprepared. At thanksgiving he may have

passed the questions on to his parents, and they said, "Oh, you know that is wrong." Did he?

His bride came from this setting, or maybe a generation later; but do not blame her. (He selected her, remember!) The truth is, he has never had a mature faith, has never really obeyed the gospel. Inherited religion is a poor substitute for the real thing! The boy may never have seriously appraised himself, the scriptures, or the gospel. He probably blames his parents for the inner conflict he feels at times — and yet he treats his own children the same way, with different standards of course. He tries to teach them what he thinks is best for them, in the best way he knows how. He can't believe his dad faced such situations as he has had.

We can't dismiss the matter by saying, "Let children grow up absolutely free to believe and act however they please." We may not teach them, but none live in a vacuum. Also, this is an abdication of responsibility, and assumes that man is an authority unto himself. Godless societies certainly do not recommend themselves upon honest investigation, even in this world.

