

The Devil's Best Weapons

(Note: This was a post a brother made on a discussion board several years ago. I have slightly edited it and given it a title. - LWR)

By Peter McPherson here with a suggestion. What do you think is the devil's best ammunition? That he employs today?

I think that his best ammo in response to Bible truth is SILENCE. His "workers" have decided to just leave us alone. In this way there is no attention brought to truth and against his error. And when you don't have the truth or are in a hard spot they find it better to clam up....to stop any communication before it begins.

Years ago a debate on salvation .. the necessity of water baptism was nearly finalized, but the preacher backed out. He said that he would be furnishing most of the audience. But if he had the truth why wouldn't he want even a few to hear it? Silence was his best weapon. It's very diabolical, but he has found that it works. Lets none of us be guilty of employing this tactic.

By Peter McPherson Yes today most denominational preachers will just give you the cold shoulder...shut up and go right on with their views. Silence is a great weapon of his because he ignores you...and he never gives you an opportunity to present your case. This way error, falsehood spreads. But we must still keep on trying to flush him. At least present the truth plainly and show up the error, regardless what response he uses.

For the past month we are running a new brief article each week in the city paper under the caption "A Challenge". Each week I simply state a plain Bible truth and then ask why do many do otherwise (about 30 words and then we give the church address, etc). To date I have not received one response and I will be surprised if I do. We did have one visitor. Perhaps it will do some good in spite of the fact that the sectarians will not have the courage or time to respond.

What do you think is the devil's best weapons.. the "top ten?"



Classes This Week

Sun 5:15 PM Kids Class at Building	Sun PM College Devo at the Miller's - L. Rouse on Evangelism	Monday 12 Noon Campus Study - Foy Cafeteria	Monday 7 PM Men's Class at the Davis'	Tuesday 7 PM Bible Reading at Hannah Alexander's	Tuesday 8 PM "Truth Seekers" Room 2310 in Student Center	Wednesday Noon Ladies Class at Laura Humphrey's	Thursday 12:30 PM Campus Study - Foy Cafeteria	Thursday 7 PM Revelation Study at Caleb George's
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Sick

Richard Wood (Melanie Smith's Uncle)	Lori Holloway	Mike Reed (Friend of Long's)	Sandlyn Fultz (Davis Fultz's Sister)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Carrie Chavers (Friend of Sharon Bailey)	Bill Rhodes (Toni Herd's Uncle)	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 Herd's 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)	Stacey Harrell (Marcus Harrell's Dad)	Ann Robinson (Sharon Bailey's Mom)	Gaylord Huffman (Jennifer Daniel's Grandfather)

October Birthdays

- 2 - Suzanne Nichols
- 6 - Jessica Anderson
- 8 - Heath Fowler
- 9 - William Edwards
- 11 - Mason Chandler
- 12 - Stacy Norman
- 14 - Grant Smith
- 20 - Evan Pender
- 20 - Olivia Hillard
- 20 - Keith Bailey
- 21 - Scott Shields
- 22 - Chris Davis
- 22 - Hunter Crawford
- 22 - Meredith Bragwell
- 22 - Christopher White
- 24 - Sarabeth + Suzanna Roberts
- 25 - Josh Sutton
- 26 - Sara Sutton
- 26 - Palmer Daniels
- 26 - Mel Ambrose
- 28 - Anne Morton
- 29 - Matt Hall
- 29 - Belle Johnson
- 31 - Kitty Tam

News and Notes

- Let us remember Matthew Johnson, David Golden and Tim Morton in our prayers as they are deployed overseas.
- Dale Herd, Williams Herd's brother has suffered a major stroke.
- Tonight brother Rouse will have a question night. If you have a question please submit it before this afternoon.
- We are so thankful for our many visitors! Please take time to fill out a visitor's card!
- Audio CD's will be available after each service. Distribute these freely.

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)

Sin Doesn't Work

By Paul Earnhart



Thoughts to Ponder

Sin will take you further than you want to go. It will keep you longer than you want to stay. And it will cost you more than you want to pay.

"The punishment for sin is sin." My mind bridled a bit upon first seeing Augustine's words in print. They seemed to be suggesting that all of sin's consequences were limited to this - worldly inconveniences. What about judgment? What about hell? I remonstrated. But second thoughts on the matter have left me feeling that the words are more true than false. The punishment for sin is built-in. No arbitrary add-on penalties are needed to enhance the total disaster that sin by its very nature produces.

The consequences are built into the nature of the act when attempted in the kind of world we live in. The law of gravity and the nature of the human digestive system will exact their own penalty. The same is true for sin. Sin doesn't work. Not in this world. Not with this God.

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

There is a fundamental reality which most human beings have never faced - the universe we inhabit is spiritual. It is the handwork of the spiritual God (Jn. 4:24) and is governed in such a way as to always be in harmony with the great spiritual principle that emanate from the very nature of God Himself. The "world" that is at war with the Almighty (1 Jn. 2:15-17) is not the one which He created but a pseudo-world of dark values which has been imposed by Satan on the face of

truly spiritual cosmos. The real world is wholly resistant to evil because the universe that God made is in league with Him. As Deborah and Barak sang of the defeat of the Canaanite hosts led by Sisera: "From heaven fought the stars. From their courses they fought against Sisera" (Jdgs. 5:20). As for the righteous, they shall be "in league with the stones of the field; and the beast of the field shall be a peace with thee" (Job 5:23). To live as a carnally minded man in a spiritual world is a swim upstream, an endless and hopeless struggle

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against the grain of reality.

The sinner is a one-dimensional man in a three-dimensional universe. He will never fit in. C.S. Lewis once observed that trying to make a man run on sin was like trying to make a gasoline engine run on water. First of all, by its very nature it will not run on water; and secondly, if the effort to make it do so is continued long enough, it won't run on gasoline either.

I have said all this to make the point that the punishment for sin is not arbitrary, but is intrinsic to the nature of sin, the nature of God and the nature of the world. The punishment for jumping off a ten storey building or eating a pint of arsenic is not arbitrary either. The consequences are built into the nature of the act when attempted in the kind of world we live in. The law of gravity and the nature of the human digestive system will exact their own penalty. The same is true for sin. Sin doesn't work. Not in this world. Not with this God.

Sin and wickedness will not work with Jehovah because He is "of purer eyes than to behold evil" (**Hab. 1:13**) and cannot by His very nature have fellowship with sin (**1 Jn. 1:5,6**). The fact that a man's sins separate him from God (**Isa. 59:1,2**) rests not on divine whim but upon divine nature and the moral rule of the universe demand this alienation. The "law of sin and death" (**Gen. 2:17; Rom. 6:23**) functions out of this reality. The separation from God that sin brings results in spiritual death. No man can live apart from the source of life. Adam and Eve learned this to their dismay.

Sin will not work with man. The spiritual rebel is at war with his own nature. As Augustine noted in his well known address to God: "Thou has made us for Thyself and we are

restless until we rest in Thee." There is in every man created in the image of God a deep affinity for goodness and love. That should be no surprise to us. Like Paul, we "delight in the law of God after the inward man" (**Rom. 7:22**) but sin sets us to fighting against ourselves until we are left in wretchedness (**Rom. 7:23,24**). The transgression of Adam and Eve caused them to cower in fear before God had ever accused them (**Gen. 3:8**). Their flight was from an accusing voice within (**Prov. 28:1**) We all learn soon enough that our headlong retreat from God is also a futile effort to escape ourselves. If we continue on this escape routine it will eventuate in a kind of intellectual and moral suicide (**Rom. 1:21; 1 Tim. 4:2**).

Sin will not work with others. A man at war with God and with himself cannot be at peace with his fellows. The delight that Adam felt when first he saw his mate (**Gen. 2:23**) was turned to accusation and recrimination when sin entered the picture (**3:12**). Man's refusal to reverence God always leads to strife and injustice in his treatment of others (**Rom. 1:28-31**). The problems that plague all human relationships from families to international relations find their genesis not in poor technique but in sin. From the day that man declared his independence from God he has followed a crimson path of violence and inhumanity (**Gen. 4:8; 6:5,10**).

In his letter to Titus Paul looks back briefly at how things were before the kindness and love of God had intervened: "For we also once were foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another" (**3:3**). That is the kind of "success" we can expect our rebellion against God to bring us. It is remarkable that we ever thought we could win in a war against God, against our very own nature, and against the nature of the universe. It should have been seen as a hopeless venture on the face of it, with all the marks of inevitable



The Role of the Mother in the Home

By Irven Lee

The word mother was once considered to be a word with very great significance. As more women began using vulgar and blasphemous language, drinking alcohol, forsaking the home in search of money and notoriety, and becoming immodest and immoral, the special respect for women in general was lost.

The mother has a special place of responsibility in the home. Aged women are to teach "the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discrete, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed" (**Tit. 2:4, 5**). This one passage does a wonderful job of outlining the role of the mother in the home.

Let us think of that mature woman who still has a responsibility to her daughters even though they may also be homemakers. The training should have started early while the daughters were young, but the teaching may continue because there are many important lessons that need to be deeply implanted in these young women. One way the older women may teach the young is by their own example of chastity, modesty, and good judgment in clothing, and in behavior. If there were more mothers with strong convictions, there would be more daughters with strong characters.

Who will turn our immoral and unchaste generation back to purity and sobriety? It is very evident that comparatively few older women have been training the young women in the way they should go. Divorce, unfaithfulness to the marriage partner, drunkenness, and a complete lack of spirituality have come to many young women in America. Such people are in no position to be the mothers of the next generation. Many do not want children because they are so in love with money and with worldliness. Are there those who can get to these young women with the Bible to instill the principles their mothers should have taught them? It will not be easy. Most of the ungodly will continue to sow to the flesh and to reap of the same (**Gal. 6:7, 8**).

To "guide the house" as a "keeper at home" is a special assignment to young women (**1 Tim. 5:14**). Eunice and Lois must have done their work well at home because Timothy was given the "unfeigned faith" and knowledge of the Holy Scriptures that helped make him the great servant of the Lord that he was (**2 Tim. 1:5; 3:14, 15; Phil. 2:19-23**). Is there a more important and satisfying work than guiding and training such excellent people to

be the salt of the earth? The work of a good mother is so important that nothing should hinder or turn her aside from this glorious task.

It may seem to some that young mothers will naturally love their children, but very many young children are at home by themselves in summer. Some mothers forsake their husbands and children to live with companions to whom they have no legal right. The Lord knows that young women need to be taught to love their children, and to have a

proper discretion and soberness of mind to be guides for these children. Mothers and fathers are accountable to God for what they make of their homes. It would be impossible to over emphasize the importance of the role of the father and of the mother in the home. The failures that are made in this realm could hardly be more evident. Worthy and successful parents are blessed, and they deserve our congratulations.

Many children are now growing up in the homes where there is only one parent. In some cases they are with one parent a while and then with the other. It is next to impossible for a good man alone to give his children all they need in the way of guidance and training. If the mother still sleeps at home but is hardly with the child this is only one degree better than her being gone into another state. She who bears children should guide the house. Money cannot replace a mother's love, example, and companionship. Are there not many women in the labor market in the very period of life when they are so much needed at home?

The word mother was once considered to be a word with very great significance. As more women began using vulgar and blasphemous language, drinking alcohol, forsaking the home in search of money and notoriety, and becoming immodest and immoral, the special respect for women in general was lost. There are still some of the very best mothers, and their children love and honor them. We should all thank God for these virtuous women because it is the influence of His word that causes them to be so worthy of respect.

