

Principal's Comments 2009

INTRODUCTION -

* Good evening, I am Steven Reynolds and one of my primary responsibilities as Administrative Assistant at KCS is being the High School Principal.

* One of the other privileges I have is to teach a senior Bible class. Among many important things we learn in that class is that though **the price of salvation has been paid so it can be freely given to us**, the next step that is, **being faithfully obedient does have costs**.

* The administration and staff of KCS **have made choices that have cost them** in terms of economics and social prestige. Why? Because it is clear to us that God has commanded Christian parents to make sure their children receive a Christian education and He has called us to provide them that opportunity. Unfortunately, we observe that most church leaders and Christians are **oblivious** to or **completely ignore** this command of God, which has prompted us to make it one of our goals to get the message out.

* Thusly, whenever there is a large gathering of Christians such as is here tonight, I am compelled to at least try to take a few minutes to communicate the message so that parents have the opportunity to gain the conviction for educating their children as God commands.

Tonight, I'd like to convey this point by telling and explaining a short modern day parable:

PARABLE -

There was once a small Midwestern town with a problem in their police force. Their officers were dedicated but since they did not have a shooting range and training program, they found that their officers were not qualifying in terms of gun proficiency.

There was a privately owned gun range in town whose owner/trainer was an exceptionally good marksman (actually a champion). However, though they had never gotten a conviction, the police chief was quite sure the gun-range owner was the mastermind behind most of the crime in the community. The mayor had mandated that the police chief enroll his officers in an ongoing training course with this private facility as the most expedient way to solve the problem. Against his better judgment, the police chief complied.

*After a few years the program appeared successful. Every officer was qualifying and several had won state law-enforcement marksmanship competitions. However, another disturbing problem was showing up with increasing frequency. That problem was the need for more **internal police department investigations**. After a period of time, it was clear that the department was now riddled with corruption.*

What had happened? The officers had been directed to respect the authority of a man with a worldview counter to law enforcement and were subjected to many hours of his training. He was training them in worldview as well as the mechanics of marksmanship which resulted in the officers unwittingly accepting and applying that contrary worldview to the decisions they were making. The result, the attempt to improve a "particular" technical area had actually undermined the mission of the police department.

EXPLANATION -

This is an analogy of the problem of Christian parents being disobedient with respect to God directing them to educate their children from a Biblical perspective. Parents have the right to delegate this but not abdicate their responsibility. Unfortunately, Parents base their decision with respect to educating their children on everything except the God's clear directive (finances, extra-curricular opportunities, environment, particular programs that seem to match their child's bent/giftedness, accelerated education, etc.). But, in the process they are submitting their children to at least 6 hours a day of training to seek answers to the daily issues of life **everywhere except God and His word**. A few hours a week of teaching in church or at the dinner table cannot overcome this many hours a week of training (as well as teaching) to base their decisions on things other than God's principles. Additionally, the curriculum often *teaches that God and His ways are actually the enemy of the progress of society*. At the very least this results in marginally effective Christians because they compartmentalize their lives. They mentally segregate their "religious life" from the rest of their life. They may seek to have a relationship with God

and to evangelize, but they really are not bringing God glory in every area of their life and thus are presenting a mixed message to the world, greatly reducing their evangelistic effectiveness. At worst, by the time young people finish college they walk away from their faith because it has been completely undermined by people whose authority their parents and church leaders have told them the respect, as they were "educated".

Please understand that I am not saying that everyone involved in non-Christian education system is out to corrupt the morals of your children. **But, the “movers and shakers”** (the leadership and curriculum writers/choosers) in the field **are** effectively convincing your children there are no absolute truths and morals, only narratives and relative social morays and thusly undermining the essence of God and His Word.

People sometime try to **justify their decision** not to sacrifice for the cost of a Christian Education by contending that their children need to be able to exhibit their faith in the "real world" and they can't do that in the sheltered "bubble" of a Christian school. First, believe me not everyone in a Christian school will do what is right; children will have plenty of opportunities to make right decisions and evangelize their peers any environment. As a side note, it is interesting that Jesus knowingly kept a traitor and a thief in His personal “Christian School”. But, you don't send soldiers with incomplete training into the "hottest" battlefield (education is the battleground for world view). No wise military commander will subject his soldiers to leaders and courses that will teach them to be traitors.

Please consider this before you finalize where you will send your children to school next year. I realize that most of us (myself included) were educated by a system that studied the world in the darkness of humanism, modernism, post-modernism or whatever the worldview of the day was, rather than the light of God's Word, so it is *hard for us to understand how undermining it is* (and has been getting progressively worse since the early 1900's). We just can't even imagine how much more effectively we would be in fulfilling God's will had we all been "educated" in a truly Biblical world view. Let's give the next generation a chance to find out. Be careful that you do not find yourself telling God that you know better than He does what is best for your children. **He has made His position clear.** "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God (in educating your children) and all these things (programs, extra curricular opportunities, etc.) will be added to you. I challenge you to either home school or enroll you children in a Christian school with truly Biblically integrated curriculum and receive the blessing of God for your obedience.

With that being said, lets return to the occasion on hand, that of celebrating the graduation of students whose parents have provided their children with a Christian Education.

On behalf of the board, administration, staff and class of 2009, welcome to the 27th annual Kings Christian High School Commencement ceremonies.