

Bible as an Educator 2 of 4

#0784

Study Given by W. D. Frazee

Last week, we studied from Revelation, the 19th chapter, beginning with the 11th verse. I'd like turn to there again and go to another thought, the one found in verses 13 and 15:

“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations...”
Revelation 19:11–15.

His name, his sword—that is my subject this evening—the name of Jesus, the sword of Jesus. And this text says His name is called what? The Word of God. And what is that sword? What is that sword which proceeds from His mouth? Oh, that, too, is the Word of God. Ephesians, the 6th chapter, and the 17th verse:

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” Ephesians 6:17.

What an odd figure, my friends. Christ is pictured here as issuing from His lips:

“...a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations...”
Revelation 19:15.

And as words come to the lips, so the sword is pictured as issuing forth from His lips:

“...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”
Ephesians 6:17.

Notice, also, that His name is called the Word of God. Christ Himself *is* the Word of God. That is, He is the expression of God's thought, as our words are the expression of our own thoughts.

Thus, as we, when we think a thought, we seek to find expressions in words, so God, when he thought of love and peace toward us, sent His Son into the world as an expression of those thoughts:

“...his name is called The Word of God” Revelation 19:13.

In a special sense, friends, this book, the Bible, is Himself given to us, and in receiving it, we receive Him. He inspired every word in it, from Genesis to Revelation. He has also promised in this book for these latter days the Spirit of Prophecy, which is, according to the Bible, the testimony of whom? Of Jesus. The testimony of Jesus.

Are these writings that have come to us through revelation today? Are they really the testimony of Jesus Christ? Do you believe that? Then, here also, we are dealing with a sharp sword, a sharp sword.

And I'll tell you, dear friends, what that sword will do. It will do one of two things. That sword, as given to us in the Bible and in the Spirit of Prophecy, will either cut from us every sinful thing, every wicked habit, every iniquitous thought, every selfish desire, or else eventually we ourselves will be pierced with that sword and lie down in fire. We can have our choice, but there are only those two alternatives. That's all. The choice will reach every man. It will either prune us or we will perish by it. Oh, I want to have it work on me now. Don't you, friends?

“...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”
Ephesians 6:17.

A sharp sword. You know, friends, I'm glad it's sharp. If you were going to have some surgery done on you, wouldn't you want it done with a sharp knife? Yes. The sharper the better. It can be done more quickly, and as far as such, surgery *can* be, more painless—less painful. Wouldn't it? Yes.

And since it is this sword of the Spirit, newly edged with power, which is to operate under the Latter Rain and during the Loud Cry, oh, how we should seek to understand its as workmen and become proficient in its use.

I want to study with you a bit tonight, friend, about this sword and this name—the Word of God. I want to study with you about the Bible and its place in our educational work, in our medical work, in every phase of human experience. I'm persuaded, friends, that we have hardly begun to realize what God intended in regard to the place that this Book is to occupy.

I'm going to share with you a few thoughts tonight that I've been gleaning from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy in relation to this Book. I'm going to start in with the children. *Counsels to Teachers*, page 108, I read:

“The Bible should be the child's first textbook”
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 108.

Will you repeat that with me?

“The Bible should be the child’s first textbook”
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 108.

I see Brother Kingman nodding his head. He believes that, don’t you, brother?

And you know, as I was looking at that, I thought, “Now, isn’t that fine that God has been good enough to tell us that.” But, you know, there are some people that think they’re so scientific that would tell us that the child is not ready yet to read the Bible.

In the first place, there are too many big words there. In the second place, the content is not what the childish mind can appreciate and get hold of and feel at home with. But it isn’t just for the children. It’s for all of us. Do any of you have trouble with study and retaining things? Would you like to know what the matter is? I have the answer here in this same Book. Most of my quotations are from this wonderful Book tonight, *Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students*, but this is 441:

“A failure to study God’s word is the great cause of mental weakness and inefficiency”
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 441.

What’s the great cause of mental weakness? People don’t study the Bible. Why friends, the chaff that people are feeding on today will never make real strong minds. The mind becomes like the food it feeds upon. If we feed on the Bible, we can have strong minds, but if we feed on the stuff that is covered today in newspapers and magazines and radio and television, and in most of the textbooks that are current, we will have just what this says—mental weakness and inefficiency.

“A failure to study God’s word is the great cause of mental weakness and inefficiency. In turning from this Word to feed on the writings of uninspired men, the mind becomes dwarfed and cheapened”
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 441.

Now, lest somebody should think that what is said and is going to be said tonight is fanatical and narrow or extreme, I want to make very clear at the outset that I haven’t the slightest thought of advocating that there is to be no other textbook. I understand that there are to be textbooks in various kinds of instruction. In fact, I can read that to you from these books.

But that isn’t my subject tonight. My subject is the place of the Bible in education, and in medical work, and in all human experience. And my point is that the Bible is to be the *great* textbook, the *leading* textbook, and I’ll read a number of other wonderful, sweeping statements as to the place of the Bible, and as I said, I think that there is much more authority in this than we have yet begun to plan for.

On page 460, I read what will be the result of Bible study. This is beautiful:

“There is nothing more calculated to energize the mind and strengthen the intellect than the study of the Word of God”
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 460.

What’s the greatest thing that will strength the intellect? Study of the Bible.

“No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts, to give vigor to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible” *Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students*, page 460.

Now, listen:

“If God’s word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose that are rarely seen in these times”
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 460.

Would you like to get something to stabilize you and stabilize your experience? Oh, what an erratic, jumpy generation we are! But God is going to have some men and women and youth, some children, today that will be as firm as Joseph; as steady as Daniel; as true as John the Baptist, and they’re going to get it out of these books—the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. Yes, that’s where they’re going to get it because in receiving the Word of God, we are receiving the life of God Himself. In receiving the testimony of Jesus, we are receiving the very life of the Son of God.

Oh friends, what a privilege to be inspired with and through and by inspired reading. What a privilege! Do you want more inspiration? Well, you’ll get it from the writings of inspiration. It’s there. There’s nothing dead about these words. They’re living—wonderful life for us!

Now, on page 483, there’s a suggestion for the medical students:

“If medical students will study the word of God diligently, they will be far better prepared to understand their other studies; for enlightenment always comes from an earnest study of the Word of God. Nothing else will so help to give them a retentive memory as a study of the Scriptures”
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 483.

Now, I don’t know just how you would explain that scientifically, and I’m not concerned with the scientific explanation why memorizing certain combinations of words in *this* Book will strengthen the memory more than memorizing certain other collections of words in some other books. I suppose that could be argued.

But friends, I believe this because it says so, and I believe it because I observe it. I observe it. I watch it, and I thank the Lord that I know something about this in my own experience.

“Nothing else will so help to give them a retentive memory as a study of the Scriptures”

Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 483.

I thank the Lord for a good memory. I have God, first of all, to thank for that, and I have my parents because my parents drilled me in the scriptures. It's customary for a speaker to say, “You'll pardon a personal experience.” I'm trying to break myself and other people of that because the Spirit of Prophecy says to speak *often* of the precious chapters in your experience.

So, instead of asking to be pardoned for telling of our own experience, we should rejoice in it, and we find that other people usually enjoy hearing of our personal experiences. Don't they?

And so I just want to take a moment or two to tell you my experience. My father started in drilling me in the learning of scriptures when I was very small. By the time I was 10 years old, I had learned all the prophetic part of Daniel: Daniel 1, 2, and then 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and had either read or heard read to me the comments of Uriah Smith in Daniel and Revelation only.

And we went on into Revelation. I learned the entire book of Revelation by the time I was 12 years old. And meanwhile, during the time that I was about 10, 11, 12 years old, my brother was learning the book of Matthew. He was a little younger than I was.

And my father was quite ingenious. He would have my brother listen to me say Daniel and Revelation, and I had to listen to him say, Matthew. Of course, when I was repeating my chapters, he would sit there with the Bible and see whether I said it straight, and when he said his chapters, why then, I would sit and watch the Bible.

And do you know, friends, what I found? As the months went by, I heard my brother repeat so many times Matthew 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, that I learned them all without ever trying. Today, if I had just a little while to brush up, I could repeat any of those chapters, I think. I never tried to, but I just heard them so many times.

You know, that's the way you learn almost anything. People have said to me, “Oh, but Brother Frazee, I have such a poor memory. A poor memory. Why, I study, but I don't retain, and so it just discourages me from trying to learn anything in the Bible because I don't remember it.”

And then, I test them out a little. And I say, “Now, let's see if you have a poor memory or a good memory. Do you remember your name?”

“Oh,” they say, “well that's different. Sure, I know my name.”

No, it isn't different at all. The first time you heard your name, you didn't remember it. It didn't mean a thing to you, but you just heard it so many times that it made quite an impression then.

Do you know what that tool is that you pick up there by your plate? Do you know the name of that? Yes, you know that's a knife or a fork or a spoon, and you don't have to scratch your head and say, "Oh, let me see. I did learn that once, but it's wonderful what a poor memory I have. That's left me. If you'd prompt me and tell me the first letter, I think I can remember it." No, none of us have that trouble.

Now, there are a few people in the world that are afflicted with amnesia, but I don't think there's anybody like that here tonight. The truth of the matter is, dear friends, if we will accept what this says and go over and over and over the Word of God, meanwhile thinking and meditating on it, it will not only be retained in our mind, but it will expand our minds and enable us to retain far more.

And I thank the Lord, oh so much, for parents who kept after me—usually, with a child, it's necessary—parents who kept after me and insisted that I get that Word of God in my mind and heart.

And as I grew older, I came to choose for myself to study certain scriptures. I've had the privilege, since I've grown up, of learning most of the book of Hebrews. I think that's a wonderful book. I'm especially thrilled with chapters 8, 9 and 10, and I love to repeat those, verse after verse, chapter after chapter.

Several years ago, a group of young people that I was leading out with in San Francisco with Elder Tindall decided we'd learn the book of James, so we took anywhere from five to 10 verses a week, and pretty soon we were through the book of James. We committed to memory the whole book of James.

And, besides that, hundreds of other Bible texts on the second coming of Christ, the state of the dead, and the Sabbath, and so forth.

Now, I didn't know when I was learning those texts as a boy that I'd ever be a preacher and my parents didn't know it. The Lord was good to get those things in my mind. Do you think they came in handy when I started to preach? Yes. It's a great joy when one is preaching in the pulpit or ministering in the homes of the people to be able to turn to this text and that text or to repeat it from memory.

And all of you, dear friends, are invited by the One who wrote this Book, to fill the minds with the words of God, fill the mind with the words of God. Somehow as I thought of this little meeting tonight, there has come in my soul a holy ambition that we should be stirred up to learn far more of the Bible than many of us have ever imagined *could* be done or *should* be done.

Oh I desire, friends, that every one of you shall become a man of the Book, a woman of the Book, a child of the Book. This was the power of the life of Jesus and the life of John the Baptist, and it will be the power of those who finish this work.

I want to read you something over here in the book of Ecclesiastes, the 12th chapter.

[Inaudible Comments by Elder Tindall]

In my Bible classes at Loma Linda, that was one of our assignments. Elder Tindall was with Elder Owen in the early days, and then I came along about 15 years later, and Elder Owen, our Bible teacher, had us commit to memory texts literally by the scores—just scores of Bible texts, commit them to memory.

Ecclesiastes, the 12th chapter, and the 12th verse:

“And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man” Ecclesiastes 12:12–13.

There are several things about that text I wish you would notice. First of all, it was written by a man who was called the wisest man that ever lived, and he had studied into all the areas of human knowledge and human research, and he said at the last year, “Folks, it wears you out, it wears you out.”

Now, he had all the glory that goes with that, and people came from all around to hear him tell about all the things that he’d found. But he said most of them were just a lot of weariness. And the conclusion of the whole matter is this, find out what God says and do it.

There’s another interesting thing about this text I’d like to have you notice. When Solomon wrote these words, the only way to get these many books that he said there was no end to, was by copying them out one word at a time by hand. Well, what would he say today if he could come back and see the printing presses just pouring them forth by the *millions* of pages every day?

We tend to boast of all that as a proof of our civilization. Let me say to you, friends, that while there is certainly wisdom in many of those pages, the great danger of it all is that it shall eclipse the Light of the World. There is not time enough to read all the *good* books that are being written and published, let alone to waste time with the chaff and mediocre, and certainly, friends, no time for the filthy and the pagan and the infidel and the evolutionary things that the world is being filled with. There’s just no time to keep up with them all.

“And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man” Ecclesiastes 12:12.

I’m going to turn to something very interesting relating to the medical work right on this; a comment on what Solomon has written. *Counsels on Health*, page 369.

“The one book that is essential for all to study is the Bible”
Counsels on Health, page 369.

What's the one essential book? Who for? Everybody.

"Many of the books piled up in the great libraries of earth confuse the mind more than they aid the understanding. Yet men spend large sums of money in the purchase of such books and years in their study, when they have within their reach a Book containing the words of Him who is the Alpha and Omega of wisdom" *Ibid*.

What's the Alpha and Omega? It means the "A to Z" of the Greek alphabet. Here's the book that has the whole A to Z, friends!

"The time spent in a study of these books..." *Counsels on Health*, page 369.

That is, in these great libraries.

"...might better be spent in gaining a knowledge of Him whom to know aright is life eternal... Study the Bible more and the theories of the medical fraternity less, and you will have greater spiritual health. Your mind will be clearer and more vigorous... Those who take a medical training spend a great deal of time in learning that which is worthless... These things God has been opening before me for many years" *Counsels on Health*, page 369–370.

[Indistinguishable discussion]

Now, isn't this interesting, friends? Here side by side, were these two books. I'll let this illustrate some of these textbooks that are being spoken of in this letter, and here's the Bible. Here is the Book that God says will do something to the minds of those who study it. What is it? Why, it will expand the mind, develop the mind, and give them a more retentive memory.

Here's another book. God says there's much in that's rubbish and much that is actually an injury to the mind. Think of it. The same type used to print both books, same letters, many cases the same words, but oh friends, one is inspired, and the other is not inspired. There's a mystery there that we'd do well to ponder and that we'd do well to experience—the mystery of godliness; God manifest in the flesh.

Now comes a statement that I think is very interesting. After quoting Matthew 11:28, it says:

"When our medical missionary workers follow this prescription, gaining from the Saviour power to reveal His characteristics, their scientific work will have greater soundness" *Counsels on Health*, page 370.

Here's a way to get ahead in science. What is it? Study the Word of God. Now watch:

“Because the Word of God has been neglected, strange things have been done in the medical missionary work of late” *Counsels on Health*, page 370.

Now, that was probably written just about 50 years ago, but it may be very much up to date, friends.

“Because the Word of God has been neglected, strange things have been done in the medical missionary work of late. The Lord cannot accept the present showing” *Counsels on Health*, page 370.

I want to know, friends, will you meet God’s mind by learning more and more of worldly science and less and less of what the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy teach? And if, as some seem to feel, the writings of *Ministry of Healing* and *Counsels on Health* were all right for *that* time—in fact, they were wonderful for *that* time, but today, of course, medical science has gone far beyond that poor Ellen White lady.

Then what, then what? I do believe, friends, that it is still true that the entrance of God’s Word gives light. What do you say? Isn’t that wonderful? Page 371, same chapter.

“Those who place themselves under the instruction of the great Medical Missionary, to be workers together with Him, will have a knowledge that the world, with all its traditionary lore, cannot supply” *Counsels on Health*, page 371.

Isn’t that fine? Physicians, nurses, helpers, medical missionaries in every line, do you want to have a knowledge *beyond* anything that Yale or Harvard or any other place can give you. Not only yesterday were they divine, not only today are they divine, but they’ll also still be divine tomorrow.

“Ah,” but so many think, “Oh, that’s all right in theological things. That’s all right in religious things, but we’ve got to be scientific.” Certainly. Listen to what this says:

“Make the Bible the man of your counsel. Your acquaintance with it will grow rapidly if you keep your mind free from the rubbish of the world” *Counsels on Health*, page 371.

“Those who place themselves under the instruction of the great Medical Missionary, to be workers together with Him, will have a knowledge that the world, with all its traditionary lore, cannot supply” *Counsels on Health*, page 371.

And I read over here that:

“If medical students will study the Word of God diligently, they will be far better prepared to understand their other studies” *Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students*, page 483.

I can always remember an experience that one of our teachers at Loma Linda told us over 30 years ago when I was there. Dr. Alfred Rue was just a young doctor on the faculty at Loma Linda there, and he was telling us. He was teaching us a class in hygiene, but in that class, he took time to tell us his Christian experience.

He said, “The last year that I was in my medical course, I got sick, and I was out for some time.” And it’s a pretty serious thing to get behind in the medical course. Then he said, “When I was convalescing, the result of the sickness was such that I couldn’t use my eyes very much, and when I first began to use them, the doctor said that I could only use my eyes for reading one hour a day.”

“Now,” he said, “what should I do? I was behind with my lessons. I knew graduation was coming on with the final examinations and after that, state boards. What should I do?” And he said, “I agreed to study the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. Then, for the other 40 minutes, I’d dig into my medical books. Then I’d have to put them aside.”

Well, how’d he come out? Well, he told us how the dear Lord helped him. The Lord helped him to know what to study, and the Lord helped him to retain what he did study. And he said, “More than once, I had this experience.” He was getting better now and could go back to class, and he said, “I’d go into the little room off the classroom where we put our coats and our books before we went in to write an examination, and as I was putting down my books the thought would come to me, ‘Have you looked up so and so?’ No. You’d better look that up.”

“And so, standing there where I put my books away, I’d look that up, refresh my mind with it, put my books down, go on in the room, and there the question would be on the blackboard—the very question that I’d been looking up and refreshing my mind with.”

He came on through his medical course, graduated all right, went on to state boards, and saw the blessing of the Lord in getting him through that. And I guess most of the time since that time, he’s been on the faculty of our College of Medical Evangelists, helping to train other young people.

Well as a boy, that experience made a great impression on me, friends. I bring it back to you tonight from over 30 years ago. There is something about the Bible that does something for the mind, and God wants you to have it. God wants you to have it.

Now, I read something here about the Bible being a child’s first textbook. What is a textbook anyway? Well, that’s a book you study as a text. You know, if you go to school and you have a class, you say, “What’s the textbook?” I want you to know something. How many courses did you ever take in which the Bible was the textbook?

Our great difficulty is we have so many books *about* the Bible that the Bible gets precious little use as the Book itself. I've heard of a young man in a theological seminary—not a Seventh-day Adventist seminary, of course—but he went clear through the theological course and graduated as a minister and never even owned a Bible. He didn't need one. In many of his courses, there were texts in every subject, and he studied those. He didn't need the Bible. Oh, I suppose he probably looked up some things in the library in a Bible sometimes.

What is the Bible to you, a textbook or a reference book? Is it something like the dictionary that you look up things in, or is it the textbook—*the* thing that you're studying day by day, week by week, month by month—the Bible, with the divine commentary, the Spirit of Prophecy.

I must tell you another experience that I heard over 30 years ago when I was there at Loma Linda. Elder G. B. Starr, one of the old pioneer workers that used to work with Sister White, spent several years with her in Australia, was talking to our class one day there in the old faculty room at Loma Linda.

He told us about this experience. He said, "You know, when I was in Australia, working there as a minister (my wife and I with Sister White), Sister White was writing *Desire of Ages*. While we were there, *Desire of Ages* was finished and came out, and I bought a copy."

"Well," he said, "you know, as I began to read that *Desire of Ages* on the life of Christ, it made a wonderful impression on my mind." And he said, "Finally, I went to my library, and I got out Thayer's Life of Christ, and two or three other books on the life of Christ that I had, and I took them down to the second-hand bookstore and sold them. I had this *Desire of Ages*."

And he said, "I came back, and I told Sister White what I had done." And he said, "Do you know what Sister White told me? She said, 'Brother Starr, as we draw near the end, Seventh-day Adventists will become more and more people of one book, the Bible, with the divine commentary that God has given.'" I like that. Don't you? Seventh-day Adventists will become more and more people of one Book—the Bible, with the divine commentary that God has given.

But you know, friends, it's hard for the human mind to comprehend it when we're so used to other things. I'll illustrate it this way. Some of you have had the experience of your friends finding out that you didn't eat any meat or didn't drink any coffee or tea or coca-cola, and so on with a long list, you know, of things that you don't eat and don't drink.

And then, what do they say? "Well, what do you eat, anyway? What do you eat, anyway?" They do not realize what a wonderful menu there is in the divinely given food program. Is that right? Plenty. Plenty to keep us nourished and to keep us happy. In fact, better nutrition and more satisfaction than in that other program. Is that correct?

Now I want to know, friends, do you think that there will be enough in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy to keep a student busy for, say, four years? I'll just ask it that way. Do you think that if you were going to school for four years, it would be a good thing to have one class a week in Bible study? At least that, wouldn't it? And would it be a good thing to have once in the four years a class in the Spirit of Prophecy anyway? Or, would there be such a thing as actually making the Bible the great textbook. Supplement it with some scientific things for certain subjects that need it, but really seriously get down to the business of making the Bible the great textbook in everything.

Now, with those questions, I want to read just a few statements. All the statements I read for the next few minutes are from this little book, *Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students*, and I will go through them quickly.

Page 13:

"This Word is to be the chief study in our schools"
Counsels to Teachers, Parents and Students, page 13.

What's to be the chief study? His Word. All right.

Page 16:

"The Bible should not be brought into our schools to be sandwiched between infidelity" *Ibid.*, page 16.

Now, how do you make a sandwich? Well, you know how you make a sandwich. Suppose that these two are infidel books—they're not, but suppose they were. Now, we're going to make a sandwich. Here's an infidel textbook. You know what an infidel is. And most of the textbooks that are being written today are being written by infidels, friends. Don't forget it. If anybody doubts that, all they need to do is just read a few pages, properly selected. All right.

Here, we'll say then, is an infidel textbook, but we put the Bible in, and then we bring along another infidel textbook. Now, what do we have? We have a sandwich. Now you eat that, friends, and that's what thousands of poor souls are doing. No wonder they're getting dejected. No wonder they become confused. This says:

"The Bible should not be brought into our schools to be sandwiched between infidelity" *Ibid.*

God help us, friends. It does not sanctify the sandwich to have the Bible in the middle—not a minute of it. It doesn't sanctify it at all. God forbid this mingling of the holy and the profane; the devils and the divine.

"The Bible should not be brought into our schools to be sandwiched between infidelity. God's word must be made the groundwork and subject matter of education" *Ibid.*, 16.

Page 52:

“As an educator, the Holy Scriptures are without a rival”
Ibid., page 52.

Page 428:

“As an educating power the Bible is of more value than the writings of all the philosophers of all ages” *Ibid.*, page 428.

What do you think of that? And these statements are talking about the Bible, not as a theological textbook. No, no!. As a general education textbook.

Then, notice this statement here, page 422:

“There is no social position, no phase of human experience, for which the study of the Bible is not an essential preparation... Its teachings have a vital bearing upon our prosperity in all the relations of life. Even in our temporal affairs it will be a wiser guide than any other counselor”
Ibid., 422.

If a man wants to take a business course, should the Bible be the great textbook in business school? It would be worthwhile to sit down and study out with a concordance, with the help of that chapter in the book *Education* on the Bible and business matters, everything in the Bible that bears on business. It would save a lot of business failures, friends.

If a man is going to study agriculture, would it be a good thing for the Bible to be a textbook—not merely a reference book, but a textbook? And so, with everything that we need to study, it’s all right to have some reference books for certain things. I’m not questioning that. I’m talking about making the Bible the what? The great textbook, the groundwork, the subject matter, of education.

In *Counsels to Teachers*, 455 and 456 and seven, we are given some specific chapters that especially should be brought into our schools for study. It mentions the 45th of Isaiah, on 455. On 457, it mentions the 27th Psalm, the 28th, 29th, 78th, 81st, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd and 93rd Psalms. Then, it says:

“These things were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come; and should they not be studied in our schools?” *Ibid.*, page 457.

Every one of those chapters in Psalms is to be *studied*. So I want to ask something. Have the courses that you’ve taken even included the rudiments of the Bible, let alone the study of it? Do you see what I mean that right here in this little school right where we’re sitting tonight, we need to go farther than we’ve gone in using the Bible as the great textbook? Do you see what I’m getting at?

I'm not trying tonight to just cause us to be critical of other institutions or other things. I'm trying to get us to see that right here, there's a glorious opportunity for us, far beyond what we've yet envisioned, of becoming people of the Book studying the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. I want to do it, and with it, this wonderful commentary of the Spirit of Prophecy.

On page 458 is a most interesting dream or vision that was given to the servant of the Lord:

"In a night vision... I was in an assembly where our school problems were being discussed, and the question was asked, 'Why has not... the word of God been extolled above every human production? Have you thought that a better knowledge of what the Lord hath said would have a deleterious effect on teachers and students?' There was a hush in the assembly, and conviction came to students and teachers" *Ibid.*, 458.

Now listen. Watch carefully and get the picture:

"The Speaker..."

With a capital S. It's Jesus talking. This is the testimony of Jesus.

"The Speaker then took from the hands of the teachers books which they had been making their study..." *Ibid.*, page 458.

Where were those books? In the rooms of the teachers, and Jesus took those books out of their hands:

"...some of which had been written by infidel authors and contained infidel sentiments, and laid them on the floor..." *Ibid.*, page 458.

Who put them on the floor? Jesus put them on the floor.

"Then He placed the Bible in their hands, saying, 'You have little knowledge of this Book...' " *Ibid.*, page 458.

Ah friends, I must confess to you that I feel I need to study this Book. I've been studying it for over 40 years, but tonight, oh, I wish that I could take hundreds of hours that I've devoted to other reading in the past, and in its place put the reading of and the study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

Understand me aright. I don't want to say anything extreme or silly. If I had my life to live over again, I'd study some things out of a physiology book and out of a chemistry book and some other things. But I'll repeat what I said. If I could friends, I'd take hundreds of hours that I've devoted to other reading and study, and I would focus it upon the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

And tonight, I choose to rededicate my life anew to the study of the Word of God. And do you know what I find, friends? The more I read it, the more I want to read it. The more I study these books, the more I want to study them.

And somehow, this very evening, as I was going over in preparation for this study some of the things that I've read to you tonight, my soul just went out to God, and I said, "Dear Lord, isn't it beautiful. Oh, I thank Thee for these wonderful things!" And that's the way I feel, friends, that's the way I feel.

Man's books with worthless chaff are stored,
God's words, the priceless wealth affords.
Then leave the chaff and spend your pains,
In gathering up the golden grains.
Yea, were the sun one chrysolite,
The earth a golden ball,
And diamonds all the stars of night,
This book were worth them all.
—*Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, April 21, 1863

Thank God it's so, friends! Happy is the man

"Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding" Proverbs 3:13.

And here it is. David said:

"I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation" Psalm 119:99.

And remember, all of this is the expression of the thoughts of God. It is the transmission of the life of Christ.

"...his name is called The Word of God" Revelation 19:13.

The Spirit of Prophecy is the testimony of Jesus. The scriptures are the mind of God given to us and the very life of God communicated to us, and He has said:

"...Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you" John 6:53.

Here is life, the very life of Christ, given to us through His word.

I wish we could hear tonight in quick succession, under the influence of the Spirit of God, many testimonies as to what the word and the testimonies have meant to you and what you are determined to do for the future.

Let us not lose very many precious moments in lamenting what we have *not* done, friends. Let us, rather, rejoice in what blessings have already come to us through these channels and rejoice in the bright prospects of a future that we still

have for a life ahead in which to fill the whole soul with the words of God. The time is yours.

[Testimony meetingmcut our of the recording]

[Singing]

Sing them over again to me, Wonderful words of life,
Let me more of their beauty see, Wonderful words of life.
Words of life and beauty, Teach me faith and duty,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, Wonderful words of life,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, Wonderful words of life.

Christ, the blessed One, gives to all, Wonderful words of life.
Sinner, list to the loving call, Wonderful words of life,
All so freely given, Wooing us to heaven,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, Wonderful words of life,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, Wonderful words of life.

Sweetly echo the Gospel call, Wonderful words of life,
Offer pardon and peace to all, Wonderful words of life.
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, Wonderful words of life,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, Wonderful words of life.
—Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal, hymn #286

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W. D. Frazee Sermons
435 Lifestyle Lane, Wildwood, GA 30757
1-800-WDF-1840 / 706-820-9755
www.WDFsermons.org
support@WDFsermons.org