

WITNESSING THE GOSPEL OF PARENTAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Does our Protestant Christian School constituency have a duty and responsibility to Christian parents in other denominations? As a help to them should we acquaint them with our beliefs and practice in the establishment and maintenance of our own Christian day schools?

It is understood that some measure of this proposed activity is carried on now through pamphlets and books and by way of *Perspective* articles. Should not this work be expanded? Since our Covenant God has blessed us to such a great degree in our Christian Covenant Schools, should we not have inclination and desire enough to put forth greater effort to show our gratitude to our God by seeking further development and growth in this endeavor?

There are questions to be asked in view of such proposed venture. What school organization should initiate such a program? Should our school boards' association take on such a project? Should the Protestant Reformed Teachers' Institute? Or should a new committee or group be established to carry on this undertaking?

God has given us the conviction of truth that parents have the responsibility to provide covenant instruction in parental schools. It is not the duty and function of government to take over this authority and then finance and operate public schools.

Would not our knowledge and vision from the Holy Scriptures be an effective witness to parents that need instruction, courage and vision as we have received this gift from our God?

Should not the glorious truth we have of Jehovah God, our Covenant-making and keeping God, be an incentive for greater witnessing in the sphere of education? Does not his doctrine excite, enthuse, and inspire us to present this Gospel to others that do not have it?

Should not our experience and practice in the domain of parental schools be of great benefit to more Christian parents? Even, we ourselves have only begun to merely scratch the surface of the knowledge of God's indescribable and unmerited favor of God upon us. God has made the most excellent, that of greatest worth and value when He made the promise of His covenant to be a God unto all believers and all their children. This means that He will be the God of salvation to

believing parents and their children also in the instruction of their children.

God promises to help parents to provide covenant education to their children in the home and in their parental schools. This is God's word in the promise, I will be a God unto you and to your children. Through the financial and physical needs of school facilities, God will make His promise come true. He will give parents the will, enthusiasm and incomes sufficient to fulfill this obedience which God Himself says is necessary. How can we ever lose, Dear Father God. Thou hast spoken. We humbly and sincerely believe Thee for Thou art the God of Truth.

It is thrilling to hear from parents who have not too large incomes who pay tuition costs of over \$6,000.00 for their children in Covenant schools. They are not only willing to do it but they find great joy in doing it, for they give to God the glory and praise for it all.

There is no greater joy that can ever be experienced in heaven and in earth than to give all glory and majesty, dominion, power to the only wise God our Savior! The Scriptures call it exceeding joy (Jude 24-25). This joy we desire for other Christian parents to have also. Psalm 85: 7, 6 — "Shew us Thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us Thy salvation. Wilt Thou not revive us again: that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?"

So we ask again, do we need more activity in the instruction of other parents concerning their duty and responsibility of parental Christian schools? The matter of publishing Covenant Christian instruction books and distribution of same would have to be faced.

In what way could our witness be diffused? Could articles be sent to religious publications? If this attempt would not be successful, could advertising space be bought in appropriate journals and newspapers? To what extent would offers of help be indicated? Should speakers be provided upon request?

The matter of financing some of these activities would need attention. Have not our people always responded favorably when any need is presented to them. To be used of God to bring about the blessing of covenant schools to more parents surely is incentive and motive enough.

Harold Tilma

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"Under any government the Christian principle is plain: Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's. Children do not belong to Caesar."

*A Christian Philosophy of Education, p. 195
Gordon H. Clark*