

~EDUCATION (1181)

- In Patriarchal Society
- Education Under The Law Before The Exile
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- Education In The First Century C.E.
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• The imparting or acquisition of knowledge and skill. Education is accomplished through,

- Explanation and repetition.
- Discipline, training administered in love.

- The fear of Yehowah is the beginning of knowledge. Wisdom and discipline are what mere fools have despised. (**Proverbs 1:7**)

- But you have entirely forgotten the exhortation which addresses you as sons; My son, do not belittle the discipline from Yehowah, neither give out when you are corrected by him. (**Hebrews 12:5**)

- For whom Yehowah loves he disciplines, in fact, he scourges every one whom he receives as a son. (**Hebrews 12:6**)

- Personal observation.

- The heavens are declaring the glory of God, and of the work of his hands the expanse is telling. (**Psalms 19:1**)

- One day after another day causes speech to bubble forth, and one night after another night shows forth knowledge. (**Psalms 19:2**)

- There is no speech, and there are no words, no voice on their part is being heard. (**Psalms 19:3**)

- I, the congregator, happened to be king over Israel in Jerusalem. (**Ecclesiastes 1:12**)

- And I set my heart to seek and explore wisdom in relation to everything that has been done under the heavens, the calamitous occupation that God has given to the sons of mankind in which to be occupied. (**Ecclesiastes 1:13**)

- **I saw all the works that were done under the sun, and, look! Everything was vanity and a striving after wind. (Ecclesiastes 1:14)**
- **Reproof and rebuke.**
- **Should the righteous one strike me, it would be a loving-kindness, and should he reprove me, it would be oil upon the head, which my head would not want to refuse. For still there would be even my prayer during their calamities. (Psalms 141:5)**
- **Do not reprove a ridiculer, that he may not hate you. Give a reproof to a wise person and he will love you. (Proverbs 9:8)**
- **A rebuke works deeper in one having understanding than striking a stupid one a hundred times. (Proverbs 17:10)**
- **Yehowah God is the great Educator and Instructor, of whom there is no equal.**
- **Look! God himself acts exaltedly with his power, who is an instructor like him? (Job 36:22)**
- **O God, you have taught me from my youth on, and until now I keep telling about your wonderful works. (Psalms 71:17)**
- **And Yehowah will certainly give you people bread in the form of distress and water in the form of oppression, yet your Grand Instructor will no longer hide himself, and your eyes must become eyes seeing your Grand Instructor. (Isaiah 30:20)**
- **God's earthly son Adam was created with the ability to speak a language.**
- **Now Yehowah God was forming from the ground every wild beast of the field and every flying creature of the heavens, and he began bringing them to the man to see what he would call each one, and whatever the man would call it, each living soul, that was its name. (Genesis 2:19)**
- **So the man was calling the names of all the domestic animals and of the flying creatures of the heavens and of every wild beast of the field, but for man there was found no helper as a**

complement of him. (**Genesis 2:20**)

- Then the man said; This is at last bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. This one will be called Woman, because from man this one was taken. (**Genesis 2:23**)
- He received instruction about creation, (**Genesis Chapters 1,2**) and God's requirements for him.
- Further, God blessed them and God said to them; Be fruitful and become many and fill the earth and subdue it, and have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and every living creature that is moving upon the earth. (**Genesis 1:28**)
- And God went on to say; Here I have given to you all vegetation bearing seed which is on the surface of the whole earth and every tree on which there is the fruit of a tree bearing seed. To you let it serve as food. (**Genesis 1:29**)
- And to every wild beast of the earth and to every flying creature of the heavens and to everything moving upon the earth in which there is life as a soul I have given all green vegetation for food. And it came to be so. (**Genesis 1:30**)
- And Yehowah God proceeded to take the man and settle him in the garden of Eden to cultivate it and to take care of it. (**Genesis 2:15**)
- And Yehowah God also laid this command upon the man; From every tree of the garden you may eat to satisfaction. (**Genesis 2:16**)
- But as for the tree of the knowledge of good and bad you must not eat from it, for in the day you eat from it you will positively die. (**Genesis 2:17**)

.. In Patriarchal Society

- Throughout the entire Bible the family is the basic unit for imparting **education**. In earliest society the father was the head of the family and of the household, which might even be a large community, such as that of Abraham. The **family head** was responsible for the **education** of his household.

- **For I have become acquainted with him in order, that he may command his sons and his household after him so that they shall keep Yehowah's way to do righteousness and judgment, in order, that Yehowah may certainly bring upon Abraham what he has spoken about him. (Genesis 18:19)**
- **The good training manifested by Joseph indicates that Isaac and Jacob followed their father Abraham in teaching their children.**
- **And Joseph kept finding favor in his eyes and waited upon him continually, so that he appointed him over his house, and all that was his he gave into his hand. (Genesis 39:4)**
- **Finally he left everything that was his in Joseph's hand, and he did not know what was with him at all except the bread he was eating. Moreover, Joseph grew to be beautiful in form and beautiful in appearance. (Genesis 39:6)**
- **So the chief officer of the prison house gave over into Joseph's hand all the prisoners who were in the prison house, and everything that they were doing there he proved to be the one having it done. (Genesis 39:22)**
- **You will personally be over my house, and all my people will obey you implicitly. Only as to the throne shall I be greater than you. (Genesis 41:40)**
- **And Pharaoh added to Joseph; See, I do place you over all the land of Egypt. (Genesis 41:41)**
- **Job of the land of Uz, a distant relative of Abraham, displayed acquaintance with the scientific understanding and industrial developments of his day, and he was given a lesson in natural history by Yehowah. (Job Chapters 28,38-41)**
- **And Job proceeded to answer and say; (Job 9:1)**
- **Making the Ash constellation, the Kesil constellation, and the Kimah constellation and the interior rooms of the South. (Job 9:9)**
- **At the same time there was considerable knowledge in Egypt of astronomy, mathematics, geometry, architecture, construction, and**

other arts and sciences. Moses, besides getting an **education** in the worship of Yehowah from his mother

- Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter; Shall I go and specially call for you a nursing woman from the Hebrew women that she may nurse the child for you? (**Exodus 2:7**)
- So Pharaoh's daughter said to her; Go! At once the maiden went and called the child's mother. (**Exodus 2:8**)
- Pharaoh's daughter then said to her; Take this child with you and nurse him for me, and I myself shall give you your wages. Accordingly the woman took the child and nursed him. (**Exodus 2:9**)
- And the child grew up. Then she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, so that he became a son to her, and she proceeded to call his name Moses and to say; It is because I have drawn him out of the water. (**Exodus 2:10**)
- Was **instructed** in **all the wisdom of the Egyptians**. In fact, he was powerful in his words and deeds.
- Consequently Moses was **instructed in all the wisdom** of the Egyptians. In fact, he was powerful in his words and deeds. (**Acts of Apostles 7:22**)
- The Israelites, though they had been slaves in Egypt, were able to **read and write and to teach their children**. Just before entering the Promised Land, they were **instructed** to write the commands of God upon the doorposts of their houses and on their gates, figuratively so, and they were to teach their children God's Law. This was, of course, in the Hebrew language.
- And these words that I am commanding you today must prove to be on your heart. (**Deuteronomy 6:6**)
- And you must **inculcate** them in your son and speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road and when you lie down and when you get up. (**Deuteronomy 6:7**)
- And you must tie them as a sign upon your hand, and they must serve as a frontlet band between your eyes. (**Deuteronomy 6:8**)

- And you must **write them upon the doorposts** of your house and on your gates. (**Deuteronomy 6:9**)
- And you must write upon them all the words of this Law when you have crossed, in order, that you may enter into the land that Yehowah your God is giving you, a land flowing with milk and honey, according to what Yehowah the God of your forefathers has spoken to you. (**Deuteronomy 27:3**)
- Then he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the Law of Moses that he had written before the sons of Israel. (**Joshua 8:32**)

•• Education Under The Law Before The Exile

- **Parents** were still the **primary educators**, responsible for the **instruction** of their children.
- And it must occur that when your sons say to you; What does this service mean to you? (**Exodus 12:26**)
- Then you must say; It is the sacrifice of the Passover to Yehowah, who passed over the houses of the sons of Israel in Egypt when he plagued the Egyptians, but he delivered our houses. Then the people bowed low and prostrated themselves. (**Exodus 12:27**)
- Only watch out for yourself and take good care of your soul, that you may not forget the things that your eyes have seen and that they may not depart from your heart all the days of your life, and you must make them known to your sons and to your grandsons. (**Deuteronomy 4:9**)
- And you must inculcate them in your son and speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road and when you lie down and when you get up. (**Deuteronomy 6:7**)
- In case your son should ask you in a future day, saying; What do the testimonies and the regulations and the judicial decisions mean that Yehowah our God has commanded you? (**Deuteronomy 6:20**)
- Then you must say to your son; We became slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, but Yehowah proceeded to bring us out of Egypt with a strong hand. (**Deuteronomy 6:21**)

- You must also teach them to your sons, so as to speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road and when you lie down and when you get up. (**Deuteronomy 11:19**)
- And you must write them upon the doorposts of your house and on your gates. (**Deuteronomy 11:20**)
- In order, that your days and the days of your sons may be many on the soil that Yehowah swore to your forefathers to give to them, as the days of the heavens over the earth. (**Deuteronomy 11:21**)
- The **spiritual, moral, and mental education** from childhood up was regarded by the Jews from the very beginning of their history as one of the **principal duties of parents**. Samson's father, Manoah, prayed for guidance in the manner in which his son should be trained.
- And Manoah began to entreat Yehowah and say; Excuse me, Yehowah. The man of the true God that you just sent, let him, please, come again to us and **instruct** us as to what we ought to do to the child that will be born. (**Judges 13:8**)
- The father was the **chief instructor**, but the **mother also taught**, especially encouraging the child to **follow the fathers instruction and discipline**.
- Listen, my son, to the discipline of your father, and do not forsake the Law of your mother. (**Proverbs 1:8**)
- Listen, O sons, to the discipline of a father and pay attention, so as to know understanding. (**Proverbs 4:1**)
- Her mouth she has opened in wisdom, and the Law of loving-kindness is upon her tongue. (**Proverbs 31:26**)
- She is watching over the goings-on of her household, and the bread of laziness she does not eat. (**Proverbs 31:27**)
- The parents realized that right training in youth would safeguard right conduct in later years.
- Train up a boy according to the way for him, even when he grows old he will not turn aside from it. (**Proverbs 22:6**)

- **The children were to regard their parents with the greatest respect. The rod of parental authority was firmly exercised.**
- **Foolishness is tied up with the heart of a boy, the rod of discipline is what will remove it far from him. (Proverbs 22:15)**
- **It was to be used in love, but discipline was severe for the disobedient child, the rod at times being literal.**
- **The one holding back his rod is hating his son, but the one loving him is he that does look for him with discipline. (Proverbs 13:24)**
- **Do not hold back discipline from the mere boy. In case you beat him with the rod, he will not die. (Proverbs 23:13)**
- **With the rod you yourself should beat him, that you may deliver his very soul from Sheol itself. (Proverbs 23:14)**
- **A child who cursed or struck his parents could be put to death.**
- **In case there should be any man who calls down evil upon his father and his mother, he should be put to death without fail. It is his father and his mother upon whom he has called down evil. His own blood is upon him. (Leviticus 20:9)**
- **And one who strikes his father and his mother is to be put to death without fail. (Exodus 21:15)**
- **An incurably rebellious older son was to be stoned.**
- **In case a man happens to have a son who is stubborn and rebellious, he not listening to the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and they have corrected him but he will not listen to them. (Deuteronomy 21:18)**
- **His father and his mother must also take hold of him and bring him out to the older men of his city and to the gate of his place. (Deuteronomy 21:19)**
- **And they must say to the older men of his city, This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious, he is not listening to our voice, being a glutton and a drunkard. (Deuteronomy 21:20)**

- Then all the men of his city must pelt him with stones, and he must die. So you must clear away what is bad from your midst, and all Israel will hear and indeed become afraid. (**Deuteronomy 21:21**)
- In fact, the first commandment with a promise was the fifth of the Ten Commandments.
- Honor your father and your mother, just as Yehowah your God has commanded you, in order, that your days may prove long and it may go well with you on the ground that Yehowah your God is giving you. (**Deuteronomy 5:16**)
- Honor your father and your mother, which is the first command with a promise. (**Ephesians 6:2**)
- That it may go well with you and you may endure a long time on the earth. (**Ephesians 6:3**)
- The **education** given by parents was to be regular and constant, at home, at work, or when traveling, and it was to be not only verbal and disciplinary but also by example, for God's Law was to direct parents in all their activities of life.
- Going to the festivals at Jerusalem three times a year provided education in geography, and at the same time it acquainted the child with his countrymen from all over the land of Israel.
- Three times in the year every male of yours should appear before Yehowah your God in the place that he will choose, in the festival of the unfermented cakes and in the festival of weeks and in the festival of booths, and none should appear before Yehowah empty-handed. (**Deuteronomy 16:16**)
- Along with the religious **education** would come **education** for the young men in **following their fathers secular occupation or learning a trade**. Bezalel and Oholiab, expert craftsmen, were qualified by God's spirit to teach others during construction of the tabernacle in the wilderness.
- And he has put it into his heart **that he should teach**, he and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. (**Exodus 35:34**)

- The young women in a household would learn the wifely duties, and these prospective wives were trained to have great respect for their husbands, as Sarah had given the example.
- Hence Sarah began to laugh inside herself, saying; After I am worn out, shall I really have pleasure, my lord being old besides? (**Genesis 18:12**)
- For so, too, formerly the holy women who were hoping in God used to adorn themselves, subjecting themselves to their own husbands. (**1 Peter 3:5**)
- As Sarah used to obey Abraham, calling him lord. And you have become her children, provided you keep on doing good and not fearing any cause for terror. (**1 Peter 3:6**)
- The good wife had many abilities, accomplishments, and responsibilities, as described in (**Proverbs Chapter 31**).
- It appears that both boys and girls received training in music. There were female musicians and singers.
- Finally Jephthah came to Mizpah to his home, and, look! his daughter coming out to meet him with tambourine playing and dancing! Now she was absolutely the only child. Besides her he had neither son nor daughter. (**Judges 11:34**)
- Among the Levite males there were composers of songs and poetry, musicians, and singers. [**Psalms 87:Sup**][**Psalms 88:Sup**] (**1 Chronicles Chapter 25**)
- God also set aside the entire tribe of Levi as a religious **educational** body. The priesthood was inaugurated in **1512 B.C.E.** One of its chief functions was the **education** of the **people in God's law**. Moses the Levite as **mediator** was, of course, **an instructor** of the people in the Law of God
- In the event that they have a case arise, it must come to me and I must judge between the one party and the other, and I must make known the decisions of the true God and his laws. (**Exodus 18:16**)
- And you must **warn them of what the regulations and the laws are**, and you must make known to them the way in which they

- should walk and the work that they should do. (**Exodus 18:20**)
- Yehowah now said to Moses; Come up to me in the mountain and stay there, as I want to give you the stone tablets and the Law and the commandment that I must write in order to teach them. (**Exodus 24:12**)
 - And the priests, together with the non-priestly Levites, were **charged with the responsibility of seeing that the people understood all the regulations** spoken by Yehowah through Moses.
 - And in order to **teach the sons of Israel all the regulations** that Yehowah has spoken to them by means of Moses. (**Leviticus 10:11**)
 - In order to give **instructions** when something is unclean and when something is clean. This is the Law about leprosy. (**Leviticus 14:57**)
 - Then you must do in accordance with the word that they will hand down to you from that place which Yehowah will choose, and you must be careful to do according to all that they **instruct** you. (**Deuteronomy 17:10**)
 - In accordance with the Law that they will point out to you, and according to the judicial decision that they will say to you, you should do. You must not turn aside from the word that they will hand down to you, to the right or to the left. (**Deuteronomy 17:11**)
 - And many were the days that Israel had been without a true God and **without a priest teaching and without Law**. (**2 Chronicles 15:3**)
 - And he went on to say to the Levites, the **instructors** of all Israel, those holy to Yehowah; Put the holy Ark in the house that Solomon the son of David the king of Israel built, it is not yours as a burden upon the shoulder. Now serve Yehowah your God and his people Israel. (**2 Chronicles 35:3**)
 - The Levites were to **read the Law to the people**. This was done publicly for all the people at the time of the Festival of Booths in the Sabbath year, and here there was no segregation according to age or sex, but all the people, old and young, including the alien resident

within the gates and all who could understand, would be gathered together to hear the reading.

- Then Moses wrote this Law and gave it to the priests the sons of Levi, the carriers of the ark of Yehowah's covenant, and to all the older men of Israel. (**Deuteronomy 31:9**)
- And Moses went on to command them, saying; At the end of every seven years, in the appointed time of the year of the release, in the festival of booths. (**Deuteronomy 31:10**)
- When all Israel comes to see the face of Yehowah your God in the place that he will choose, you will read this Law in front of all Israel in their hearing. (**Deuteronomy 31:11**)
- Congregate the people, the men and the women and the little ones and your alien resident who is within your gates, in order, that they may listen and in order, that they may learn, as they must fear Yehowah your God and take care to carry out all the words of this Law. (**Deuteronomy 31:12**)
- And their sons who have not known should listen, and they must learn to fear Yehowah your God all the days that you are living upon the soil to which you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of it. (**Deuteronomy 31:13**)
- King Jehoshaphat, in the third year of his reign, instituted a teaching campaign in Judah, sending the princes, priests, and Levites in a circuit throughout Judah to instruct the people in God's law.
- And they began teaching in Judah, and with them there was the book of Yehowah's Law, and they kept going around through all the cities of Judah and teaching among the people. (**2 Chronicles 17:9**)
- A considerable portion of the Hebrew Scriptures consists of poetry, which, from an educational viewpoint, is an effective memory aid. Hebrew poetry was not expressed in rhyme but in parallelism of thought, thought rhythm. Powerful metaphors were also used, these were based on natural creation, things familiar to all, even to children.
- Alphabetic acrostics, in which the letters beginning the verses are arranged in alphabetic order, were employed. (**Psalms Chapters 25,34,37,111,112,119**) (**Lamentations Chapters 1-4**)

- **A capable wife who can find? Her value is far more than that of corals. (Proverbs 31:10)**
- **In her the heart of her owner has put trust, and there is no gain lacking. (Proverbs 31:11)**
- **She has rewarded him with good, and not bad, all the days of her life. (Proverbs 31:12)**
- **She has sought wool and linen, and she works at whatever is the delight of her hands. (Proverbs 31:13)**
- **She has proved to be like the ships of a merchant. From far away she brings in her food. (Proverbs 31:14)**
- **She also gets up while it is still night, and gives food to her household and the prescribed portion to her young women. (Proverbs 31:15)**
- **She has considered a field and proceeded to obtain it, from the fruitage of her hands she has planted a vineyard. (Proverbs 31:16)**
- **She has girded her hips with strength, and she invigorates her arms. (Proverbs 31:17)**
- **She has sensed that her trading is good. Her lamp does not go out at night. (Proverbs 31:18)**
- **Her hands she has thrust out to the distaff, and her own hands take hold of the spindle. (Proverbs 31:19)**
- **Her palm she has stretched out to the afflicted one, and her hands she has thrust out to the poor one. (Proverbs 31:20)**
- **She does not fear for her household because of the snow, for all her household are clothed with double garments. (Proverbs 31:21)**
- **Coverlets she has made for herself. Her clothing is of linen and wool dyed reddish purple. (Proverbs 31:22)**
- **Her owner is someone known in the gates, when he sits down**

- with the older men of the land. (**Proverbs 31:23**)
- She has made even undergarments and proceeded to sell them, and belts she has given to the tradesmen. (**Proverbs 31:24**)
 - Strength and splendor are her clothing, and she laughs at a future day. (**Proverbs 31:25**)
 - Her mouth she has opened in wisdom, and the Law of loving-kindness is upon her tongue. (**Proverbs 31:26**)
 - She is watching over the goings-on of her household, and the bread of laziness she does not eat. (**Proverbs 31:27**)
 - Her sons have risen up and proceeded to pronounce her happy, her owner rises up, and he praises her. (**Proverbs 31:28**)
 - There are many daughters that have shown capableness, but you, you have ascended above them all. (**Proverbs 31:29**)
 - Charm may be false, and prettiness may be vain, but the woman that fears Yehowah is the one that procures praise for herself. (**Proverbs 31:30**)
 - Give her of the fruitage of her hands, and let her works praise her even in the gates. (**Proverbs 31:31**)
 - Sometimes several verses would begin with the same letter, for example, in the (**119th Psalm**) eight lines begin with the **Hebrew** letter *'aleph*, eight with *beth*, and so forth, to complete 176 lines for the 22 letters of the **Hebrew** alphabet.

· After The Restoration

- After the return from Babylon and the rebuilding of the temple, the greatest need was the **education** of the people in true worship. The scribe Ezra was a **well-educated man** and a **Bible copyist**.
- And after these things in the reign of Artaxerxes the king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah the son of Azariah the son of Hilkiah (**Ezra 7:1**)
- The said Ezra himself went up from Babylon, and he was a skilled copyist in the Law of Moses, which Yehowah the God of Israel

had given, so that the king granted him, according to the hand of Yehowah his God upon him, all his request. (**Ezra 7:6**)

- **Ezra compiled many records, and he copied and had a share in arranging the canon of the Hebrew Scriptures. Further, he undertook a general education of the nation of Israel in God's law. In doing this, he was carrying out his duties as a Levitical priest.**

- **And this is a copy of the letter that King Artaxerxes gave Ezra the priest the copyist, a copyist of the words of the commandments of Yehowah and of his regulations toward Israel. (**Ezra 7:11**)**

- **Artaxerxes, the king of kings, to Ezra the priest, the copyist of the Law of the God of the heavens. Peace be perfected. And now (**Ezra 7:12**)**

- **And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God that is in your hand appoint magistrates and judges that they may continually judge all the people that are beyond the River, even all those knowing the laws of your God, and anyone that has not known them you men will instruct. (**Ezra 7:25**)**

- **He organized the priests and Levites who had returned from Babylon, in order to carry out an educational program in restoration of true worship for the repatriated Israelites and their children.**

- **And Ezra the copyist kept standing upon a wooden podium, which they had made for the occasion, and there were standing alongside him Mattithiah and Shema and Anaiah and Uriah and Hilkiyah and Maaseiah to his right hand, and at his left Pedaiah and Mishael and Malchijah and Hashum and Hash-baddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam. (**Nehemiah 8:4**)**

- **And Ezra proceeded to open the book before the eyes of all the people, for he happened to be above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood up. (**Nehemiah 8:5**)**

- **Then Ezra blessed Yehowah the true God, the great One, at which all the people answered; Amen! Amen! With the lifting up of their hands. They then bowed low and prostrated themselves to Yehowah with their faces to the earth. (**Nehemiah 8:6**)**

- **And Jeshua and Bani and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, even**

- the Levites, were explaining the Law to the people, while the people were in a standing position. (**Nehemiah 8:7**)
- And they **continued reading aloud from the book, from the Law of the true God, it being expounded**, and there being a putting of meaning into it, and they continued giving **understanding in the reading**. (**Nehemiah 8:8**)
 - And Nehemiah, that is, the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest, the copyist, and the Levites who were instructing the people proceeded to say to all the people; This very day is holy to Yehowah your God. Do not mourn or weep. For all the people were weeping as they were hearing the words of the law. (**Nehemiah 8:9**)
 - The Hebrew copyists, or scribes, Sopherim, were men **educated** in the Law, and although not all of these were Levites, they came to be most prominent in the instruction of the people. As time went on, however, they brought in many traditions and corrupted the true teaching of God's Word.

See Also SCRIBE

•• **Education In The First Century C.E.**

- Parents continued as the primary ones responsible for the **education** of their children, especially their **earlier education**.
- For I recollect the faith which is in you without any hypocrisy, and which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, but which I am confident is also in you. (**2 Timothy 1:5**)
- You, however, continue in the things that you learned and were persuaded to believe, knowing from what persons you learned them. (**2 Timothy 3:14**)
- And that from **infancy** you have **known the holy writings**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (**2 Timothy 3:15**)
- We read about Jesus that he was brought up in Nazareth by his adoptive father and his mother and that he continued growing and getting stronger, being filled with wisdom.

- At the age of 12 he amazed the **teachers** at the temple by his understanding and his answers.
- Now his parents were accustomed to go from year to year to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. **(Luke 2:41)**
- Well, after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the **teachers** and **listening to them and questioning them.** **(Luke 2:46)**
- But all those listening to him were in constant amazement at his understanding and his answers. **(Luke 2:47)**
- Now when they saw him they were astounded, and his mother said to him; Child, why did you treat us this way? Here your father and I in mental distress have been looking for you. **(Luke 2:48)**
- But he said to them; Why did you have to go looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in the house of my Father? **(Luke 2:49)**
- However, they did not grasp the saying that he spoke to them. **(Luke 2:50)**
- And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and he continued subject to them. Also, his mother carefully kept all these sayings in her heart. **(Luke 2:51)**
- And Jesus went on progressing in wisdom and in physical growth and in favor with God and men. **(Luke 2:52)**
- The scribes continued to be the chief educators publicly and in the schools that had been set up in the synagogues. **Physical science was taught as well as the Law and the rabbinic teachings** that had been added to the Law. Parents were required also to teach their children a **trade.**

See Also SYNAGOGUE

- Jesus was the **teacher par excellence.** Even among his contemporaries he was acknowledged as a **teacher of exceptional influence and popularity.** His disciples used to call him **Rabbi,** which means **Teacher** or **Instructor.**

- And responsively Peter said to Jesus; **Rabbi**, it is fine for us to be here, so let us erect three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah. (**Mark 9:5**)
- His opponents on occasion even acknowledged his fine speaking, and at one time officers who were sent by the Pharisees to arrest him, when asked why they returned empty-handed, replied;
- The officers replied; Never has another man spoken like this. (**John 7:46**)
- In response some of the scribes said; Teacher, you spoke well. (**Luke 20:39**)
- For no longer did they have the courage to ask him a single question. (**Luke 20:40**)
- The scribe said to him; **Teacher**, you well said in line with truth, He is One, and there is no other than He. (**Mark 12:32**)
- At this Jesus, discerning he had answered intelligently, said to him, You are not far from the kingdom of God. But nobody had the courage anymore to question him. (**Mark 12:34**)

See Also RABBI

- First of all, as he said; Jesus did not speak of his own initiative but came in his Father's name and spoke the things that he had learned from his Father.
- Therefore, in answer, Jesus went on to say to them; Most truly I say to you, the Son cannot do a single thing of his own initiative, but only what he beholds the Father doing. For whatever things that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner. (**John 5:19**)
- **I cannot do a single thing of my own initiative.** Just as I hear, I judge, and the judgment that I render is righteous, because I seek, not my own will, but the will of him that sent me. (**John 5:30**)
- I have come in the name of my Father, but you do not receive me, if someone else arrived in his own name, you would receive

- that one. (**John 5:43**)
- Because I have come down from heaven to do, not my will, but the will of him that sent me. (**John 6:38**)
 - Jesus answered them; I told you, and yet you do not believe. The works that I am doing in the name of my Father, these bear witness about me. (**John 10:25**)
 - He was an intimate of Yehowah God, being his only-begotten Son from the heavens, and as such he was the very best teacher concerning the qualities, works, and purposes of his Father.
 - All things have been delivered to me by my Father, and no one fully knows the Son but the Father, neither does anyone fully know the Father but the Son and anyone to whom the Son is willing to reveal him. (**Matthew 11:27**)
 - He had the next most vital qualification of a good teacher in that he loved those whom he taught.
 - Jesus looked upon him and felt love for him and said to him; One thing is missing about you. Go, sell what things you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven, and come be my follower. (**Mark 10:21**)
 - Now, because he knew before the festival of the Passover that his hour had come for him to move out of this world to the Father, Jesus, having loved his own that were in the world, loved them to the end. (**John 13:1**)
 - I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you, that you also love one another. (**John 13:34**)
 - Just as the Father has loved me and I have loved you, remain in my love. (**John 15:9**)
 - This is my commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you. (**John 15:12**)
 - Few teachers have loved their disciples so much that they were willing to give their lives for them, as Jesus did.

- No one has love greater than this, that someone should surrender his soul in behalf of his friends. (**John 15:13**)
- He had an understanding of the minds of his listeners.
- And because he was in no need to have anyone bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man. (**John 2:25**)
- He had deep **discernment**.
- He, however, **knew their reasonings**, yet he said to the man with the withered hand; Get up and stand in the center. And he rose and took his stand. (**Luke 6:8**)
- He had no selfish interests at heart in his **teaching**, for he was sinless and without guile.
- For such a High Priest as this was suitable for us, loyal, guileless, undefiled, separated from the sinners, and become higher than the heavens. (**Hebrews 7:26**)
- He did not teach with the philosophical words of the scribes but used illustrations involving everyday things. For this reason his **teachings** are still understandable today. His **instruction** was full of **illustrations**.

See Also ILLUSTRATIONS

- Jesus teaching included reproof and discipline.
- He turned, looked at his disciples and rebuked Peter, and said, Get behind me, Satan, because you think, not God's thoughts, but those of men. (**Mark 8:33**)
- He taught by example as well as by word, thus he personally carried out a vigorous campaign of **preaching** and **teaching**. His speech was with an authority that none of the scribes could match, accompanying this was God's Holy Spirit, which gave his **teachings** the stamp of heavenly backing, so that he could, with authority and power, command the demons to come out of those who were possessed by them.
- Well, the people were all so astonished that they began a discussion among themselves, saying; What is this? A new

- teaching! He authoritatively orders even the unclean spirits, and they obey him. (**Mark 1:27**)
- At this, astonishment fell upon all, and they began to converse with one another, saying; What sort of speech is this, because with authority and power he orders the unclean spirits, and out they come? (**Luke 4:36**)
- He was bold and fearless in denouncing false teachers who would hinder others from hearing his teachings. (**Matthew Chapter 23**)

· Education And The Christian Congregation

- Jesus disciples followed his footsteps in Christian **educational** work and had success similar to his. They not only **preached** the Good News of God's Kingdom everywhere but also **taught** those who would listen.
- And they continued devoting themselves to the **teaching** of the apostles and to sharing with one another, to taking of meals and to prayers. (**Acts of Apostles 2:42**)
- They, like Jesus, were bold and spoke with authority.
- Now when they beheld the outspokenness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were men **unlettered and ordinary**, they got to wondering. And they began to recognize about them that they used to be with Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 4:13**)
- But in reply Peter and John said to them; Whether it is righteous in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves. (**Acts of Apostles 4:19**)
- But as for us, we cannot stop speaking about the things we have seen and heard. (**Acts of Apostles 4:20**)
- In answer Peter and the other apostles said; We must obey God as ruler rather than men. (**Acts of Apostles 5:29**)
- God's spirit empowered them and gave evidence of divine approval of their **teaching**. They **taught** in the temple, in synagogues, and from house to house.
- Also, the multitude from the cities around Jerusalem kept coming

- together, bearing sick people and those troubled with unclean spirits, and they would one and all be cured. (**Acts of Apostles 5:16**)
- After hearing this, they entered into the temple at daybreak and began to **teach**. Now when the High Priest and those with him arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin and all the assembly of older men of the sons of Israel, and they sent out to the jail to have them brought. (**Acts of Apostles 5:21**)
 - They, however, went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia and, going into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, they took a seat. (**Acts of Apostles 13:14**)
 - After the public reading of the Law and of the Prophets the presiding officers of the synagogue sent out to them, saying, Men, brothers, if there is any word of encouragement for the people that you have, tell it. (**Acts of Apostles 13:15**)
 - So Paul rose, and motioning with his hand, he said; Men, Israelites and you others that fear God, hear. (**Acts of Apostles 13:16**)
 - While I did not hold back from telling you any of the things that were profitable nor from teaching you publicly and from house to house. (**Acts of Apostles 20:20**)
 - They met with fellow Christians for **teaching** and inciting one another to love and fine works.
 - On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to have a meal, Paul began discoursing to them, as he was going to depart the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight. (**Acts of Apostles 20:7**)
 - So there were quite a few lamps in the upper chamber where we were gathered together. (**Acts of Apostles 20:8**)
 - And let us consider one another to incite to love and fine works. (**Hebrews 10:24**)
 - Not forsaking the gathering of ourselves together, as some have the custom, but encouraging one another, and all the more so as you behold the day drawing near. (**Hebrews 10:25**)

- The apostle Paul described the different offices and activities in the congregation that were filled by mature men, among them being **teachers**. He showed that the purpose of all these activities was **education**, with a view to **the training of the holy ones**, for ministerial work, for the building up of the body of the Christ.
- And he gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as **evangelizers**, some as **shepherds** and **teachers**. (**Ephesians 4:11**)
- With a view to the readjustment of the holy ones, for ministerial work, for the **building up of the body of the Christ**. (**Ephesians 4:12**)
- Until we all attain to the oneness in the faith and in the accurate knowledge of the Son of God, to a full-grown man, to the measure of stature that belongs to the fullness of the Christ. (**Ephesians 4:13**)
- In order, that we should **no longer be babes**, **tossed about as by waves and carried hither and thither by every wind of teaching** by means of the trickery of men, by means of cunning in contriving error. (**Ephesians 4:14**)
- But speaking the truth, **let us by love grow up in all things into him who is the head, Christ**. (**Ephesians 4:15**)
- From him all the body, by being harmoniously joined together and being made to cooperate through every joint that gives what is needed, according to the functioning of each respective member in due measure, makes for the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love. (**Ephesians 4:16**)
- A regular program of **education** in God's Word was carried on by the congregation, as outlined in (**1 Corinthians Chapter 14**). All the members of the Christian congregation, even the women, were to be teachers, they were to make **disciples** of the people of the world.
- And this man started to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him into their company and **expounded the way of God more correctly to him**. (**Acts of Apostles 18:26**)
- For, indeed, although you ought to be teachers in view of the

- time, you again need someone to **teach** you from the **beginning the elementary things of the sacred pronouncements** of God, and you have become **such as need milk, not solid food**. (**Hebrews 5:12**)
- Or a ministry, let us be at this ministry, or he that **teaches, let him be at his teaching**. (**Romans 12:7**)
 - But within the congregation itself mature men were appointed to oversight, as, for example, Timothy and Titus.
 - I do not permit a woman to teach, or to exercise authority over a man, but to be in silence. (**1 Timothy 2:12**)
 - Such men had to be those **qualified to teach the congregation** and to correct things that may have got out of line. They were to use extraordinary care to ensure that their **teaching was accurate and healthful**.
 - **Pay constant attention to yourself and to your teaching**. Stay by these things, for by doing this you will save both yourself and those who listen to you. (**1 Timothy 4:16**)
 - Preach the word, be at it urgently in favorable season, in troublesome season, reprove, reprimand, exhort, with all long-suffering and **art of teaching**. (**2 Timothy 4:2**)
 - For there will be a period of time when they will not put up with the **healthful teaching**, but, in accord with their own desires, they will **accumulate teachers for themselves to have their ears tickled**. (**2 Timothy 4:3**)
 - You, however, keep on speaking what things are fitting for **healthful teaching**. (**Titus 2:1**)
 - On the subject of **physical education** the Bible has little to say; except that the apostle Paul counsels;
 - For bodily training is beneficial for a little, but godly devotion is beneficial for all things, as it holds promise of the life now and that which is to come. (**1 Timothy 4:8**)
 - Physical activity is required, however, in energetic **preaching and teaching**, which is encouraged. Jesus did a great deal of walking. So

did his disciples, Paul's ministry, for example, included much travel, which in that time meant much **walking**.

- The Bible gives limited comment on **education** of a secular nature. It warns Christians **not to involve themselves in philosophies of men nor to take time to delve into foolish and unprofitable questions**. It strongly counsels **against mental intercourse with those who do not believe God and his Word**.
- O Timothy, guard what is laid up in trust with you, turning away from the **empty speeches that violate what is holy** and from the contradictions of the **falsely called knowledge**. (**1 Timothy 6:20**)
- For making a show of such knowledge some have deviated from the faith. May the undeserved kindness be with you people. (**1 Timothy 6:21**)
- These things we also speak, not with words taught by human wisdom, but with those **taught by the spirit**, as we **combine spiritual matters with spiritual words**. (**1 Corinthians 2:13**)
- Let no one be seducing himself. If anyone among you thinks he is wise in this system of things, let him become a fool, that he may become wise. (**1 Corinthians 3:18**)
- For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God, for it is written: He catches the wise in their own cunning. (**1 Corinthians 3:19**)
- And again: Yehowah knows that the reasonings of the wise men are futile. (**1 Corinthians 3:20**)
- Look out! Perhaps there may be someone who will carry you off as his prey through the philosophy and empty deception according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary things of the world and not according to Christ. (**Colossians 2:8**)
- But shun foolish questionings and genealogies and strife and fights over the Law, for they are unprofitable and futile. (**Titus 3:9**)
- Paying no attention to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn themselves away from the truth. (**Titus 1:14**)

- **But shun empty speeches that violate what is holy, for they will advance to more and more ungodliness. (2 Timothy 2:16)**
- **Now I exhort you, brothers, to keep your eye on those who cause divisions and occasions for stumbling contrary to the teaching that you have learned, and avoid them. (Romans 16:17)**
- **Christians recognized that they were obligated before God to provide properly for their families. Often some form of **education** and training was required to equip them for such secular occupation.**
- **Certainly if anyone does not provide for those who are his own, and especially for those who are members of his household, he has disowned the faith and is worse than a person without faith. (1 Timothy 5:8)**
- **But from the history of early Christianity we find that, primarily, they were interested in any legitimate method for getting the Good News preached, in Bible **education** for themselves and all who would hear them.**
- **If, now, I am declaring the Good News, it is no reason for me to boast, for necessity is laid upon me. Really, woe is me if I did not declare the Good News! (1 Corinthians 9:16)**
- **As Professor E. J. Goodspeed says, in Christianity Goes to Press. [1940, p. 111]**
- **The Christians from the moment they awoke to the possibilities of publication in spreading their gospel over the world availed themselves of them to the full, not only publishing new books, but searching out old ones for publication, and this genius for publication has never forsaken them.**
- **It is a mistake to suppose that it began with the discovery of printing, it was a characteristic of Christian attitudes from **A.D. 70** on, gathering strength as the great fruitfulness of the method emerged. Even the barbarian invasions and the Dark Ages could not quench it.**
- **And it is all an evidence of the tremendous dynamic which informed the whole of early Christian life, which sought not only by deed and word but by all the most advanced techniques of publication to carry the gospel, in its fullness and without reserve, to all mankind.**

See Also SCHOOL
See Also TUTOR