The Marks of Another World

An Editorial by John Paul
President of Taylor University

On what basis may a creature claim to be a son of God? A negative answer to this needs to be worked out in our times; for we live in a day when the second best is enemy to the best. In many parts of the religious world the slogan of the universal fatherhood of God has eclipsed the verdict of Jesus, "Ye must be born again."

First, sonship cannot be claimed upon the basis of creation. Were this true, the donkeys and parrots, and the "bulls of Bashan" would be children of God. Second, sonship cannot be based upon superiority of genus; because the higher the genus, the more will its individuals vary in character. So it goes in this world. Perhaps, the angels are much alike; but the individuals of the human family represent unbridged extremes of difference. There is only a small difference between a low down dog and the finest dog in town. The chickens of a given breed show variations of nature and aspirations that are hardly perceptible. But it would take an angel a thousand years to measure the distance between the best man and the worst man upon the earth, selecting the specimens from white, black, brown or yellow races. Just as the best one is a million times better than an animal, the worst is many degrees lower than the animal in his attitude to his Maker and to the law of his being.

Only the rational creature, with power to rebel against God, violates the law of his being. An animal that violates the law of its being and gets out of the orbit which God prescribed for it is an exception to the rule. A man who moves in the orbit God prescribed for him and does not violate the law of his being is an exception to the rule. This vast, unmeasurable difference between the human race and the rest of creation is, in the mind of many wise men, a sure evidence that man is a special creation. It also carries the inference that all the fundamental species were direct creations of God. It is inconceivable to the human imagination that nature could ever have bridged the distance between man and the animal kingdom; a distance which in biological measurements may seem small; but which in capacity for sin, in capacity to be like God and in capacity to be unlike him, is measureless.

With the popular doctrine of universal Fatherhood, creation and genus form the ground of our claim to be children of God. Under the Gospel, sonship is based upon choice and faith. It cannot be attained, it cannot be retained, except as these two conditions come about and continue. As strenuous a man as John Wesley conceded that people without light on the new birth, "who feared God and worked righteousness," might reach heaven through special grace, but our Lord makes it very clear that if we "see the kingdom" we must be born again. No man can state all that is meant by seeing the kingdom; but some things in the utterance are perfectly clear: Jesus does not share the modern theory of the universal Fatherhood of God; and regardless of the mercies that may cover the infants, the uninformed and the conscientious, we become heirs of God only through choice and faith. This experience, known as the new birth, is set in the light of its importance as we emphasize the fact that all men need it; that none, neither the high born nor the low born, can taste the powers of the world to come without it. But the new birth can be magnified with greater eloquence when looked upon as a privilege. It is the highest expression of God's love, in which he singles us out from all the creatures of his infinite realm and calls us his children. The magnificence of its present meaning is only exceeded by what it implies for the future. The riches of an heir, to be enjoyed as the heir attains his capacity, is a fortune that can be measured only by the wealth of the Father. In our case, "It doth not yet appear what we shall be."
The Legal Hundred had a very harmonious meeting in Campbell Parlor, Taylor University, on October 28, with thirty-three members present and Dr. Nixon in the chair. In the evening the Music and Expression departments of the college gave an inspiring entertainment in their honor. As the climax event of the evening Bishop W. F. Oldham, the world missionary, gave an inspirational address. Following were his remarks on the Legal Hundred:

“Another thing that gives me pleasure and confidence is this Legal Hundred which you have organized. The more I think about it the more I think it was an illumination of the Holy Spirit that made the suggestion. You have taken representatives of true faith and vital piety from everywhere. If it is not found in the Baptist bin you turn to the Presbyterian group or other denominations. It is fine to have Methodist fire and Baptist water producing steam, and then have Presbyterian steam regulators. Steam does not go off in explosives when it is properly employed. I want a league offensive and defensive with every good man. That is exactly what Taylor with vital piety and increasing knowledge is saying to good men and women in all churches.”

It was a dramatic moment in Bishop Oldham’s lecture when he spoke the following words on Taylor and Missions:

“While Taylor grows, while the university spreads and strengthens, strikes its roots downward and branches outward, I charge you with all stress and passion of my soul, be faithful to your missionary trust. Do not fail to accent the fact that unless Christianity is world wide in its aims we cannot succeed. Christianity has in it the elements of universality. You must go everywhere if you will be useful anywhere. If you are to maintain strength everywhere you must be strong at every point. A vivid, fervent evangelism and missionary endeavor are like two wings of the bird. You need both. You are developing splendid intensity of evangelism. Add to that a wideness of vision. You cannot look at that man (pointing at Bishop Taylor’s picture) and be worthy of the name he bore without looking out on this wide, wide world and to the utmost rim of it and saying just what that heroic man said, “Nothing human is foreign to me.” Seed from this Taylor tree should be planted everywhere and we shall watch it grow. It is always and everlastingly true that the community, man or church that becomes a little too much engaged in things of its own cannot hope to prosper.”

In this issue we mention a Taylor man who has come to the front in the field of literature. Here comes one back from India on furlough—Rev. Vere W. Abbey—of whom a prominent man in India writes, unsolicited, that he has been first to lead an English church in India Methodism to self support. “Abbey has also been a constant factor in various philanthropic and reform movements.”

Taylor University Bulletin goes free to friends of the institution. Any one receiving it who is not interested in our type of Christian education is receiving it through our mistake. If you change address and do not order your Bulletin changed your subscription ceases, on the assumption that those interested will order change of address. No explanation is necessary if you receive the Bulletin and do not contribute to the school. We hope you will contribute your prayers, at least.
The work of a college like Taylor University is endless, and its interests are world embracing. Investments in such an institution last for all time, if the administration is sound. It requires some assurance and faith these days, to do away with that word "if" when one leaves a gift or makes an annuity or estate note or will to a school. Conferences and church boards have failed to hold some colleges straight; in fact, they have failed to hold some of them at all. Many independent colleges have ruthlessly turned away from old fashioned virtues and evangelical faith after receiving consecrated money. Will Taylor and the rest of the spiritual schools take warning? Will they prove true or will they play false with the gifts of love and sacrifice which make possible their comfortable buildings and support the chairs of instruction now occupied by teachers who love God and believe the Bible? Some of our friends are deeply concerned with the answer to that question. Especially those who consider Taylor as the channel through which their means shall serve God and humanity after they are gone.

The Test That Proves.

It may be reassuring when we say that no one now in charge of Taylor is indifferent to the question above stated. Its President and every one of its directors would rather resign today than to receive funds in bad faith or have them wasted or handled so as to disappoint the wishes of the contributor. We counsel caution in making gifts or bequests; certainly we shall spare no means visible to our intelligence to make Taylor a safe field for investing the Lord's money. No human security in church or state is absolutely perfect; but impartial judges have declared that Taylor's Legal Hundred organization and the splendid charter with which it is harnessed produce the last word in safeguarding the objects for which the institution is established. If you cannot make your investment safe at Taylor, we doubt if there is any security. In casting about to plan your gifts and memorials, you have to exercise faith or handled so as to disappoint the wishes of the contributor. We counsel caution in making gifts or bequests; certainly we shall spare no means visible to our intelligence to make Taylor a safe field for investing the Lord's money. No human security in church or state is absolutely perfect; but impartial judges have declared that Taylor's Legal Hundred organization and the splendid charter with which it is harnessed produce the last word in safeguarding the objects for which the institution is established. If you cannot make your investment safe at Taylor, we doubt if there is any security. In casting about to plan your gifts and memorials, you have to exercise faith somewhere. Make a trip to Taylor. Share the fellowship of its altars for a day or two, drink from its well springs of inspiration and watch its life of industry and simplicity. We do not run on emotional liberality, but discerning eyes can see some rock under the dynamics. Wise men know that machinery does not hum with jarless precision as at Taylor without a static foundation. Servants of God who have sense enough to make a fortune usually have sense enough to know a good place to invest it when they have full opportunity for investigation.

A Good Suggestion.

On Taylor's hundred and sixty acre premises there are many things that you could do which would memorialize your generosity till the clock strikes for the end of the ages. Your President is now exercised with the conviction that the first fifty thousand dollar units should immediately be raised to establish two double departments: A chair of Missions and Biblical Literature, and a chair of Economics and Sociology. This grows out of a frank conviction that most of the colleges are indifferent when not unsound as to their attitude to the Bible and world evangelism, and also in their regard for sound and practical political economy. Taylor is set against destructive criticism and communism. It educates against that kind of philosophy which arrays capital and labor against each other and class against class.

Advantages of Endowing a Chair.

I mean, advantage to us! All money put into this, from one dollar to a thousand, could be invested for the present in our yet uncompleted dormitory, which in its uncompleted form is paying more than 8 per cent toward the education of worthy young people. When other funds come in which have been subscribed for this building, though the building is endowment of the most practical kind, the special gifts for chairs of Missions, Biblical Literature and Political Economy can go into an industrial plant to provide work for needy students, or be otherwise shaped according to the prayerful judgment of our directors. When one point in our work gets stronger all other parts get stronger. The mutuality is such that one department is braced by another. As to advantages for you, we assume that you would feel best about an investment in proportion as you were assured of its value to the school and the good it could do.

If We Waited For Big Gifts.

If we held our breath till some philanthropist established a chair with one stroke of his pen we would smother to death. There is a fine opportunity for some one to do this, and make his gift immortal; but most of Taylor University's support comes from humble gifts, varying between five dollars and a thousand dollars. Even the smallest gift is evidence that we have a friend, that some one is praying for us; and perish the day when we ever think as much of money as we do of our friends.

You Can Eat Your Cake and Keep It.

If you have to have the income on your money while you live, you can give it in the great cause we have here described and take our annuity bond which pays you interest on the gift while you live, and which is non-taxable and the issuing of which is always in the school's favor.

Mr. E. O. Rice, Upland, Indiana, is Treasurer of Taylor University, to whom all checks may be made payable.
THE REVIVAL.

We are in the climax of a gracious revival at Taylor which brought blessing almost to the last student in school, and to others beside. Most of the services were in the Chapel. The Sunday night service in the Methodist church with which we were supposed to close was such an overwhelming victory that the pastor announced a Monday night meeting for the evangelist. This, also, was a sweeping victory; so we have decided that we shall invite the Spirit of Salvation to rest on us in a normal tide till June 16, graduation day.

This year, we waited over a month to begin the fall revival, since there were no forces here that would organize against it. The fall revival at Taylor is different. With students from many different environments, it begins like an orientation course. If we traveled too rapidly, some could not get aboard. But we gather speed as we go forward; and, since about all who came here came with serious intentions, usually about everybody gets aboard. The work of conversion, reclamation and sanctification was on definite lines and the victory was conclusive, blessed and glorious. Evangelist Raymond Browning proved to be all we expected and was greatly used of the Lord. Mrs. E. O. Rice directed the singing for all the evening services.

WILL YOU ENTER TAYLOR DECEMBER 30?

Taylor’s Winter Term opens December 30. Though Taylor is now 50 per cent ahead of itself in attendance, we shall have room for fifty new students, and it will be a good time to enter. The good steam heat and cozy quarters make Taylor a pleasant place in winter; then the outdoors is pleasant for those who are hardy.

Cost for the term, including board, with room, light and heat and literary tuition, $108 to $114. Music and Expression extra. This is payable on entering. It is necessary to anticipate two questions commonly asked. We have no academy, and our industrial work is about all taken for the present school year. But the rate at Taylor, including the service of two dozen talented professors, is cheaper than living at home. Thousands of friends are helping to make this possible. Send for Catalogue and registration blank if you think of entering.

A SUGGESTION

(If so moved, clip and send to Mr. E. O. Rice, Treasurer, Upland, Indiana.)

In consideration of the work that is being done in and through Taylor University for a better world, I hereby consent to invest: In a gift $

Amount enclosed $ Date of later payment
Address Name

THE ECHO.

The Echo, which gives the every day life of Taylor from the student’s standpoint is now an attractive weekly printed on book paper in newspaper style. The composition is inspiring, the news is snappy, the tone is spiritual. Verbatim reports are given of some of the greatest addresses from Taylor’s platform. The price of The Echo is $1.50 per school year. It may be had till the end of the present school year (two terms) for $1.00. Address, Business Manager, The Echo, Upland, Indiana.

A MARK OF TAYLOR’S STABILITY.

The catalogue of Taylor University, pages 13 to 18, gives the Who’s Who of the Faculty. Selecting fourteen heads of the main departments out of the twenty-four instructors, we find:

Two Professors, years of service 25
One Professor, years of service 17
One Professor, years of service 12
One Professor, years of service 8
Two Professors, years of service 6
One Professor, years of service 5
Two Professors, years of service 4
One Professor, years of service 2
One Professor, years of service 1

During this period of service these professors have spent terms in the greatest universities. Half of them have reached or approximated the highest scholastic degrees that are offered. In spite of limited means they have traveled, made experiments, written books, given lyceum service, preached sermons, held revivals, and gained various and enviable recognition. Some are listed in Who’s Who In America. One at least has invented scientific appliances and received recognition in science journals. Four are authors of books with recognized merit. All of them believe the word of God and love his kingdom.

A CHANCE

A good man has offered Taylor a $38,000 city property provided Taylor will raise $16,000 indebtedness that is against the property. It is rising in value, and is now rented at 12% of the appraised valuation. Could you be led to help Taylor cover this valuable gift by investing a few thousand—in any form that suits you best?