

A Compilation of Statements from the Symbolic Codes Regarding the School for Children

Greetings From Mt. Carmel Academy

Believing that "The institutions of human society find their best models in the word of God" ("Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 95), we are endeavoring to found at Mt. Carmel an academy patterned "after the order or example of the schools of the prophets." (Id. 223.)

Moreover, as the "grand object of all study" is to "learn the will of God and the duties of His people," Mt. Carmel Academy's system of education differs vitally from that which is in vogue among other institutions of learning, in that it consists not, as does theirs, in "treating the individual branches of study, apart from that deeper investigation which involves the searching of the Scriptures, and a knowledge, of God and the future life,"--that is, teaching all subjects entirely apart from the Bible, and wholly divorced one from another, with no central motif running through and correlating them--but rather in making the Bible the basic source of subject matter for all studies.

However, as the reestablishing of the schools of the prophets is still in process, we do not as yet have facilities either necessary or adequate to the teaching of all the courses prescribed in the Spirit of Prophecy. Nevertheless, we are striving to the end of gaining a knowledge of all of the subjects taught in the ancient schools of the Hebrews, chief among which were "the law of God,...sacred history, sacred music, and poetry" ("Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 593), besides English, mathematics, bookkeeping, geography, physiology, etc., along with industrial training in "agriculture, manufactures,--covering as many as possible of the most useful trades,--also in household economy, healthful cookery, sewing, hygienic dressmaking, the treatment of the sick, and kindred lines."--"Education," p. 218.

The Lord has "reserved to Himself the education and instruction of Israel," and His care is "not restricted to their religious interests." Whatever affects "their mental or physical well-being," becomes "also an object of divine solicitude," and comes "within the province of divine law." ("Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 95.) True education "has to do with the whole being....It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers."--"Education," p. 13. Therefore, in order to effect and maintain physical, mental, and spiritual balance, we have wedded the study of the Scriptures and of academic subjects to physical labor, equalizing "the taxation of the mental and physical powers," thus giving the student four hours a day of mental labor, and four hours of manual labor which consists in taking an active part in the different manual departments at Mt. Carmel. In this way, he not only gains for himself physical benefit and useful knowledge, but also aids in the advancing of the work here on Mt. Carmel.

"Such an education provides more than mental discipline; it provides more than physical training. It strengthens the character, so that truth and uprightness are not sacrificed to selfish desire or worldly ambition. It fortifies the mind against evil....Every motive and desire

are brought into conformity to the great principles of right....What education can be higher than this? What can equal it in value?"--"Education," p. 18.

We have set no arbitrary grade or amount of studying as a standard of attainment for the school. At no time during the student's schooling is he presented with a diploma for having graduated from a lower to a higher grade. However, using wisely that knowledge which he has received, he can constantly improve, "reaching higher and still higher," finally receiving "the very best diploma that anyone can have,--the endorsement of God," which will secure for him, "his passport from the preparatory school of earth to the higher grade, the school above" ("Education," p. 19).

Hence, this institution is open to those youth who are "eager to obtain a better knowledge of the Scriptures, to search deeper into the mysteries of the kingdom of God, and to seek wisdom from above," in order especially to qualify themselves to have a part "in the closing work for the church," that they may prove "a great blessing to Israel, promoting that righteousness which exalteth a nation, and furnishing it with men [and women] qualified to act, in the fear of God, as leaders and counselors."--"Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 96.

M. J. B.

The Voice Of The School Faculty

"To realize what an exalted privilege it is to be at Mt. Carmel, and to have a part in its work--the most momentous ever committed unto man--is one of the utmost needs, as well as one of the utmost desires, we pray, not only in particular of each student and teacher, but also, in general, of every inhabitant of the hill. For thrilling and blessed beyond words is the experience of being permitted to have a part in the work here, where, beyond any other place on earth, history imperishable is being written out of destined vicissitudes fulfilling the prediction that 'the final movements will be rapid ones'--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 9, p. 11.

"Therefore, that every student, teacher, and resident of Mt. Carmel Center faithfully stand in his lot; that he come behind in no good work; and that he keep apace the scroll's swiftly unfolding events, and thus make Mt. Carmel a light to the world, we anxiously solicit the constant and earnest prayers of every whole-souled believer in the message of Present Truth."

M.J. Bingham, Principal

"Having answered the call to step out of a life of fashion, sports, and gaiety, and to come 'to the help of the Lord against the mighty,' I now find myself in the thick of the battle of 'the closing work for the church,' surrounded by a glorious bright light--the message of present truth.

"Never before have I realized the great privileges and solemn responsibilities that are mine as a young person. Two years ago this message found me at one of our academies in the midst of the social whirl! It stopped my dizzy spinning; changed my thoughts and intents; gave me meat for want of which I was starving; placed my feet on the upward path; and proceeded to lead me onward.

"God has granted me unbounded opportunities. In His kindly Providence, He has led me to Mt. Carmel, permitted me to remain here, and privileged me to have a part in the education of our young people.

"Grateful beyond expression for the undeserved blessings which the Lord has so lovingly bestowed upon me, I gladly give my life to this message, especially to the training of the children and youth, and I earnestly pray that many more of our young people will unclasp hands with the world, and come over on the Lord's side to take an active part in the restitution of the schools of the prophets, so that they might help in the proclaiming of this gospel to 'all the world in this generation.'

Genevieve Ruth Bingham

"Words fail me to express my gratitude for the privilege that I have of associating from day to day with the company here at Mt. Carmel. To see, as the scroll unrolls, the working out of God's Providences; to witness the battle raging between the forces of darkness and the heralds of light; to have a part in the training of the most wonderful group of youth that I have ever met, is my happy and exalted lot.

"The young people here at Mt. Carmel Academy are eager to prepare themselves to go out and give the message of present truth, and to be useful agencies in the establishing of Christ's kingdom.

"Not by the decisions of courts or councils or legislative assemblies, not by the patronage of worldly great men, is the kingdom of Christ established, but by the implanting of Christ's nature in humanity through the work of the Holy spirit. "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name; which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." Here is the only power that can work the uplifting of mankind. And the human agency for the accomplishment of this work is the teaching and practising of the word of God!--'Desire of Ages,' p. 509.

"We, as teachers and students, crave the prayers of all Present Truth believers that all of us may be fitted to be used as vessels of honor in Christ's kingdom."

Richard Waldron

"What a privilege it is to be on Mt. Carmel--the center of God's work on earth! I am thankful that I have been granted this opportunity.

"I came to Mt. Carmel to gain a thorough knowledge of the truths which God has revealed to us at this time, that I may be properly prepared to go out and give this message to others.

"Truly, we have a wonderful message, one that changes our thoughts and desires. Before I received present truth, (when I was still a regular member of the Adventist church), I spent my time seeking for amusement, but now, studying God's Word, and striving to know and do His will, has taken the place of parties, tennis, basketball, baseball, radio, fashion, and numerous other things of the world.

"The Bible has become an entirely different book to me. It is intensely interesting and never grows tiresome. As I study this inexhaustible treasure-house, born within me are new hopes which make the things of the world pale into insignificance.

"I eagerly await the Code, and can hardly wait until I have time to sit down and read it through.

"At times the high standard that is set before us is almost overwhelming, but the promises in God's Word give me hope and courage to press onward and upward, for I know that in Christ there is victory.

"My prayer is that many other young people throughout the world will see this glorious message and bring their lives into accordance with it."

Ruth McFalls

"In order that our students may better prepare themselves in the fundamentals of Christian endeavor, we give them opportunity to study the highest of all domestic sciences, the science of food and cookery, the great importance of which is, by the pen of Inspiration, set forth in the following, statements:

"To cook well, to place wholesome food upon the table in an inviting manner, requires intelligence and experience. The one who prepares the food that is to be placed in the stomach, to be converted into blood to nourish the system, occupies a most important and elevated position. The position of copyist, dressmaker, or music teacher cannot equal in importance that of the cook!--'Counsels to Teachers,' p. 292.

"The one who understands the art of properly preparing food, and who uses this knowledge, is worthy of higher commendation than those engaged in any other line of work. This talent should be regarded as equal in value to ten talents, for its right use has much to do with keeping the human organism in health!--M. S.--95--'01. All this being true, the school on Mt. Carmel could not fulfill God's requirements did it not, in a practical way, teach this subject to its students.

"Moreover, the preceding quotations should inspire, not only the youth, but also men and women in all walks of life, with a determination to develop their God given talents, instead of burying them in the earth.

"I thank God for the principles of healthful living, and am indeed happy that He has led me to Mt. Carmel and granted me the privilege of having a part in teaching our children and youth the science of healthful cookery."

M.L. Deeter

"I know of no school, which, for the training of Christian youth, equals Mt. Carmel Academy. Hence, I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work here among the younger children.

"However, because of the Laodicean ways which still cling to us, we are a long way from being as God. But in spite of this fact, we are progressing toward that high standard which the Lord has set for us, and we earnestly solicit your prayers that we might go through the purifying fire, coming out as 'fine gold', and having attained that Christian character which will enable us to 'follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.'

Sarah Bigelow

The Voice Of The Student Body

"Since coming to Mt. Carmel, I have enjoyed it very much. The brethren are kind, and have love in their hearts for one another.

"I came to Mt. Carmel to receive a Christian education. I have always attended public schools, but I like this school better than any other which I have attended.

"I believe this message with all my heart, and I hope I shall soon get fully into step with it."

Billy Colvin, age 14

"I am deeply grateful to the Lord for the knowledge and experience which I have received since attending Mt. Carmel Academy.

"The message of Present Truth has changed my hopes, my actions, my aims, in fact, my whole life. I now live and work for something higher, broader, and more enduring than I once did.

"'The Symbolic Code' is a constant source of help and comfort to me, and I earnestly pray that all may receive much profit and enjoyment from it."

Carol Hogan, age 15

"Present Truth found me about three years ago, and has made many changes in my life, showing me that I did not know My Saviour before. But now He is the dearest Friend I have. My heart burns with love for the truth; my whole mind and attention are centered upon the work of this last great sealing message.

"I cannot understand why for me, who am such a sinner, God has done so much as to bring me here to this sacred spot to prepare me for translation.

"Both Mt. Carmel Center and Mt. Carmel Academy are very dear to me. I want, with the help of the Lord, to improve my time while I am here, and be a real representative of Christ.

Kathleen Hogan, age 12

"I am very thankful for the S Rod Message. It has helped me to become more thoughtful, and has given me more courage to do right. I praise the Lord that I can be here on Mt. Carmel, where I can receive the message first hand. I want to do my best to learn this message, so that others may receive it and become one of the hundred and forty-four thousand.

"Mt. Carmel's Academy has taught me to be more careful of my spare moments, for which I am very thankful, because I realize that I cannot get to heaven by wasting my time when I should be studying.

"Mt. Carmel is the best place that I know of to make a man out of me, and I am doing my best to make Mt. Carmel go ahead rather than stay behind just to bring me along."

Oliver Hermanson, age 14

"I am studying this message, and it has inspired and uplifted me.

"As many folk cannot come to this beautiful spot, we try to uplift them by sending them the Code.

"I love Mt. Carmel Center and its school, and want to be as good a student as possible.

"Pray for me that I may be faithful unto the end."

Betty Smith, age 10

"I desire, as a student of the Mt. Carmel Academy, to learn the message, so that I might be prepared to be a missionary for God.

"I am glad to be here on Mt. Carmel, and enjoy the beautiful scenery which surrounds the place. It calls to my attention the wonderful promises which the Lord has laid up for those who love Him, and it makes me more and more desirous of living up to every ray of light that He has so bountifully bestowed upon His children.

"I thank God daily for blessing me in such a marvelous way, and I truly want to come up to the standard which He has set before us."

Evelyn Colvin, age 18

"I cannot express the gratefulness that is in my heart for the privilege that I have of being here on Mt. Carmel, where I am receiving a 'higher education.'

"My desire is to be among that 'youthful army of rightly trained workers' that will hasten the end of suffering, and sorrowing, and sin."

Wayne Pruett, Age 16

"I am thankful to be on Mt. Carmel, for the Lord dwells here. 'The Shepherd's Rod' message and the Code are inspiring. If one has a will to do right, Mt. Carmel Academy is a good place for one to learn, and the work on Mt. Carmel will make one strong for the Lord."

Wayne Safley, age 12

"Mt. Carmel is a beautiful place, surrounded by hill and valley and tree, which I enjoy very much. Moreover, I am grateful for the privilege of being here, for here the statement is surely fulfilled that 'God can teach us more in one moment than all of the great men of the earth.' ('Testimonies to Ministers,' p. 119.) Also, I enjoy reading 'The Symbolic Code,' for it is a great help to me.

"And then, too, I am surely thankful that the message of Present Truth found me, and I realize more and more the necessity of studying the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, for it is my aim to be found in 'that city bright and fair, over, over there.'"

Joyce Helman, age 13

"Since heeding the eleventh hour call over a year ago, I have been receiving a thorough Christian education in the schools of the prophets which are now being restored, and I cannot express my praise and thanks to God for the privilege which I have in attending Mt. Carmel's Academy, and for the blessed promises which the young have in the finishing of the gospel. O, would that every young person who reads herein from God His monthly message to His

people, join the now mobilizing army of youth which is so soon to go forth in all the world winning precious souls, is my prayer."

Eugenia Pinon, age 17

"It is my earnest desire to have a part in this sealing message, to help reestablish the school of the prophets, and to be an instrument of the Lord's in bringing others into the truth. I know that it is the young people who are to finish the work, and I want to be among those who have this privilege."

Cecil Helman, age 15

"I immensely enjoy Mt. Carmel and its school, and it is my desire to be a willing servant of the Lord's, so that I may be one of the 144,000, who are to proclaim the message in the loud cry. With the Lord's help I can and will be among His chosen."

Helen Safley, age 14

"I came to Mt. Carmel to attend its school so that I might learn the message, and thus prepare myself to give it to others.

"The Academy is just fine; and I have learned much and have received many, many blessings since I came. Also, I enjoy reading the Code, and eagerly await each month's issue.

"This message has done much for me, helping me to reform in my dress, my eating, and my conduct, and making me determined to become perfect, 'even as my Father which is in heaven is perfect.'"

Dorothy Pinon, age 9

"My hope is that I may learn to give this wonderful message to a perishing world. The school here at Mt. Carmel, as well as 'The Symbolic Code,' are a constant source of help to me.

"I ask an interest in your prayers that I may be more faithful to the religion which I profess."

Miguel Pinon, age 12

Mt. Carmel Academy

I love Mt. Carmel Academy,
Surrounded by hill, and vale, and tree,

Whence some have wearily walked and trod
To learn more of our loving God;
And here upon this sacred spot,
Prepare themselves in heart and thought,
To spread the tidings far and nigh
That all may live and never die.
And let the Devil's siren song
Allure me from that happy throng,
Preparing here below on earth
To sing beyond the song of mirth!

Dorothy Pinon, age 9

Vol. 3 Symbolic Code No. 1, pp. 1-5

Counsels and Warnings to Parents

PART I

"What greater deception can come upon human minds than a confidence that they are right, when they are all wrong! The message of the True Witness finds the people of God in a sad deception, yet honest in that deception. They know not that their condition is deplorable in the sight of God. While those addressed are flattering themselves that they are, in an exalted spiritual condition, the message of the True Witness breaks their security by the startling denunciation of their true condition of spiritual blindness, poverty, and wretchedness. The testimony, so cutting and severe, cannot be a mistake, for it is the True Witness who speaks, and His testimony must be correct."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 3, pp. 252, 253.

Seven years experience in this message has repeatedly proved that Present Truth believers have not yet fully recovered from the "sad deception"; especially is this the case of parents and guardians. They seem utterly unable to look with wise, unbiased, unimpassioned judgment upon the problem of their children, for which they themselves are responsible. Satan seems almost completely to have blinded them with parental sentimentalism, until at last we are duty bound to lift warning voice, lest parents and children together perish in their deception.

A similar state of affairs existed in the days, of Elijah. Church, home and school "had fallen into decay during the years of Israel's apostasy," and thus remained until Elijah came and restored them. His work of reestablishing the schools of the prophets, "making provision for young men to gain an education that would lead them to magnify the law of God and make it honorable," was essentially one of making the institution of the school an agency in restoring and uniting church and home, and reconciling parents and children.

Now, in this day of deepest apostasy, when church, home, and school are in the very death throes of decay, Elijah must again restore as the Scriptures say, "all things." And, according to

type, the restored institution of the schools of the prophets is again to stand as a coordinating influence between church and home, parent and child.

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children' and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." (Mal. 4:5, 6.)

Hence, as Mt. Carmel Academy is the school of the Elijah message, the prophet of today, it is therefore, that warning voice which is come to awake parents and children out of their "sad deception," and to educate them away from their natural habits of life, and bring them into obedience to the divine precepts, laws, and statutes, thus turning "the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers," and saving them from that dreadful day when the Lord shall come and smite the earth with a curse."

"The work of the parent is solemn and sacred; but many do not realize this because their eyes are blinded by the enemy of all righteousness. Their children are allowed to grow up undisciplined, uncourteous, forward, self-confident, unthankful and unholy, when a firm, decided. even course, in which justice and mercy are blended with patience and self-control, would produce wonderful results."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 305.

"If parents could be aroused to a sense of the fearful responsibility which rests upon them in the work of educating their children, more of their time would be devoted to prayer, and less to needless display. They would reflect, and study, and pray earnestly to God for wisdom and divine aid, to so train their children that they may develop characters that God will approve."--"Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 30.

"My soul mourns for the youth who are forming characters in this degenerate age. I tremble for their parents also; for I have been shown that as a general thing they do not understand their obligations to train up their children in the way they should go. Custom and fashion are consulted, and the children soon learn to be swayed by these, and are corrupted; while their indulgent parents are themselves benumbed, and asleep to their danger. But very few of the youth are free from corrupt habits."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 2, p. 348.

"I have been shown that very many of the parents who profess to believe the solemn message for this time, have not trained their children for God. They have not restrained themselves, and have been irritated with any one who attempted to restrain them. They have not by living faith daily bound their children upon the altar of the Lord..."

"Many parents seem to lose reason and judgment in their fondness for their children, and through these indulged, selfish, mismanaged youth, Satan in turn works effectually to ruin the parents...Children are what, their parents make them, by their instruction, discipline, and example."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, pp. 36, 37.

"Parents do not see these things. They do not foresee the result of their course. They do not feel that their children need the tenderest culture, the most careful discipline in the divine life. They do not look upon them as being in a peculiar sense the property of Christ, the purchase

of his blood, the trophies of his grace, and as such, skillful instruments in God's hands to be used for the up-building of his kingdom. Satan is ever seeking to wrest these youth from the hand of Christ, and parents do not discern that the great adversary is planting his hellish banners close by their sides. They are so blinded they think it is the banner of Christ."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 41.

Abraham "'will command his household.' There would be no sinful neglect to restrain the evil propensities of his children, no weak, unwise, indulgent favoritism: no yielding of his conviction of duty to the claims of mistaken affection. Abraham would not only give right instruction, but he would maintain the authority of just and righteous laws.

"How few there are in our day who follow this example! On the part of too many parents there is a blind and selfish sentimentalism, miscalled love, which is manifested in leaving children, with their unformed judgment and undisciplined passions, to the control of their own will. This is the veriest cruelty to the youth, and a great wrong to the world. Parental indulgence causes disorder in families and in society. It confirms in the young the desire to follow inclination, instead of submitting to the divine requirements. Thus they grow up with a heart averse to doing God's will, and they transmit their irreligious, insubordinate spirit to their children, and children's children. Like Abraham, parents should command their households after them. Let obedience to parental authority be taught and enforced as the first step in obedience to the authority of God."

"Not until parents themselves walk in the law of the Lord with perfect hearts, will they be prepared to command their children after them. A reformation in this respect is needed, a reformation which shall be deep and broad. Parents need to reform; ministers need to reform; they need God in their households. If they would see a different state of things, they must bring his word into their families, and must make it their counselor."--"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 142, 143.

"Weakness in requiring obedience, and false love and sympathy,--the false notion that to indulge and not to restrain is wisdom,--constitute a system of training that grieves angels; but it delights Satan, for it brings hundreds and thousands of children into his ranks. This is why he blinds the eyes of parents, benumbs their sensibilities, and confuses their minds....Oh! When will parents be wise? When will they see and realize the character of their work in neglecting to require obedience and respect according to the instructions of God's word?

...The utter neglect of training children for God has perpetuated evil, and thrown into the ranks of the enemy many who with judicious care might have been co-laborers with Christ. False ideas and a foolish, misdirected affection have nurtured traits which have made the children unlovely and unhappy, have embittered the lives of the parents, and have extended their baleful influence from generation to generation. Any child that is permitted to have his own way will dishonor God and bring his father and mother to shame. Light has been shining from the word of God and the testimonies of his Spirit, so that none need err in regard to their duty. God requires parents to bring up their children to know Him and to respect His claims; they are to train their little ones, as the younger members of the Lord's family, to have beautiful characters and lovely tempers, that they may be fitted to shine in the heavenly

courts. By neglecting their duty and indulging their children in wrong, parents close to them the gates of the city of God.

"These facts must be pressed home upon parents; they must arouse, and take up their long-neglected work. Parents who profess to love God are not doing his will. Because they do not properly restrain and direct their children, thousands are coming up with deformed characters, with lax morals, and with little education in the practical duties of life. They are left to do as they please with their impulses, their time, and their mental powers. The loss to the cause of God in these neglected talents lies at the door of fathers and mothers; and what excuse will they render to Him whose stewards they are, intrusted with the sacred duty of fitting the souls under their charge to improve all their powers to the glory of their Creator?"--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, pp. 324-326.

Aaron "was priest of his household; yet he had been inclined to pass over the folly of his children. He had neglected his duty to train and educate them to obedience, self-denial, and reverence for parental authority. Through feelings of misplaced indulgence, he failed to mold their characters with high reverence for eternal things. Aaron did not see, any more than many Christian parents now see, that his misplaced love and the indulgence of his children in wrong, was preparing them for the certain displeasure of God, and for his wrath to break forth upon them to their destruction. While Aaron neglected to exercise his authority, the justice of God awakened against them. Aaron had to learn that his gentle remonstrance, without a firm exercise of parental restraint, and his imprudent tenderness toward his sons, were cruelty in the extreme. God took the work of justice into his own hands, and destroyed the sons of Aaron."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 3, p. 295.

"The curse of God will surely rest upon unfaithful parents. Not only are they planting thorns which will wound them here, but they must meet their own unfaithfulness when the Judgment shall sit. Many children will rise up in judgment and condemn their parents for not restraining them, and charge upon them their destruction. The false sympathy and blind love of parents causes them to excuse the faults of their children and pass them by without correction, and their children are lost in consequence. and the blood of their souls will rest upon the unfaithful parents."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 1, p. 219.

"Parents, it should be your first concern to obey the call of duty, and enter, heart and soul, into the work God has given you to do. If you fail in everything else, be thorough, be efficient here. If your children come forth from the home training pure and virtuous; if they fill the least and lowest place in God's great plan of good for the world, your life can never be called a failure, and can never be reviewed with remorse....Even kindness must have its limits. Authority must be sustained by a firm, severity, or it will be received by many with mockery and contempt. The so-called tenderness, the coaxing and the indulgence used towards youth, by parents and guardians, is the worst evil which can come upon them. Firmness, decision, positive requirements, are essential in every family. Parents, take up your neglected responsibilities: educate your children after God's plan, 'showing forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.'"--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, pp. 44, 45.

To be Continued." -- **Vol. 3 Symbolic Code Nos. 3, 4, pp. 4-6**

Who Are the Guardians of the Children Mt. Carmel or the Parents?

Question No. 161:

"Is it true that the pupils who enter Mt. Carmel Academy are not permitted to leave even though their parents may desire to have them return home? I have heard that the parents' wishes and instructions have, in some cases, been disregarded, and I cannot understand why Mt. Carmel should have so much to say in respect to our children, and why the parents' desires should be slighted. Will you please explain this to me?"

Answer:

Though it is not true that we hold students here against the express wishes of their parents, yet it is a fact that we are required not only to exercise a very careful surveillance over them while here, but also that we assume a very critical responsibility in the matter of their being here in

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school. And our hope is that the parents shall not force us to be recreant to our trust. Moreover, the supervision which we must maintain over resident students, we must also extend toward all Present Truth youth of school age. The parents should sense that Mt. Carmel, as a spiritual mother, must assume not only this responsibility toward all her children, but also that of giving them a training of a vastly different and less inferior order than that which they have ever known either in their earthly parents' homes or in other schools. Were this not the case, then Mt. Carmel would have for the youth nothing better than that which they can receive elsewhere. If their parents do not expect Mt. Carmel to assume this responsibility and to give them an education superior to that which they could receive at home or in another school, then why should they even think of sending them here? Moreover, if Mt. Carmel, of whom is expected all the knowledge and the wisdom that Heaven sees fit to give, must, herself, be taught and instructed by the earthly parents, who, themselves, are but Mt. Carmel's children, then either Mt. Carmel is not what she ought be, or else the earthly parents are yet sound asleep and know not what they believe!

The rules of the school do not provide for students' leaving here at random, or upon any pretext, to go home or to go any other place, but rather require a very definite understanding, in a business-like way, before releasing any student placed here under our supervision.

If the world, which is under the dominion of Satan, is, in its moral philosophy, so jealous merely for the temporal future not only of its own progeny, but also of ours, that it resolutely and sternly compels all of school age to receive approximately nine months' instruction each year, then should one expect less of us who are to restore the first dominion, a theocracy under God? Ought we not, as Present Truth believers, who must carry the "words of life" to all the world, be even more jealous for the eternal as well as for the temporal future of its youth

than is the world for the expected end of its children? Mt. Carmel, by divine command, assumes all the responsibility for the children's welfare, and not only requires that all of school age be in attendance at the schools of the prophets for at least the duration of the regular school term, but also, as a mother of a higher order, assumes responsibility for the youth during the summer vacation.

However, Mt. Carmel is not as yet organized properly to care for all, either old or young, but her plan is herein described, and she will do all that she can to line up all Present Truth believers with the Lord's program, and those who do not see their great need wholeheartedly to unite with the body will be isolated not only in spirit from the movement, but also in body from the kingdom.

Will you not then, my brethren, praise God

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for "taking the reins in His Own hands"? Will you not sing: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring, again Zion"? (Isa. 52:7, 8.)

We are commissioned to "Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts;" and to "turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers." (Joel 2:16; Mal. 4:6.)

God regards those who fail to comply with His requirements as unfaithful and disloyal to Christ, the Master Teacher, and to His cause. Parents need to learn that the children which God has intrusted to them are God's Own heritage and not theirs. If they fail to respond to His earnest plea, what will they answer when He asks them, "Where is the flock that was given thee, thy beautiful flock? What wilt thou say when he shall punish thee? for thou hast taught them to be captains, and as chief over thee: shall not sorrows take thee, as a woman in travail?" (Jer. 13:20, 21.)

Naturally, then, when parents, who have placed their children here in our charge, and who have thus made us responsible for their "flock," suddenly decide, on the strength of one or another unwarranted provocation, to take them from the Academy before, the school term is over, we vigorously protest their decision, and do all within our power to keep the children here in school.

Such a situation could not possibly exist were it not for the sad fact that by far the great majority, even of Present Truth believers, but dimly comprehend the true nature and object of Christian education. "Many who suppose they are going, to heaven are blindfolded by the world. Their ideas of what constitutes a religious education and religious discipline are vague, resting only on probabilities."--"Fundamentals of Christian Education." p. 311.

"The education and training of the youth is an important and solemn work. The great object to be secured should be the proper development of character, that the individual may be fitted rightly to discharge the duties of the present life, and to enter at last upon the future, immortal life."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 418.

"The true object of education is to fit men and women for service by developing and bringing into active exercise all their faculties."--"Counsels to Teachers," p. 493.

"To bring man back into harmony with God, so to elevate and ennoble his moral nature that he may again reflect the image of the Creator, is

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the great purpose of all the education and discipline of life."--"Counsels to Teachers," p. 49.

"The system of education established in Eden centered in the family." Moreover, "The education centering in the family was that which prevailed in the days of the patriarchs."--"Education," p. 33.

From these brief statements, we see that the true education is to make the individual perfect in Christ, and that in God's original plan for the education of His children, the family was to be the school; also that "This was the method of education that God desired to establish in Israel. But when brought out of Egypt there were among the Israelites few prepared to be workers together with Him in the training of their children. The parents themselves needed instruction and discipline. Victims of lifelong slavery, they were ignorant, untrained, degraded. They had little knowledge of God, and little faith in Him. They were confused by false teaching, and corrupted by their long contact with heathenism."--Id. 34.

So it is with us today. In fact, "Said the angel, Ye have done worse than they" ("Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 1, p. 129), with the result that parents now, more than the children, are in greater need than ever before of "instruction and discipline." Hence, though, in God's plan the family is still the ideal school, and thus, ideally, the place for "children of tender ages," yet both experience and the word of God reveal that we have followed in the footsteps of ancient Israel to do even worse than they to vitiate by our practice the ideal of the family as the school.

Thus "to a great extent children who are to receive an education in our schools, will make far more advancement if separated from the family circle where they have received an erroneous education. It may be necessary for some families to locate where they can board their children and save expense, but in many cases it would prove a hindrance rather than a blessing to their children." "Having always been indulged and never trained to obedience, it would be greatly for their advantage to be removed from their injudicious parents, and placed under as severe regulations and drilling as soldiers in a army. Unless something shall be done for these children who have been so sadly neglected by unfaithful parents, they will never be accepted of Jesus; unless some power of control shall be brought to bear upon them, they will be worthless in this life, and will have no part in the future life."--"Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 313; "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 429.

Therefore, it is more imperative now than ever before that Present Truth parents place their children in the school at Mt. Carmel, which God has provided for them, if they desire to see them saved.

Says the Spirit of Prophecy: "Students need to be placed under the most favorable circumstances

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to counteract very much of the education they have received" ("Life Sketches," p. 352), for "few have the instruction in religious lines that is essential....Children are in great need of proper education, in order that they may be of use in the world...Without this knowledge it is certain, that man will lose eternal life...The Lord calls upon the youth to enter our schools, and quickly fit themselves for active work. Time is short."--"Counsels to Teachers, pp. 168, 84, 13, 493.

"Time is short, and what you do must be done quickly. Resolve to redeem the time. Seek not your own pleasure. Rescue yourself!" "The hours of probation are fast passing. We have no time--not a moment--to lose. Let us not be found sleeping on guard."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 9, p. 200; Vol. 8, p. 252.

"In planning for the education of their children outside the home, parents should realize that it is no longer safe to send them to the public school, and should endeavor to send them to the schools where they will obtain an education based on a scriptural foundation. Upon every Christian parent there rests the solemn obligation of giving to his children an education that will lead them to gain a knowledge of the Lord, and to become partakers of the divine nature through obedience to God's will and way."--"Counsels to Teachers," p. 205.

"Our children should be removed from the evil influences of the public school, and placed where thoroughly converted teachers may educate them in the Holy Scriptures. Thus students will be taught to make the Word of God the grand rule of their lives."--"Counsels to Teachers," p. 204.

"In sending children to the public schools, parents are placing them under demoralizing influences--influences that injure the morals and habits. In such surroundings, children often receive instruction that trains them to be enemies of Christ. They lose sight of piety and virtue.

"Many public schools are permeated by the baneful influence of boys and girls who are experts in sin. And the children who are allowed to play on the street are also obtaining a training that thoughtless parents will sometime learn leads to recklessness and lawlessness."--"Counsels to Teachers," p. 200.

"Parents should neglect no duty on their part to benefit their children. They should so train them that they may be a blessing to society here, and may reap the reward of eternal life hereafter."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 429.

That fathers and mothers fail not of realizing this great desideratum, God has laid upon them "the responsibility of giving a Christian education to the children intrusted to them. In no case

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are they to let any line of business so absorb mind and time and talents that their children are allowed to drift until they are separated far from God. They are not to allow their children to slip out of their grasp into the hands of unbelievers...They are to train them to become workers together with God.

"There is earnest work to be done for the children. Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon all the dwellers on the earth, the Lord calls on those who are Israelites indeed to serve Him. Gather your children into your own houses; gather them in from the classes who are voicing the words of Satan, who are disobeying the commandments of God."--"Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 545.

"This experience of the Israelites was written for the instruction of those who should live in the last days. Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon the dwellers of the earth, the Lord calls upon all who are Israelites indeed to prepare for that event. To parents He sends the warning cry, Gather your children into your own houses; gather them away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God, who are teaching and practicing evil."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 6, p. 195.

"If God, in His providence, has established a school among our own people [at Mt. Carmel], and if in place of sending your [children] where [they] would be in the society and under the influence of those who love the truth, you place [them] in [a worldly class], who have no respect for God or His law, I ask you, how you expect the Lord will work to counteract the evil influence that must surround [them], and which you have voluntarily chosen. Will He commission his angels to do the work which He has left for you to do? God does not work in that way; He expects us to follow the light He has given in His word.

"When God was about to smite the first-born of Egypt, he commanded the Israelites to gather their children from among the Egyptians into their own dwellings, and strike their door posts with blood, that the destroying angel might see it, and pass over their homes. It was the work of parents to gather in their children. This is your work, this is my work, and the work of every mother who believes the truth. The angel is to place a mark upon the forehead of all who are separated from sin and sinners, and the destroying angel will follow, to slay utterly both old and young."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 505.

O, before it is forever too late, may the Spirit of God, with mighty force, send home to the hearts of parents, these fearful facts that they may quickly arouse from their long stupor, and fight for the lives of their children by placing them where God can save them!" -- **Vol. 3 Symbolic Code Nos. 5, 6, pp. 8-11**

COUNSELS TO PARENTS--Part Two

(Continued from Code Vol. 3; No. 3-4; pp. 4-6)

Realizing, with a realization second only to that of God's, that the home and the family are the basic unit of human society, and that therefore as rocks the cradle, rocks the world, Satan set about early in the long ago to manipulate control of both the hands that hold the crib and those that hold the reins of the home; until at last he has so well succeeded at his work that today the Word of God must make the sad confession that "Children are often indulged from their babyhood, and wrong habits become fixed" ("Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 368), and that "Satan has succeeded wonderfully in his plans."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 203.

Knowing full well, however, that he could never succeed in his diabolic scheme except he beguile parents to follow in the footsteps of Eve--depart from the ways of God, to eat of the forbidden fruit--he has, through all his wicked and subtle arts, unceasingly worked to keep the home blind to or indifferent toward Bible principles, and hence under his control.

Having thus planted his banner in the home, even "in the households of those who profess to be God's chosen ones" ("Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 200), is it any wonder that parents of today--those in Present Truth as well as those in the church and in the world--are consistently wrong, and in such sad deception, "and knoweth it not?"

"Oh! when will parents be wise? When will they see and realize the character of their work in neglecting to require obedience and respect according to the instructions of God's word?..."

"These facts must be pressed home upon parents; they must arouse, and take up their long-neglected work."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, pp. 324, 326.

"Parents, take up your neglected responsibilities; educate your children after God's plan..."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 45.

"The neglect of parents to properly discipline their children has been a fruitful source of evil in many families. The youth have not been restrained as they should have been. Parents have neglected to follow the directions of the word of God in this matter, and the children have taken the reins of government into their own hands. The consequence has been that they have generally succeeded in ruling their parents, instead of being under their authority.

"The parents are blind to the true state of their children, who have succeeded in entirely deceiving them. But those who have lost the control of their children are not pleased when others seek to control them, or to point out their defects for the purpose of correcting them."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, pp. 192, 193.

Perhaps Mt. Carmel is having to grapple with no problem so often and so vigorously as that brought to view in the concluding sentence of the last quotation.

On a number of occasions, when necessity has led us to advise with parents, concerning their children, and "to point out their defects for the purpose of correcting them," these parents have resented and opposed our efforts to help them, in spite of the fact that in pointed condemnation of such a course, stand the following solemn testimonies:

"I have been shown that very many of the parents who profess to believe the solemn message for this time, have not trained their children for God. They have not restrained themselves, and have been irritated with any one who attempted to restrain them."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 36.

"Instead of uniting with those who bear the burdens, to lift up the standard of morals, and working with heart and soul in the fear of God to correct the wrongs in their children, many parents soothe their own consciences by saying, 'My children are no worse than others.' They seek to conceal the glaring wrongs which God hates, lest their children shall become offended, and take some desperate course. If the spirit of rebellion is in their hearts, far better subdue it now than permit it to increase and strengthen by indulgence. If parents would do their duty, we should see a different state of things. Many of these parents have backslidden from God. They do not have wisdom from Him to perceive the devices of Satan and to resist his snares."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 651.

"Parents who give this training [of strict obedience to God] are not the ones likely to be found criticizing the teacher. They feel that both the interest of their children and justice to the school demand that, so far as possible, they sustain and honor the one who shares their responsibility.

"Many parents fail here. By their hasty, unfounded criticism the influence of the faithful, self-sacrificing teacher is often well-nigh destroyed. Many parents whose children have been spoiled by indulgence, leave to the teacher the unpleasant task of repairing their neglect; and then by their own course they make his task almost hopeless. Their criticism and censure of the school management encourage insubordination in the children, and confirm them in wrong habits.

"If criticism or suggestion in regard to the teacher's work becomes necessary, it should be made to him in private. If this proves ineffective, let the matter be referred to those who are responsible for the management of the school. Nothing should be said or done to weaken the children's respect for the one upon whom their well-being in so great degree depends.

"The parents' intimate knowledge both of the character of the children and of their physical peculiarities or infirmities, if imparted to the teacher, would be an assistance to him. It is to be regretted that so many fail of realizing this. By most parents little interest is shown either to inform themselves as to the teacher's qualifications, or to co-operate with him in his work."--"Education," pp. 283-284.

"Many fathers and mothers err in failing to second the efforts of the faithful teacher. Youth and children, with their imperfect comprehension and undeveloped judgment, are not always able to understand all the teacher's plans and methods. Yet when they bring home reports of

what is said and done at school, these are discussed by the parents in the family circle, and the course of the teacher is criticized without restraint. Here the children learn lessons that are not easily unlearned. Whenever they are subjected to unaccustomed restraint, or required to apply themselves to hard study, they appeal to their injudicious parents for sympathy and indulgence. Thus a spirit of unrest and discontent is encouraged, the school as a whole suffers from the demoralizing influence, and the teacher's burden is rendered much heavier. But the greatest loss is sustained by the victims of parental mismanagement. Defects of character which a right training would have corrected, are left to strengthen with years, to mar and perhaps destroy the usefulness of their possessor.

"As a rule it will be found that the students most ready to complain of school discipline are those who have received a superficial education. Having never been taught the necessity of thoroughness, they regard it with dislike. Parents have neglected to train their sons and daughters to the faithful performance of domestic duties. Children are permitted to spend their hours in play, while father and mother toil on unceasingly. Few young persons feel that it is their duty to bear a part of the family burden. They are not taught that the indulgence of appetite, or the pursuit of ease or pleasure, is not the great aim of life."--"Fundamentals of Christian Education," pp. 64-65.

"Better, far better might your children suffer, better lie in their graves, than be taught to treat lightly the principles that lie at the very foundation of loyalty to truth, to their fellow-beings, and to God.

"In cases of difficulty with the ones who have them in charge, go directly to those in authority and learn the truth. Bear in mind that the managers of the various departments understand much better than others can what regulations are essential. Manifest confidence in their judgment, and respect for their authority. Teach your children to respect and honor the ones to whom God has shown respect and honor by placing them in positions of trust.

"In no way can the members of the church more effectively second the efforts of the managers in our institutions than by giving in their own homes an example of right order and discipline....Let there be no encouragement to sin, no evil speaking or evil surmising."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 7, pp. 185-186.

"Satan has had great power over the minds of parents through their undisciplined children. The sin of parental neglect stands marked against many Sabbath-keeping parents. The spirit of gossip and tale-bearing is one of Satan's special agencies to sow discord and strife, to separate friends, and to undermine the faith of many in the truthfulness of our positions. Brethren and sisters are too ready to talk of the faults and errors that they think exist in others, and especially in those who have borne unflinchingly the messages of reproof and warning given them of God.

"The children of these complainers listen with open ears, and receive the poison of disaffection. Parents are thus blindly closing the avenues through which the hearts of the children might be reached. How many families season their daily meals with doubt and questionings. They dissect the characters of their friends, and serve them up as a dainty

dessert. A precious bit of slander is passed around the board, to be commented upon, not only by adults, but by children. In this God is dishonored. Jesus said, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.' Therefore Christ is slighted and abused by those who slander his servants.

"The names of God's chosen servants have been handled with disrespect, and in some cases with absolute contempt, by certain persons whose duty it is to uphold them. The children have not failed to hear the disrespectful remarks of their parents in reference to the solemn reproofs and warnings of God's servants. They have understood the scornful jests and depreciatory speeches that from time to time have met their ears, and the tendency has been to bring sacred and eternal interests, in their minds, on a level with the common affairs of the world. What a work are these parents doing in making infidels of their children even in their childhood! This is the way that children are taught to be irreverent, and to rebel against Heaven's reproof of sin."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, pp. 194-195.

"Their children have gloried in their freedom to do as they pleased. They have been released from home responsibilities and have despised restraint. A life of usefulness appears to them like a life of drudgery. Lax government at home has unfitted them for any position, and, as a natural consequence, they have rebelled against school discipline. Their complaints have been received and credited by their parents, who, in sympathizing with their imaginary troubles, have encouraged their children in wrong-doing. These parents have, in many instances, believed positive untruths that have been palmed off upon them by their deceiving children. A few such cases of unruly and dissembling children would do much toward breaking down all authority in the school, and demoralizing the young people of our church.

"There is perfect order in Heaven, perfect concord and agreement. If parents so neglect to bring their children under proper authority here, how can they hope that they will be considered fit companions for the holy angels in a world of peace and harmony? Indulgent parents, who justify their children in their wrong-doing, are thereby creating an element that will bring discord into society, and subvert the authority of both school and church.

"Children need watchful care and guidance as never before; for Satan is striving to gain the control of their minds and hearts, and to drive out the Spirit of God. The fearful state of the youth of this age constitutes one of the strongest signs that we are living in the last days; but the ruin of many may be traced directly to the wrong management of the parents. The spirit of murmuring against reproof has been taking root and is bearing its fruit of insubordination. While the parents are not pleased with the characters their children are developing, they fail to see the errors that make them what they are."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 199.

"Our brethren and sisters abroad should feel it their duty to sustain this institution which God has devised. Some of the students return home with murmurings and complaints, and parents and members of the church give an attentive ear to their exaggerated, one-sided statements. They would do well to consider that there are two sides to the story; but, instead, they allow these garbled reports to build up a barrier between them and the College. They then begin to express fears, questionings, and suspicions in regard to the way the College is conducted. Such an influence does great harm. The words of dissatisfaction spread like a

contagious disease, and the impression made upon minds is hard to efface. The story enlarges with every repetition, until it becomes of gigantic proportions, when investigation would reveal the fact that there was no fault with teachers or professors. They were simply doing their duty in enforcing the rules of the school, which must be carried out or the school will become demoralized.

"Parents do not always move wisely. Many are very exacting in wishing to bring others to their ideas, and become impatient and over-bearing if they cannot do this; but when their own children are required to observe rules and regulations at school, and these children fret under the necessary restraint, too often their parents, who profess to love and fear God, join with the children instead of reproofing them and correcting their faults. This often proves the turning point in the character of their children. Rules and order are broken down, and discipline is trampled under foot. The children despise restraint, and are allowed to speak disparagingly of the institutions at [Mt. Carmel]. If parents would only reflect, they would see the evil result of the course they are pursuing."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4 p. 428.

"I wish my position to be clearly understood. I have no sympathy with the course that has been pursued toward Bro. ----- . The enemy has encouraged feelings of hatred in the hearts of many. The errors committed by him have been reported from one person to another, constantly growing in magnitude, as busy, gossiping tongues added fuel to the fire. Parents who have never felt the care which they should feel for the souls of their children, and who have never given them proper restraint and instruction, are the very ones who manifest the most bitter opposition when their children are restrained, reproofed, or corrected at school. Some of these children are a disgrace to the church, and a disgrace to the name of Adventists.

"The parents despised reproof themselves, and despised the reproof given to their children, and were not careful to conceal this from them. The sin of the parents began with their mismanagement at home. The souls of some of these children will be lost, because they did not receive instruction from God's word, and did not become Christians at home. Instead of sympathizing with their children in a perverse course, the parents should have reproofed them, and sustained the faithful teacher. These parents were not united to Christ themselves, and this is the reason of their terrible neglect of duty. That which they have sown, they will also reap. They are sure of a harvest.

"In the school, Bro. ----- has not only been burdened by the wrong course of the children, but by the injudicious management of the parents, which produced and nurtured hatred of restraint."

"I dare not longer remain silent. I speak to you and to the church at [Mount Carmel]. You have made a great mistake. You have treated with injustice one to whom you and your children owe a debt of gratitude, which you do not realize. You are responsible for the influence you have exerted upon the [School]. ...You have encouraged in the students a spirit of criticism, which God's Spirit has sought to repress. You have led them to betray confidence. There are not a few young persons among us who are indebted for most valuable traits of character to the knowledge and principles received from Bro. ----- . To his training, many owe much of their usefulness, not only in the Sabbath-school, but in various other branches of our

work. Yet your influence encouraged ingratitude, and has led students to despise the things that they should cherish....

"Bro. ----- has been an earnest seeker after knowledge. He has sought to impress upon the students that they are responsible for their time, their talents, their opportunities. It is impossible for a man to have so much care, and carry so heavy responsibilities, without becoming hurried, weary, and nervous. Those who refuse to accept burdens which will tax their strength to the utmost, know nothing of the pressure brought to bear upon those who must bear these burdens.

"There are some in the [message] who have looked only for what has been unfortunate and disagreeable in their acquaintance with Bro. ----- . These persons have not that noble, Christ-like spirit, that thinketh no evil. They have made the most of every inconsiderate word or act, and have recalled these at a time when. envy, prejudice, and jealousy, were active in unchristian hearts..... Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, pp. 51-55.

"A few weeks since, I was in a dream brought into one of your meetings for investigation. I heard the testimonies borne by students against Bro. ----- . Those very students had received great benefit from his thorough, faithful instruction. Once they could hardly say enough in his praise. Then it was popular to esteem him. But now the current was setting the other way. These persons have developed their true character. I saw an angel with a ponderous book open, in which he wrote every testimony given. Opposite each testimony were traced the sins, defects, and errors of the one who bore it. Then there was recorded the great benefit which these individuals had received from Bro. -----'s labors.

"We, as a people, are reaping the fruit of Bro. -----'s hard labor. There is not a man among us who has devoted more time and thought to his work, than Bro.----- . He has felt that he had no one to sustain him, and has felt grateful for any encouragement." "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 59.

"The Lord approved of the general course of Bro. -----, as he was laying the foundation for the school which is now in operation....Under the strain of over-work, he has made some mistakes, not half so grievous, however; as those of persons who have cherished bitterness against him. In his connection with the youth, he has had to meet that spirit of rebellion and defiance which the apostle declares to be one of the signs of the last days."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 51 p. 91.

(Though some of the foregoing testimonies were addressed to the believers at Battle Creek, "The same principles which apply to the work in our institutions at Battle Creek, apply as well to that in the field at large."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 566.

"If parents would place themselves in the position of the teachers, and see how difficult it must necessarily be to manage and discipline a school...of students of every grade and class of minds, they might, upon reflection, see things differently. They should consider that some children have never been disciplined at home. Having always been indulged and never trained to obedience, it would be greatly for their advantage to be removed from their

injudicious parents, and placed under as severe regulations and drilling as soldiers in an army. Unless something shall be done for these children who have been so sadly neglected by unfaithful parents, they will never be accepted of Jesus; unless some power of control shall be brought to bear upon them, they will be worthless in this life, and will have no part in the future life."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 429.

"Entire families are in need of thorough transformation in their habits and ideas before they can be true representatives of Jesus Christ. And to a great extent children who are to receive an education in our schools, will make far more advancement if separated from the family circle where they have received an erroneous education. It may be necessary for some families to locate where they can board their children and save expense, but in many cases it would prove a hindrance rather than a blessing to their children."--"Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 313.

However, "No family is justified in bringing children to [Mt. Carmel] who are not under the control of their parents. If their parents have disregarded the word of God in the matter of instructing and training their children, [Mt. Carmel] is no place for them. They will only be the means of demoralizing the young people of [this] place, and bringing discord where peace and prosperity should reign. Let such parents take up the neglected work of restraining and disciplining their children before they venture to impose them upon [Mt. Carmel]."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 4, p. 204.

PROTECTING GOD'S HERITAGE

Our past experience with parents in the matter of the schooling of the children at Mt. Carmel Academy, has evidenced the fact that but few if any truly understand, despite every effort to make clear, what precisely is the nature, purpose, and work of this institution.

Fettered with the concepts, ideas, and values of a wrong education received through their days, parents and children alike, it has been found, think of the school here at Mt. Carmel in virtually the same terms as they think of any other school, with the sad consequence that they have found themselves upset over the institution's standards, rules, and regulations.

As the school of the Elijah message, Mt. Carmel Academy has no aim other than to train youth for a place in the work of the gospel for these last days. It has no other interest. It serves neither for hire nor earthly advantage of any kind. The individual--body, mind, and soul--is all that it wants, and what it must necessarily have, as is elucidated in the Symbolic Code, Vol. 3, Numbers 5 and 6, pages 9-11.

It is, therefore, to avert the evil results which must surely follow the exercise of such liberties, that Mt. Carmel Academy will henceforth accept applicants only on the following terms:

1. That the student come of his own free will.
2. That the student come prepared to take up residence here without leave until the School Board shall issue his release.

3. That the parents (or guardians) likewise be prepared to send students here to remain without leave until the Board shall see fit to issue their release.

4. That the parents (or guardians) leave students, for the duration of their residence here, utterly to the dictates of the institution.

5. That parents (or guardians) be prepared either to keep up the students' expenses, or else turn the students over to Mt. Carmel, who will school and maintain them, provided that they be forever unconditionally free from the ties and dictates of parents (or guardians), and wholeheartedly enter into their training here until they become efficient and dependable, and thus qualified for a place in the work of Present Truth.

However, should the students, while in training or anytime thereafter until of age, prove a failure to the cause of the aforesaid institution, it shall return them to their parents or guardians.

6. That mail will be censored if the necessity should arise.

7. That both parents (or guardians) and students be prepared, to accept whatever disciplinary measures Mt. Carmel may deem necessary.

Parents and children whose one and all consuming desire and determination is to see each other saved in the kingdom, will gladly comply with the foregoing terms, and will count it no sacrifice to endure the necessary restrictions and concessions which the terms impose.

Hence, Mt. Carmel Academy neither wants nor will receive any but those who themselves as well as their parents will make any sacrifice to be saved. To none others are her doors open.

The conditions of the students' admittance being thus understood, then if the students, parents, or guardians should in any way deviate from the principals herein set forth, the School Board would not be true to its trust should it allow such students to continue in school or even to stay on the camp's premises. And therefore, should any find themselves possessed of a spirit foreign to these requirements, we advise such immediately to sever connections with Mt. Carmel rather than to be severed.

-- Mt. Carmel Academy School Board." -- **Vol. 3 Symbolic Code No. 7, pp. 5-10**

GOD'S HERITAGE OUR SUPREME REGARD

"The schools of the prophets, established by Samuel, had fallen into decay during the years of Israel's apostasy. Elijah reestablished these schools, making provision for young men to gain an education that would lead them to magnify the law and make it honorable."--"Prophets and Kings," p. 224.

The message which is to close the Gospel work, is the last of all gospel messages before the close of probation. It is the one which is to be brought by the anti-typical prophet Elijah (Mal. 4:5, 6), for he is to appear just before "the great and dreadful day of the Lord," and is to restore all things. Matt. 17:11. Furthermore, as this last message is brought by Elijah of today, then the message which the ancient prophet Elijah carried to Israel of old must be a type of this last message, which is not only to restore all things but is also to bring the end of all wickedness, by changing the heart of the penitent (Ezek. 36:26), and by destroying all the impenitent. (Isa. 11:4.)

As the schools of the prophets in Elijah's time had fallen into decay and were in need of being reestablished, the schools of the prophets in our time likewise have fallen into decay, else the Elijah message of old could not be a type of the Elijah message of today. Moreover, as Elijah the type reestablished the schools of the prophets in his time, so Elijah the anti-type must do likewise in the day of his appearance. The word of God itself bears witness to this, for "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord," the message of Elijah is to "turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers." Therefore the hearts both of parents and of children are not right toward each other, and are in need of the message rightly to educate them, otherwise there would be no need for it to turn the hearts of any.

In the beginning, the denominational schools were established for the sole purpose of training young and old for God's service and for His kingdom,--a training which can be accomplished only by making the Bible both the text book and the foundation of all their education. As God told ancient Israel that if they would keep His commandments, He would make them greater in every respect than any nation (Deut. 28:7-14) in the world, likewise today does He desire to exalt the church schools far above the world's schools. In other words, God did not intend that either His school or His church be the tail, but instead that they be the head. Thus, by giving mankind that which the world can not give, they were to exalt God and to bless humanity. Sadly, though, failing to do this, the church has sought prestige from the state accrediting institutions, instead of maintaining such a position as to oblige the state institutions to seek prestige from the church. Thus by coveting that which it would never have needed had it not broken its connection with God, it has thereby made its own schools the tail, and the schools of the world the head! In other words, if any school is to be raised to the standing of another, it ought to be the world's school to the standing of God's school, rather than God's school to the standing of the world's school; thus giving evidence that God's schools are of a superior order.

The fact that the accrediting boards do not recognize credits for courses in the Bible and The Spirit of Prophecy, the study of these inspired books is naturally neglected, and as they are thus considered unworthy of academic credit, it is obvious that they are no longer either the textbook or the foundation of the education in the denominational schools. Thus, by seeking the friendship of the world at such a great sacrifice as this, the church has, by the bargain, dishonored the God of Heaven and honored the god of the world, thereby leaving God's people unfit for His service and for His kingdom, exalting the schools of the world, and humbling the schools of God. Therefore the Lord now asks the question: "Where is the house that ye build unto Me? and where is the place of My rest?" (Isa. 66:1.)

These facts prove also that the love which the parents have toward their children, and which the children have toward their parents, must be the wrong kind, else there would be no need for Elijah to come turn their hearts to each other. Love that frowns upon chastisement and that overlooks indulgence and self-gratification at the cost of eternal life, is like a lion's love for a tender lamb--hell's love.

From the observations before us, it is clear that both the parents and the denominational schools have failed to carry out their part in educating the youth to right ideas of love and discipline. However, though on the one hand the Elijah message reveals that our hearts are not right toward one another, on the other hand it promises to correct our hearts if we will let it. This work of correction must be considered of first importance, for only it can fit a people to stand in " the great and dreadful day of the Lord," when He comes to " smite the earth with a curse." Therefore,

"In the Grand Work of Education" Today, "Our schools must be more like the schools of the prophets. They should be training-schools, where the students may be brought under the discipline of Christ, and learn of the Great Teacher. They should be family schools, where every student will receive special help from his teachers, as the members of the family should receive help in the home."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 6, p. 152.

"These schools proved to be one of the means most effective in promoting that righteousness which 'exalteth a nation'. In no small degree they aided in laying the foundation of that marvelous prosperity which distinguished the reigns of David and Solomon."--"Education," pp. 47,48.

"The heart of Elijah was cheered as he saw what was being accomplished by means of these schools."--"Prophets and Kings," p. 225.

The foregoing quotations set forth the fact that little can be done toward restoring Israel to the favor of God and to her former greatness, without the restoration of the schools of the prophets. Hence, for this, more than for any other purpose, Mt. Carmel has been established. This education is, beyond a doubt, the greatest need of today. Yet many Present Truth believers have not recognized this fact or, if they have, evidently have forgotten it.

Since the primary object of Mt. Carmel's existence is to accomplish this "grand work of education," it should receive first place in the minds and hearts of all Present Truth believers. But as Satan is working even more subtly now than in the past, he has succeeded in almost sweeping from the minds of many, the realization of the importance of this work, though their attention has been forcibly called to it time and again. Now comes Providence once more with facts and figures in an effort to arouse those who are still in deep Laodicean slumber, and to cause them to spring clear of their beds, their eyes wide open to the great danger facing both old and young.

We believe that our people will gain deep conviction and an impelling urge to action by knowing the facts contained in the following financial statement of Mt. Carmel Academy for the fiscal years of 1937 and 1938:

Total cost of operation for this period amounted to \$6,712.42, whereas the total income for the same period was but \$1,676.58, or barely 24%--less than one fifth--of the total expense; or in other words, the expenses were over four times as great as the income! Furthermore, as the school does not charge tuition, these expenses included nothing but room, board, and laundry!--and all this for ten dollars a month! This startling report brings sharply to view our great need at this time.

Because of this default on the part of parents in the payment of the expenses of their children, and also because of both student and parental belligerence, Mt. Carmel Academy has already been forced to close its doors to all who are not already in school here. However, if we could add to our buildings and thus provide housing for a few more students, we could take some of those youth who, first, are under their parents' control; who, second, are converted to the message; and who, third, are able to meet in full the expenses over and above those which they are able to defray with wages from required manual work. As a school, we are endeavoring, Brother and Sister, to save the children. Will you, against God's will, have them perish in the 'general ruin', all because of 'the selfish love of me and mine'?"

To those who fail to come up to the help of the Lord, will Christ say: "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment." Matt. 25:45, 46.

"Let every reader of the Code reread his March-April, 1937 issue, especially page nine, and in the fear of God whole-heartedly comply with all its requirements."--"The Symbolic Code," Vol. 3, Nos. 11 and 12, pp. 15, 16.

However, the care of the children is not the only burden that the institution must carry and support. Our free literature fund, together with the building and upkeep expenses of the camp, requires a greater amount of means than merely the first tithe--the ministerial income.

It has been estimated that the average offerings, not the tithe, received from present truth believers, amount to about 2% of their 'increase,' and that it takes about 10% to maintain a free boarding school. Hence, in unequivocal speech, "The Symbolic Code" announces that if present truth believers expect us to continue to take their children in school at Mt. Carmel, they must contribute not less than 10% of their increase to this needy fund. In other words, if one's income is \$15 a week, his first tithe--that which is for gospel work--will amount to \$1.50, and on the remaining \$13.50, the second tithe--that which is for school maintenance--will amount to \$1.35, thus making for both first and second tithe on \$15.00 increase, a total of \$2.85.

Let all present truth believers faithfully pay a first and second tithe, then the institution can maintain, entirely free, a boarding school for all the children in Present Truth who are of school age. This most needy and urgent, as well as most trying, call, Brother and Sister, challenges

your faithfulness, your loyalty, your cooperation, and your love for the message and for the Lord's heritage. Rise and Shine!

"Let none, however poor they may be gain...the erroneous idea that their circumstances excuse them from assuming any responsibility for the education of their own or other children. '...by refusing to put expensive trimmings on their garments,' and by letting 'every unnecessary expense be cut down,' they may save and thus contribute their mite to the defraying of the student's expenses. God says: 'Let every family bring their tithes and offerings unto the Lord.'"--"Testimonies or the Church," Vol. 9, p. 53.

"If the parents or guardian of each student would faithfully cut out every unnecessary expense, placing to the student's school expenses the amount thus saved; and if all other believers, assuming their share of responsibility, would do likewise, we would not now be operating the Academy at a monthly loss, which necessarily handicaps the other departments of the work."--"The Symbolic Code," Vol. 3, Nos. 3, 4, p. 9.

Wishing, from the very beginning, to make the parent's burden as light as possible, we determined to room and board the students for the extremely small amount of ten dollars a month, including laundry, tuition, and all! Moreover, being desirous of being like the good Samaritan, the institution further determined to sacrifice to the limit, and itself to assume full responsibility for the expenses of those children whose parents were altogether unable to pay anything toward their children's upkeep, so that every child might have the opportunity of obtaining a Christian education. However, this latter class of parents have so disappointed us that we no longer dare be so generous as to educate, room, board, and clothe their children free of charge.

If in addition to our strict economy and hard work, we had regularly received for each student, ten dollars a month for his room, board, and laundry, we then would have been able to keep the school from burdening the other departments of the work. But now we are confronted with a situation similar to that set forth in the following testimony:

"When the managers of a school find that it is not meeting running expenses, and debts are heaping up, they should act like level-headed business men, and change their methods and plans. When one year has proved that the financial management has been wrong, let wisdom's voice be heard...

"In some of our schools the price of tuitions has been too low. This has in many ways been detrimental to the educational work. It has brought discouraging debt; it has thrown upon the management a continual suspicion of miscalculation, want of economy, and wrong planning; it has been very discouraging to the teachers; and it leads the people to demand correspondingly low prices in other schools. Whatever may have been the object in placing the tuition at less than a living rate, the fact that a school has been running behind heavily is sufficient reason for reconsidering the plans and arranging its charges so that in the future its showing may be different. The amount charged for tuition, board, and residence should be sufficient to pay the salaries of the faculty, to supply the table with an abundance of healthful, nourishing food, to maintain the furnishing of the rooms, to keep the buildings in repair, and

to meet other necessary running expenses. This is an important matter, and calls for no narrow calculation, but for a thorough investigation. The counsel of the Lord is needed. The school should have a sufficient income not only to pay the necessary running expenses, but to be able to furnish the students, during the school term with some things essential for their work.

"Debts must not be allowed to accumulate term after term. The very highest kind of education that could be given, is to shun the incurring of debt as you would shun disease."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 6, pp. 210, 211.

Hence, unless parents, guardians, and all present truth believers, herewith resolve that they will come up to the help of the Lord by making a covenant by sacrifice, thus placing themselves squarely under the burden, not only of relieving the school of its present indebtedness, but also of maintaining the institution in the future, the management will have no alternative but to proceed according to the instruction set forth in the foregoing quotation from "The Spirit of Prophecy," which would mean that a number of worthy students now enjoying the advantages and benefits to be secured at no other school than Mt. Carmel, would have to leave because of an inability to meet the increased expenses.

Brethren, we must do all we can to keep up the school. Therefore, in the fear of God, read Judges 5:23, along with "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 284, paragraph two, and take heed.

To every wide awake, conscientious present truth believer, these startling facts will act as a stimulus, impelling each to deep heart-searching, self-sacrificing activity. As the school is yours, and has no one but you to look to for support, it is therefore imperative that you get under its financial burden if the institution itself is to discharge its great responsibility of accomplishing the divinely appointed work of gathering in and educating your children. You dare not fail in this and thereby let the enemy of God and man triumph. And Mt. Carmel has every confidence that you are not going to allow this to happen, for the 144,000 are to "make a covenant with Him by sacrifice."

Moreover, as "all His biddings are enablings," no true Israelite will fail "to come to the help of the Lord" in the crisis which faces the educational work at this time. Nor will this sacrifice reduce you to want, but will, on the contrary, bring rich blessings. For in this connection, the Lord has said: "The spiritual prosperity of every member of the church depends on...strict fidelity to God." "Close and unexpected tests will be brought to bear upon them to see who are worthy to receive the seal of the living God."

"When Paul sent Titus to Corinth to strengthen the believers there, he instructed him... in the grace of giving:...Unselfish liberality threw the early church into a transport of joy;...their benevolence testified that they had not received the grace of God [the message] in vain. What could produce such liberality but the sanctification of the Spirit?

"Spiritual prosperity is closely bound up with Christian liberality. The followers of Christ should rejoice in the privilege of revealing in their lives the beneficence of their Redeemer. As

they give to the Lord, they have the assurance that their treasure is going before them to the heavenly courts....The sower multiplies his seed by casting it away....By imparting they increase their blessings."--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, p. 382; "Acts of the Apostles," pp. 344, 345.

Brother, Sister, will you have these blessings, and will you have God's school to endure and prosper, fulfilling its high and holy purpose as "a sanctuary for the sorely tried youth of today?" If you will, you must meet the conditions, which God has made beautifully simple, and with which even the little children at Mt. Carmel are joyfully complying; and which are that every present truth believer now respond to God's requirement that each give the school the fullest cooperation by bringing into the storehouse, not only tithe and offerings, but also a faithful second tithe....Furthermore, if in cheerful obedience you will thus render to God His own, unselfish liberality, will not only put His school on a solid financial basis, but will throw you, too, as it did the early church," into a transport of joy"! {5SC6-12: 5.2.1}

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Counsels to Parents--Part IV

One of Mt. Carmel's Greatest Concerns

Questions No 198:

"Did not Christ say: "Suffer little, children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 19:14)? Why then should children have to be disciplined and chastened to be saved?"

Answer:

The foregoing scripture, though manifestly describing the nature and spirit prerequisite to forming a character for the kingdom, is a common refuge of sentimental and indulgent parents, guardians, and teachers who are opposed to subjecting their charges to any discipline at divergence with their own. Indulgent, lax, careless, or indifferent with themselves, they must at all costs (however prohibitive) secure for their proteges the same easy-going, indulgent, compliant handling, even appealing to Christ's words as warrant for their idea that the naturally unregenerate ways and propensities of the young should be of no great cause for concern and discipline, but should be suffered and left to be "outgrown"!

"I have heard persons argue that their children were too young to be corrected. They said, 'When the children are older, they will be ashamed...and will overcome.'--The Signs of the Times, March 16, 1891.

"The false idea entertained by many, that the restraining of children is an injury, is ruining thousands upon thousands. Satan will surely take possession of the children if you are not on your guard."--"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 541.

"Weakness in requiring obedience, and false love and sympathy,--the false notion that to indulge and not to restrain is wisdom,--constitute a system of training that grieves angels; but it delights Satan, for it brings hundreds and thousands of children into his ranks. This is why he blinds the eyes of parents, benumbs their sensibilities, and confuses their minds."--Id., p. 324.

Yet confirming themselves, by every means possible, in this sophistic idea, they ardently and tenaciously continue to cling to it, with increasing detriment to themselves and their children now, and to the inevitable undoing of both ultimately. But the words of Christ which they use as a cloak of white for their off-color ideas, rather than being justification for allowing children "just to grow up naturally," uninhibited and unrepressed, is on the contrary a profound appeal for strict discipline which, in the last analysis, is but salvation--the supreme gift, the pearl of great price, which He gives to all who come unto Him.

"Come unto Me," He tenderly invites; "take My yoke [discipline] upon you, and learn of Me...for My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30.

"My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of His correction: for whom the Lord loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth." Prov. 3:11, 12.

"As many as I love [save], I rebuke and chasten [discipline]." Rev. 3:19.

Of such, therefore, as "sell all and buy the field;" as are "zealous therefore, and repent;" in short, as implicitly accept the discipline, the yoke, of Christ,--"of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Thus the scripture, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 19:14), rather than lending the slightest support to the specious doctrine of natural behavior, teaches on the contrary the twin doctrines of strict discipline and perfection: for such as shall make up the kingdom of heaven, shall have let heaven's discipline bring "into captivity (their) every thought to the obedience of Christ," and thus having the mind of Him, shall "be as God" (Zech. 12:8),--perfect.

Clearly, then, truly to suffer and forbid not children to come unto Christ, is to discipline them by precept and example to unfailing obedience to God's requirements,--"to every word that proceedeth out of His mouth," --"till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the son of God, a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." Eph. 4:13.

"Parents cannot succeed well in the government of their children until they first have perfect control of themselves. They should first learn to control themselves, then they can more successfully control their children."--"Testimonies," Vol. 1, pp. 399, 398.

With both parents and children thus faithfully walking in the light and diligently working in Christ's line,--exchanging their ideas and theories, habits and practices for that which is

written; disciplining themselves in self-abnegation, self-control, and self-denial,--with all thus striving, the message might soon reach the church, the Loud Cry be given, the kingdom set up, and the endless ages of joy and peace and happiness ushered in.

"With such an army of workers," says "The Spirit of Prophecy," "as our youth rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come,--the end of suffering and sorrow and sin! How soon, in place of a possession here, with its blight of sin and pain, our children might receive their inheritance where 'the righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever;' where 'the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick,' and 'the voice of weeping shall be no more heard.'"--"Education," p. 271.

With such an ineffably thrilling and glorious prospect before them, will parents continue to permit themselves and their children to go out with the tide? Will they continue to compromise with the world and to debate with God over right and wrong and duty? Will they now, while opportunity lingers yet a moment, part company with world-loving relatives, friends, and associates, and make a clean break with their old ways of living and thinking? Will they, specifically, cease spoiling and ruining their children with pampering, coddling, and indulging; with sentimental praising and endearing; with proud glorying in worldly popularity and fashionable dress; with selfish, envious, jealous currying of favor; with wheedling, cajoling, coaxing, brandishing, and buying to gain obedience; and then, cruelest of all, with sympathizing with them in their grievances against those who dare lift voice or hand against their careless, willful, hell-bent ways? Will parents, in short, in an earnestness commensurate with the tremendous responsibility devolving upon parenthood, cry out to God to be delivered from the fatal deception of parental mismanagement in all its many forms and phases, and in its every ramification?

"Children have gloried in their freedom to do as they pleased. They have been released from home responsibilities and have despised restraint. A life of usefulness appears to them like a life of drudgery. Lax government at home has unfitted them for any position, and, as a natural consequence, they have rebelled against school discipline. Their complaints have been received and credited by their parents, who, in sympathizing with their imaginary troubles, have encouraged their children in wrong-doing. These parents have, in many instances, believed positive untruths that have been palmed off upon them by their deceiving children. A few such cases of unruly and dissembling children would do much toward breaking down all authority in the school, and demoralizing the young people of our church....

"Indulgent parents, who justify their children in their wrong-doing, are thereby creating an element that will bring discord into society, and subvert the authority of both school and church...

"The fearful state of the youth of this age constitutes one of the strongest signs that we are living in the last days; but the ruin of many may be traced directly to the wrong management of the parents. The spirit of murmuring against reproof has been taking root and is bearing its fruit of insubordination. While the parents are not pleased with the characters their children

are developing, they fail to see the errors that make them what they are."--"Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 199.

"The curse of God will surely rest upon unfaithful parents. Not only are they planting thorns which will wound them here, but they must meet their own unfaithfulness when the Judgment shall sit. Many children, 'will rise up in judgment and condemn their parents, for not restraining them, and charge upon them, their destruction. The false sympathy and blind love of parents causes them to excuse the faults of their children and pass them by without correction, and their children are lost in consequence, and the blood of their souls will rest upon the unfaithful parents.'"--Id., Vol. 1, p. 219.

Oh, why will parents continue in their proud, sentimental, overfond, indulgent, foolish ways to make infidels and outlaws of their children, with their feet taken hold on the road to hell--victims of a wrong home training?

In view of these divine injunctions and requirements, be it henceforth known to all that Mt. Carmel Academy will from now on accept none but those who can give satisfactory evidence that they have learned at home to wear the yoke of Christ--learned to be obedient, truthful, honest, self-controlled, self-denying, respectful of the rights of others, respectful of parents, respectful of older people, and, above all, to have reverence for God, reverence for the Word of God, and reverence for His house;--who, in fine, have laid the foundation of a good character.

"No family is justified in bringing children to...[Mt. Carmel] who are not under the control of their parents. If their parents have disregarded the word of God in the matter of instructing and training their children...[Mt. Carmel] is no place for them. They will only be the means of demoralizing the young people of...[this] place, and bringing discord where peace and prosperity should reign. Let such parents take up the neglected work of restraining and disciplining their children before they venture to impose them upon...[Mt. Carmel]."--"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 204.

Furthermore, the institution will accept only those who, before they leave home, have deposited in advance with the Bank of Palestina, Mt. Carmel Center, \$20.00 for two months' upkeep, in addition to the amount of return fare home, against the eventuation that two months' stay here prove for any reason the inadvisability of their longer remaining.

Parents, God will no longer be trifled with, and those who would have a place in His school from now on, must first demonstrate that they behave like well-trained horses rather than like wild zebras, and that they are builders, and not wreckers.

Testimonies versus Alleged Cruelties

Question No. 199:

We have heard terrible tales told about Mt. Carmel's school,--that the teachers are cruel to the children, and that the children stay there only because they have to. We are anxious to know the truth of the matter directly from you. Please relieve our minds immediately.

Answer:

In view of the inevitable repetitions of past history, it is but natural that we are thus accused. Satan opposes the work of God on all fronts.

Knowing that finally through the instrumentality of the schools of the prophets of today, fully restored by Elijah the prophet "before the great and dreadful day of the Lord," God is to educate and redeem ("Education," p. 30) His people, and thus bring to an end the long reign of darkness and death, Satan has come down with great wrath to discourage and dishearten, doing all in his power to devour the school and all who are connected with it, so that the firstfruits of the church, the 144,000, cannot be delivered from their long bondage and servitude to the prince of this world.

Little wonder is it, then, that almost from its very inception Mt. Carmel Academy, as the school of the Elijah message,--today's school of the prophets,--has been a special target for Satan's fiery darts.

All has been grist to the mills of these opposers. Capitalizing on everything which they might turn to account against the institution, they have gone hither and thither with their spurious stock of glittering gems and jewels, palming them off wherever possible. Some have maliciously and unmercifully on the one hand magnified molehills of unreached perfection into mountains of great wrongs, and on the other hand have reduced mountains of advancement to molehills of natural virtue, in order to maintain their perverse ideas as to what the school must do.

Thus these brethren who are given to exaggeration, perversion, and slander, having left hardly any horror to be added to the list, has Satan found to be zealous and efficient agents through whom effectively to carry on his destructive work against the institution.

Without imposing upon our readers the specific tales and reports of cruelties allegedly perpetrated, and without attempting to deny or refute the charges against the institution, in order to clear it, which attempt would prove wholly in vain so far as changing the minds of those who still prefer to believe the assertions, we shall let the readers of the Code judge for themselves, from the letters of some who are pleading to be allowed to return to the school, the truth of the matter.

A young lady from California, wishing to return, wrote:

"This is to assure you that my faith in present truth is strong and that I whole-heartedly believe in Mt. Carmel.

"I write at this time, thinking that now a new year is here, perhaps conditions are such that applications for admittance to Mt. Carmel may be considered. The first opportunity cannot come too soon for me!

"In the meantime, I shall 'wait on the Lord' and continue to pray that God's will may be done."

And another young lady also from California, desiring deeply to return, pleaded:

"Please have mercy! How I have stood being away this long I do not know, but do believe me that never did any one want a place in the work, and the privileges of Mt. Carmel, more than I do. Must I remain away longer? I have pledged my strength, my mind, my heart, in fact my whole being to the Lord's work. Why must I longer work for the enemy of all good, the destroyer of both the mind and soul of man who is 'the crowning act of creation'?"

"How happy I will be if you will only answer, come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty!"

From one in Texas we received the following petition:

"It has been my misfortune to be away from Mt. Carmel since the fourteenth day of the month of September. All my interest, my hopes, in fact, my very life, are centered there. My all-consuming desire is to be permitted to return. Whatever my mistakes have been, I pray that I will be forgiven them, and that I may resume my work there. And whatever the work assigned to me, I will perform it faithfully, esteeming myself as honored by my heavenly Father.

"I have no money, nor other such valuables to offer, but I have my life, and that I offer gladly. May I hear from you?"

A mother and her three children in Georgia pleading to return, write the ensuing lines:

"If you will let me come back to Mt. Carmel, I will not make this mistake again. I will mind God and not Satan. I see where I have done wrong. I want to be saved and not lost. Forgive me, and let me come back."

"I see now where I have made the mistake. I love Mt. Carmel and want to get back, so that I may be educated in God's school. I wish I had stayed there. I love Mt. Carmel school, and I want to get back and work my way through. Please, please, please, please, please, please, please, let me come. Let me come, please."

"I would like to come to Mt. Carmel. Please let me come, so that I may learn the message and go teach other souls. If you will let me come, I will do my best to work my way through."

"We all like our new home, but for myself I feel so unhappy about the children's being out of school. Oh what a mistake we made in bringing them home! And how my heart longs for them to return. I pray every day for help to gain in the future what I have lost. "

"As I have stated before....it does not seem fair to deprive them indefinitely of the benefit of Mt. Carmel. I feel that there is no sacrifice too great on my part to have B and L return as soon as possible."

"I have just realized what I have done, and that we are about to be lost. If I had stayed away from Mt. Carmel, L would have never come back. And if I had stayed away long enough to have considered B's case, I could have had strength enough to have stood the trial. But it is too late. Now L has become dissatisfied and wants to return if you will take her back. Now, I started out in order that my children could belong to God and Mt. Carmel, and in order that they would have no home but there. I would like to hear from you at once, so that I can return them as quickly as possible."

The foregoing letters from our files are, without exception, from ones who have been here and who have gone away. If the cruelties which Mt. Carmel's critics and enemies accuse her of are true, then why should the ones who have gone away from here, have a longing desire to return? Judge for yourselves." -- **Vol. 5 Symbolic Code Nos. 6-12, pp. 2-8**