

# FOUNDATION OF THE GOSPEL

## EDUCATION: A SACRED, INALIENABLE RESPONSIBILITY

I hope that I may be pardoned for giving expression to my real conviction with reference to the question of education in the State of Utah. I believe we are running education mad. I believe that we are taxing the people more for education than they should be taxed. This is my sentiment, and especially is it my sentiment when the fact is known that all these burdens are placed upon the taxpayers of the state TO TEACH THE LEARNING OF THE WORLD. God is not in it. Religion is excluded from it. The Bible is excluded from it. And those who desire to have their children receive the advantages of moral and religious education are excluded from all these state schools.

Pres. Joseph F. Smith - Oct. 1915

If you want to pauperize a community, begin by giving them something they never earned. If the government owes to the child schooling, it also by a parity of reasoning, owes to it food and clothing at public expense. If you want to destroy in a child's mind that feeling of energy, self-respect, and self-reliance, which all should have, you would impress upon him that the state (government) owes him something upon which he can depend.

George Q. Cannon - Apr. 12 1877

We want to get the very best teachers we can to teach our children; see that they are men and women who fear God and keep His commandments. We do not want men or women to teach the children of Latter-day saints who are not Latter-day Saints themselves. Hear it ye elders of Israel and you school trustees.

Pres. John Taylor - CR April 1879

Trust no one to be your TEACHER nor your minister, except he be a man of God, walking in His ways and keeping His commandments.

Mosiah 23:14

As a watchman on the tower, I feel to warn you that one of the chief means of misleading our youth and destroying the family is our educational institutions. There is more than one reason why the Church is advising our youth to attend schools close to their homes where institutes of religion are available. These parents can help expose some of the deception of men.

Today there are much worse things that can happen to a child than not getting a full education. In fact, some of the worst things have happened to our children while attending colleges led by administrators who wink at subversion and amorality. Said Karl G. Maeser, "I would rather have my child exposed to smallpox, typhus fever, cholera, or other malignant and deadly diseases than to the degrading influence of a corrupt teacher. It is infinitely better to take chances with an ignorant but pure-minded teacher than with the greatest philosopher who is impure.

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - CR Oct 70

The tenth plank in Karl Marx's Manifesto for destroying our kind of civilization advocated the establishment of "free education for all children in public schools." There were several reasons why Marx wanted government to run the schools. Dr. A.A. Hodge pointed out one of them when he said, "the United States system of national popular education will be the most efficient and widespread instrument for the propagation of atheism which the world has ever seen."

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - CR Oct 70

With the prevalence in the world, and around about us, of pernicious ideas and subversive teachings which pervert the minds of the unstable and uninformed...may parents, Stake Presidencies, Bishoprics, Quorums of the Priesthood, and Auxiliary leaders realize that they have a greater responsibility than ever before to do ALL THEY CAN to counteract these poisonous influences.

Pres. David O. McKay - CR Apr. 67

After the tragic prayer decision made by the United States Supreme court, Pres. David O. McKay stated, "The Supreme Court of the U.S. severs the connecting cord between the public schools of the U.S. and the source of divine intelligence, the Creator Himself." (Relief Society Mag. Dec. 62 P. 878) Does that make any difference to you? CANT YOU SEE WHY THE DEMAND OF CONSIENTIOUS PARENTS is increasing the number of private Christian and American schools?

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - CR Oct 70

Many citizens and some educators have come to consider it bad taste or even illegal for public-school teachers to mention religious influences or commitments. No wonder Americans suffer appalling ignorance of their political and cultural origins.

Elder Dallin H. Oaks - Wall Street Journal May 23, 1990

We have seen introduced into many school systems false ideas about the theory of man's development from lower forms of life, teachings that there are no absolute values, attempts to repudiate beliefs regarded as supernatural, permissive attitudes toward sexual freedom that give sanction to immoral behavior and "alternative life-styles," such as lesbianism, homosexuality, and other perverse practices. (Parents) must take time to find out what their children are being taught and then take steps to correct false information and teaching.

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - Come unto Christ pg. 59

In a free and open society such as ours, a well-rounded education is an essential for the preservation of freedom against the chicanery and demagoguery of aspiring tyrants who would have us ignorantly vote ourselves into bondage. As the educational system falls into the hands of the in-power political faction or into the hands of an obscure but tightly knit group of professional social reformers, it is used not to educate but to INDOCTRINATE!

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - An Enemy pg. 229

Our educational system will radiate the principles of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and all other ideals for which the founders of the Republic fought and died, only to the extent that we employ in our elementary and high schools, colleges; and universities, men and women who are loyal to the Constitution of our land; influential as leaders, noble in character. The real tragedy in America is not that we have permitted the Bible to slip out of our public schools, but that we have so OPENLY NEGLECTED to teach it in either the home or the Church.

Pres. David O. McKay - Relief Society Mag. 196249:877

The phrase "federal aid to education" is DECEPTIVE AND DISHONEST. What is really meant is "federal taxes for education." The federal government cannot "aid" education. All it can do is tax the people, shuffle the money from one state to another and skim off its administrative costs from the top. Only the people can aid education. They can do it safer, faster, and cheaper within their local communities than by going through the middleman in Washington. Federal taxes for education means FEDERAL CONTROL OVER EDUCATION. No matter how piously the national planners tell us that they will not dictate policies to local school systems, it is inevitable that they will in the long run. They already are!

The best way to prevent a political faction or any small group of people from capturing control of the nation's educational system is to keep it decentralized into small local units, each with its own board of education and superintendent. IT IS FAR MORE SAFE! Local and independent school systems are more responsive to the needs and wishes of the parents and the community. But the average citizen would be hard pressed to obtain more than a form letter reply from the national Commissioner of Education in Washington D.C.

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - An Enemy pg 230-231

There is absolutely nothing in the Constitution which authorized the federal government to enter into the field of education. Furthermore, the 10th Amendment says: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." Nothing could be more clear. It is UNCONSTITUTIONAL for the Federal Government to exercise any powers over education.

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - An Enemy Hath Done This pg. 230

Pres. Brigham Young - *3D 18:357*

This is what should be done:

1. Force the federal government to comply with the Constitution and get out of the business of education.
2. Eliminate federal taxes for education so that citizens can better their own local school systems.
3. ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO COMPETE WITH GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS. Not even state or city or governments should have a monopoly on such a vital activity as education.

4. Reassert the primary right and RESPONSIBILITY of parents for the total education of their children. Schools should be reminded that their primary field of competence is academic, not social adjustment, or world citizenship, or sex education.
5. Restore to the teacher the authority to insist upon and administer discipline in the classroom.
6. Frills and non-academic pursuits should be secondary to the basic tasks of real learning.
7. Don't force children to attend school. Leave that up to the parents. A tax-supported education is a privilege worth waiting for.
8. Place more emphasis upon the glorious achievements and traditions of our AMERICAN HERITAGE. (Like the Principles of Freedom and the Constitution)

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - An Enemy Hath Done This pg. 232-233

I am opposed to free education as much as I am opposed to taking property from one man and giving it to another who knows not how to take care of it. I am for the real act of doing and not saying. Would I encourage free schools by taxation? NO!

Under the guise of academic freedom-which some apparently feel is freedom to destroy freedom-some teachers reserve to themselves the privilege of teaching error, destroying faith in God, debunking morality, and depreciating our free economic system.

During the past several years many of our institutions of learning have been turning out an increasing number of students schooled in amorality, relativity and atheism--students without an understanding of our constitutional republic.

Now these false educational ideas are prevalent in the world, and we have not entirely escaped them among teachers in our own System. There are a few teachers within the Church who, while courting apostasy, still want to remain members in the Church. For being a member makes them more effective in misleading the saints. But their day of judgment is coming.

Pres. Ezra Taft Benson - CR Oct 64

We expect our schools to be preservers of the principles of human welfare; bulwarks against every INSIDIOUS, SUBVERSIVE FOE OF HUMAN FREEDOM; defenses against all invaders of human rights. In times of moral, social or economic upheaval, our schools must be among the nation's most powerful defenses. We teach with precision protection against communicable diseases. It is more important to TEACH IMMUNITY AGAINST UNTRUTH; to show how the fruits of our Civilization may be preserved and increased. Among the instruments of democracy (freedom), the schools must stand foremost in preparing the people against coming evils.

Elder John A Widtsoe - CR Oct 40

If a teacher may not teach religion he certainly is not authorized to teach irreligion.

Elder Albert E. Bowen - Constancy amid Change pg. 111

There can be no doubt that the great majority of American teachers are loyal citizens, yet a witness who formerly held a high position in the Communist Party recently testified that the Party has members at work in every kind of educational institution, from nursery schools to the universities. For example, Communist teachers or fellow travelers are subtly persuading children aged 2 to 5 not to believe in religion, and are poisoning their minds with contempt or dislike for other capitalistic institutions. Being good tacticians, the Communists realize that one concealed Party member in education may be worth a dozen in less strategic fields, and some of their more successful propagandists in this area have influenced and are influencing, the ideas of thousands of impressionable young people.

J. Edgar Hoover Oct 54

A young man or woman cannot be a Communist youth unless he or she is free of religious convictions.

Lenin 1947

Our teachers must write new school textbooks and rewrite history from the Marxian viewpoint.  
(And they have)

Wm. Z. Foster, former head of the Communist Party, USA

I am told in the revelations to bring up my children in the fear of God. Now we are engaged in building our temples that we may become united and linked together by eternal covenants that shall exist in all time and throughout eternity. And then when we have done all this, go and deliberately turn our children over to whom?

To men who do not believe the Gospel; to men who, according to your faith are never going to the celestial kingdom of God. And you will turn your children over to them? And you call yourselves Latter Day Saints, do you? You expect to be saved in the celestial kingdom of God? Well, supposing your expectations are realized, which I doubt, and you look down, down somewhere in a terrestrial or telectual kingdom, and you see your children, the offspring that God had given you to train up in His fear, to honor Him and keep His commandments. And supposing they could converse with you. What would be their feelings toward you? It would be: Father, Mother, you are to blame for this. I would have been with you if you had not tampered with the principles of life and salvation in permitting me to be decoyed away by false teachers, who taught incorrect principles". But then I very much question men and women's getting into the celestial kingdom of God who have no more knowledge about principles of life and salvation than to go and tamper with the sacred offspring, the principle of life which God entrusted to your care, to thus shuffle it off to imbibe the spirit of unbelief, which leads to destruction and death. I very much doubt in my mind the capability of such people getting there.

Pres. John Taylor - JD 19:248