

(1). "The Basics of a Christian Psychology".

"What's Inside a Baby?"

Introd:- (1). This will not be a physiological discussion of what inside baby..heart, liver. lungs etc. Nor discussion of remarkable baby once heard about..Fed on elephant's milk - gained 12 lbs in week! Mother was elephant! Talk about HUMAN baby. What like? Weak..dependant..unskilled..un-taught..uneducated..useless..powerless..Well, not quite... c/f Exod.2:6. Thor human story! Baby wields power of tears.. water=power! Baby tears were pearls that finally red. Israe

(2). But what INSIDE a baby? Human baby? He is NOT an evolved ape..improved amoeba. He has a human heredity..from both parents..united in this partic. fashion just ONCE in human history. Genetics, science of heredity..fascinating. Shows that from moment of conception..certain characteristic are irrevocably LOCKED into that child's make-up. The union of two cells brings into being a unique combination of hereditary factors from BOTH parents..to make up a BABY. That heredity FAR BEYOND THAT OF BEAST. To use Bible expression..baby has "Power to become"..something..somebody.. Tow walk..talk..think..reason..invent..love..hate..laugh.. weep..develop arts..worship..abstract thought..WRITE..probe PAST..estimate FUTURE. THAT'S WHAT INSIDE A BABY! No beast Summed up in one tremendous word POTENTIALITY! Your baby...

(3). How will that potentiality eventuate in life? How manifest itself? Good or evil? HERE GENETICISTS AND SOC* IOLOGISTS DO BATTLE! Quite evident many physical char. come wholly from heredity..blue eyes..fair hair..general body structure..2 eyes..ears..1 nose..mouth Five fingers on each of two hands..toes..2 legs..essential organs..OR UTTER CHAOS. Others:- shape pf head..nose..mouth..ears.. body contour..length of fingers..prob. rate of aging..metab. "Little pickanniny..look just like his Poppy..Don't know what to call him..Unless it's Carbon Copy".

BUT:- What about later develop? Psychologically? Growth of personality? Intellect, memory powers, arts such as musical ability, painting, whether introvert or extrovert, morality, criminality..Be Prime Minister or Perverted Monster? How much depend on environment? Heredity? What govern choice of WILL? Matter more what IN baby..or AROUND baby? And endlessly the argument rages on!

carefully

I. Now to Bible. This Book/speaks of BOTH..hered..environme and adds much that psychol. never knew..or forgot.

(a). Much about heredity. Samples only..Gen. 5:1-3

Again:- Psalm 51:5. More about this in minute or so.

And further..Romans 5:12. We have inherited something.

And environment? Most imp. Prov. 22:6. Vital exhortation to parents. Again:- II Tim.1:5 That did NOT come by heredity! Nobody has faith..becomes X'n bec. inherited from parents. Home environment and influence is of vital importance.

(b). So far so good. BUT NOW THE PLUS ELEMENTS! Oft forgot. First:- Man inherits a fallen, sinful nature..~~sent to the devil~~..evil doing..clear enough..This is, of course..the very anti-thesis of evolutionary theory. Man has come DOWN not UP. In Eden he FELL.."Despite perfect environment?" Was it? THE SERPENT FLAW WAS THERE! And man with great heredity vastly influenced by environment. And since then natural man always responds strongly to environment..circumstance..and ESPECIALLY to evil environment, as natural senses bring it to him. Prod. fear. panic..excessive self-preservation..crime..violence..lust..hate..despair.. Why do these predominate? Because in Eden MAN LOST HIS DESIRE FOR GOD. Hid away!

On other hand..true Christian responds greatly t/o his heredity! More of this later.

Second:- Man is subject to continual pressure of spiritual forces. Unseen..beyond exact scientific observation. Into this area the psychologist blindly probes..and blunders on..not know! Very real area. Lk. 4:1-3, 6-7, 9, 13. "for a season"..then back c/f Rev. 12:10 If accusing day and night..then tempting likewise AND THE OTHER SIDE:- John 14:16-17. Thank God! H.S. busy ev'where. UNLESS..Gen. 6:3. Dreadful state when that happens to man or nation..c/f I Sam. 28:6. LEFT with evil, fallen nature inherited..in evil world..under ~~not exposed~~ influ. of only evil forces..LOST, HOPELESS! Beyond all help of better environment (slum clearance..education..medicare) or self-effort at improvement. OVERWHELMED! LOST! What then?

II The SIMPLICITY and WONDER of the Gospel operates at this point

(a).The Gospel is NOT a plan for the improvement of environment. Nor the improving of man. These things good in own areas..but useless or WORSE THAN USELESS without one great essential. What A NEW HEREDITY! This is it:- John 3:3. Jesus said "MUST" True He called this "eternal life"..totally diff. from time-limited human life. A NEW NATURE..with NEW HEREDITY TRAITS..the very eternal life of the Lord Jesus Christ..IMPARTED to men.

(b). Pause to state two important matters. 1. That NEW LIFE can never come from environment. No more than natural or human life can come from it..c/f evolution. Life is IMPARTED from antecedent life OF THE SAME KIND..(heredity). 2. As with phys. birth..NEW CHARACTERISTICS are LOCKED IN..that new birth..and are unchangeable..inerradicable..ineffaceable..so we understand where SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER LIES! God's child forever..heir.

(c). Yet..despite this..God is not unmindful of imp. of environment..for old sinful nature NOT eradicated at new birth. So He has instituted the Christian home..parents to guide, train..

- CHAMBER
- HOUR

And Christian Church, with S.S..Pr. meet..Place of fellow-
ship..edification..(Not primarily soul-winning) B. School.
All these to help growth in right direction.
And BIBLE..to educate mind and conscience..and strengthen
the WILL.

(d). Now a great and glorious text that comprehends it all.
John 1:12. Packed with these truths. SEE!:- "As many as
received HIM"..Not a creed..a PERSON..Himself living within
..bringing that NEW LIFE..NEW NATURE..NEW HEREDITY..within.
To every such person HE..HE gives "POWER TO BECOME".
That new life can grow..develop..reach new heights..bec. of
its inherent powers..and when nurtured in proper environment
WHAT HEIGHTS? WHAT POWERS? WHAT CAN X'N BECOME?
Climax of tremendous truth here!

As child can become like father..mother..as inherent quality
developed..SO THE X'N CAN BECOME LIKE PARENT..JESUS CHRIST!
Become "Son of God"..as He is God the Son..Son of God..
TRULY..in reality. Not only positionally..as a son..with
authority by endowment of H.G. BUT IN CHARACTER..LIKE THE
SON OF GOD. This is the POTENTIAL of the Christian.

Conclus:- 1. And what is HE like? Let the Book tell you.
Holy..Compassionate..Loving..Opposer of every evil thing..
Helping..Teacher..Binding up broken hearts..Selfless..
Self-sacrificing..Sharing..Prayerful..Worshipful..Knowing
the Book..Submissive to Father..Full of Spirit of God..
Forgiving..Comforting..Restoring..Uplifting..Rebuking..
Shepherding..Leading..Guiding..

2. This is Christian Potential..wrapped up in new birth.
c/f Romans 8:28-29. "Them that love God"..the new birth.
Inheritance. "All things work together"..God's use and
arrangement of environment. "For good...the image of His
Son"..the potential..goal of it all.
THIS IS FOR US. THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD. THIS IS GOAL OF
X'N LIFE. And it is made possible for us.
HUNGER FOR IT! SUBMIT TO H/S.

Penticton CMA - June 8/69
Kamloops NR CMA - Apr 4/69
Edmonton Fund. Bap - Dec 10/67
Lethbridge Bethel Bap - Oct 22/66
Pleasant H/S Bap - Calgary 2nd Anniversary - Oct 16/66.