

The Twin Pillars of Kingdom Education

*Spiritual
Truth*

*Academic
Excellence*



More Reasons for Choosing A Christian School

By Edward E. Gamble, Executive Director

Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools

P.O. Box 1204 Windermere, FL 34786 (407) 808-9100 www.sbacs.org

An Open Letter to Parents, Educators and Pastors:

America is experiencing a crisis of trust and leadership. A Harvard study released last fall indicated that 80% of Americans have lost confidence in our nation's leaders as people who are worthy of our trust. America watched in stunned disbelief as one after another of our once blue chip companies like AIG, Merrill Lynch, GMC, Citicorp, Bank America, Lehman Brothers and others fell into ruin. We heard the stories of CEO's and other corporate leaders who made selfish, unethical decisions to enrich themselves, cover wrongdoing or hide mistakes, putting their companies, employees, investors and our nation at great risk of loss.

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Who were these top leaders and where were they educated? Not surprisingly, they were trained at some of America's most prestigious universities: Harvard, Oxford, Notre Dame, Columbia, MIT, Cornell, George Washington, Dartmouth, Stanford, NYU, Tufts, Duke, University of Chicago. A degree from these schools is viewed worldwide as *academically superior*, a passport to success, providing graduates with incredible opportunities.

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With such stellar academic preparation, what went wrong with the training for these leaders? Was there some fatal flaw in their education—some course they all skipped or failed which rendered their gold-standard diplomas worthless? What was missing from the education of America's "best and brightest" executives that enabled them to break trust with their constituents and make the immoral, destructive and self-serving decisions that led the nation into economic disaster and a meltdown of trust?

It was not their academic preparation that was weak. They all studied finance, economics, management and business from renowned professors and scholars at respected schools. However, they failed to discover the most fundamental principles recited over and over in God's Word...earthly knowledge is not enough!

- King Solomon said, *"a throne is established through righteousness," and "righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people"*. Proverbs 6:12; 14:34
- The Apostle Paul discovered that in Christ *"all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden"* and warned us, *"be careful that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit based on human tradition...not based on Christ"*. Colossians 2:3, 8
- King David observed that to live in God's presence a man must live *"honestly, practice righteousness and acknowledge the truth in his heart"*. Psalm 15:1-2
- Jesus encourages us to *"hear these words of mine and do them, and I will compare him to a wise man who built his house on a rock"* and then asked, *"what is a man profited if he gains the whole world but loses his own soul?"* Matthew 7:24; 16:26

For several generations now, American culture has embraced the false idea that education can be divided into a secular *academic realm* and a sacred or *spiritual realm*. We have been taught that they are two separate domains which are not necessarily connected or related to one another. Over the last 50-60 years, nearly every reference to Christianity and its influence has been deleted from schools, universities, the marketplace, the arts and sciences and the political process under the mistaken notion that spiritual things do not belong in the secular arena.

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As spiritual truth was removed from education, schools no longer taught children the core virtues that were rooted in these Biblical truths: honesty before God and man, love for others, joy in doing right, humility, selflessness, honor, faithfulness to God and country, kindness and self-control. It is these Godly character qualities that make a leader trustworthy, not a prestigious MBA with a high GPA. Without these Biblical virtues woven into the fabric of their academic training, secularly well-educated people become like a rudderless, anchorless ship. Such a person possesses a wealth of knowledge and power but has no guidance for life's crucial decisions and no rock upon which to fasten his beliefs and values. Indeed, he becomes a danger to self and society. What we have witnessed in recent months is the full fruit of a half century of secularization—America's divorce from Jesus Christ, his Word and his Truth.

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Christians view themselves and their children as citizens of Jesus' Kingdom. Therefore, we must provide our children with a sacred education instead of a secular one. There is an immense difference. Kingdom Education is a *life-long, Bible-based, Christ-centered process that leads a child to Christ, disciples him in Christ and equips him to serve Christ*. Note the unique focus on spiritual issues. If you stop at any state-run secular school and ask them if these are their educational goals, would they agree? They cannot agree since they are bound by law to be secular, leaving God at home or church. Since 90% of our nation's school children attend just such a secular school, receiving little if any instruction in spiritual truth, they become adults without the moral guidance, self-control and restraint that are required to keep their sinful nature in check. This is the very heart of today's spiritual and moral collapse in America. Secular education can only produce a secular culture and people who make life choices from a secular, Godless worldview.

Look at the two pillars at the top of this letter. Together they form a solid support for schooling, for life and for eternity. However, without the spiritual pillar, the structure collapses in ruin. A person without spiritual integrity is not fit for a King's use, like salt that has lost its saltiness. Likewise, without academic training a person is similarly useless. He is like a dull axe unable to perform the work for which God designed him. If either pillar is missing, collapse or uselessness to the King is the result. With the pillars both in place, one can build confidently upon them and serve the Lord as He calls us to do. As long as America's children continue to receive only the secular, academic pillar for their schooling, this ethical and moral slide into chaos will continue.

Our main goal is to develop strong, trustworthy leaders by integrating ...academic learning with spiritual truths.

The purpose of Christian schooling is to partner with parents and churches to provide children with a Kingdom Education, one that helps them set up the twin pillars to support a lifetime of choices. Christian schools help parents and churches develop strong, trustworthy leaders by integrating truths about the physical world (academic learning) with spiritual truths from God's Word, and they do this all week long. Christian schools help deliver the kind of leaders who choose Christ-like character before career, serving others before themselves and the applause of Heaven before the cheers of man.

SUPPORT CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS TODAY!

- ***Enroll your child or children or sponsor another child***
- ***Teach in a Christian school***
- ***Give generously to support Christian schools***
- ***Start a Christian school at your church or in your community***

SBACS can help. Call us for more information

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