

BROKEN BLUE PRINT SERMON SERIES
Lesson #6 – An Ax and Blueprint School
Sermon Bible Notes: Pastor Cary Rodgers

True education is the highest education above all worldly education. This is what God desires for all His children.

“Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for his children. He wants our minds to be clear, our tempers sweet, our love abounding. Then the peace that passeth knowledge will flow from us to bless all with whom we come in contact. The atmosphere surrounding our souls will be refreshing. {RH, November 24, 1904 par. 5}

The greatest knowledge and wisdom can be attained through a true educational system in which Jesus Christ is the center and inspiration of every subject taught Bible, prophecy, math, science, physics, biology, plus more.

The greatest text book in the world is the Word of God. Christ is the way, the truth, and life in true education. It exemplifies God as our Creator and evidence of the reality of God.

“Every breath, every pulsation of the heart, is an evidence of the care of Him in whom we live and move and have our being. From the smallest insect to man, every living creature is daily dependent upon His providence.” Ellen White, Education p. 131

Job 26:7-10

- 7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, *and* hangeth the earth upon nothing.
- 8 He bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds; and the cloud is not rent under them.
- 9 He holdeth back the face of his throne, *and* spreadeth his cloud upon it.
- 10 He hath compassed the waters with bounds, until the day and night come to an end.

Job 38:4-7

- 4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.
- 5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?
- 6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;
- 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Isaiah 42:5

- 5 Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

Ephesians 3:9

- 9 And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

John 1:3

- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

All those who are wise will return to true education for themselves and family as we get closer and closer to the mark of the beast crisis.

The blueprint of evangelism and training (review)

Blue Print - Clear evangelism instructions and plans given to the Seventh-day Adventist church through the Word of God and Spirit of Prophecy to reach the world with the everlasting Gospel.

What is Jesus model of evangelism? Teaching, Preaching, and Healing (**Matthew 9:35,36**)

This is the model of true education in which God ordained and approves.

Blueprint of Evangelism

“It is the divine plan that we shall work as the disciples worked. Physical healing is bound up with the gospel commission. In the work of the gospel, teaching and healing are never to be separated.” Ministry of Healing p. 140

Remember we learned in our previous studies that the medical missionary work is the right arm of the everlasting gospel. It opens the door of the heart of many who learn the course of true healing through the power of God and His natural remedies without the use of poisonous drugs.

Blueprint overview

Health Centers (country)

Training Schools (country)

Treatment Centers (cities)

Industry

Healthy Restaurants

Agriculture

Natural Food Manufacture

Natural Food Stores

Carpentry

Etc....

God will re-establish His blueprint of educational schools that train the faithful in the everlasting gospel and the medical missionary work.

“I wish to tell you that soon there will be **no work done in ministerial lines but medical missionary work.**” Counsels on Health p. 533

Some may say, “Isn't Jesus Christ coming soon and do we have time to re-establish blueprint evangelism schools that teach the everlasting gospel and the medical missionary work?”

We must go back to the old landmarks and old paths to find rest and truth.

God's institutions of evangelism training will be re-established before the coming of the Lord.

“Places that have been neglected are now to receive attention. My people are to do a sharp, quick work. Those who with purity of purpose fully consecrate themselves to Me, body, soul, and spirit, shall work in My way and in My name. Everyone shall stand in his lot, looking to Me, his Guide and Counselor.

I will instruct the ignorant and anoint with heavenly eyesalve the eyes of many who are now in spiritual darkness. I will raise up agents who will carry out My will to prepare a people to stand before Me in the time of the end. In many places that before this ought to have been provided with sanitariums and schools, I will establish My institutions, and these institutions will become educational centers for the training of workers.”

E. G. White, Counsels on Health, pp. 226-227

God has gifted the Seventh-day Adventist church with a blueprint of true education - evangelism that is starkly different than the world. But over the years the church has derailed itself from the blueprint that is now broken.

History is given to us so we can learn and observe. Let's look at the beginnings of the Seventh-day Adventist educational system and the things that took place over the years that broke the blueprint that God intended for His remnant people to follow.

The Book, “The Broken Blueprint” by Vance Ferrell is one of our historical references that we will be using of the history of the SDA education.

The first official school

One of the first official schools of the church started with only three students and a dedicated teacher to the blueprint.

In **1867** while one of the sons of Ellen White, Edson White who was 18 years old, was looking out a window. He noticed a man at the Battle Creek Health Center (Sanitarium) chopping wood. He went out to meet the man whose name was **Goodloe Bell** and learned that he was at the Sanitarium recovering from illness. He also learned that Bell desired to start a school. Edson asked him if he would teach him and another young man. Bell agreed.

About a year later Bell opened up his first school with only three teenage students, Edson his brother William White and John Harvey Kellogg.

Bell was an excellent teacher and as time progressed new students were added to the school.

In 1872 the SDA Church adopted the school as an official school of the church. This was the humble beginnings of the SDA educational system.

Many more students were added to the school. There was so many that Bell had to teach separate morning and evening sessions.

A New School in Battle Creek, MI

In **1873**, the General Conference voted to establish an educational fund for the school to raise money to buy land and build a school. Through the Lord's leading they raised over \$50,000. They along with the Whites looked for land that was suitable for the school. Ellen White encouraged the brethren to buy a 40 acre land that was outside the city in the country. It was a former fair ground with plenty of space for a new school. But sadly the officials of the church refused because they wanted to buy the 12 acre land in the city across from the sanitarium in the city of Battle Creek, MI. They went ahead and bought the 12 acre land in the city, but later sold some of the land to raise funds. That left them with only 7 acres. Mrs. White was extremely disappointed and heart broken

that the church did not buy the 40 acre land in the country that was more suitable for a school to follow the blueprint of training in which God set up.

“The Foster farm near Goguac Lake, five miles from town, was their [the White’s] first choice, with a forty-acre tract—the old fairgrounds coming second. Either of these locations would have offered ample acreage for vocational training. However, in December 1873, while the Whites were in the West, the church leaders purchased the Erastus Hussey estate of twelve acres on Washington Avenue in Battle Creek, directly opposite the Sanitarium. It is reported that when Mrs. White heard of the action, ‘she wept bitterly.’”—Merlin Neff, *For God and CME*, p. 59. (Vance Ferrell, *Broken Blueprint*, p. 9)

Teacher Bell

Bell was an excellent teacher that followed the blueprint of true education, the Bible, and the Spirit of Prophecy. His curriculum included Bible study, evangelism, medical missionary work along with practical vocational trades so students can learn how to work with their hands.

Bell in the past attended Oberlin College but never completed a degree. Even though he was an excellent teacher, many leaders in the church had a problem with Bell because of his strict discipline and because he did not have a degree.

Brownsberger rejects blueprint for liberal arts training

The conference believed that they needed someone with a degree to lead the school. So in 1875 they hired Sidney Brownsberger as president who recently received a degree from the University of Michigan. Bell was no longer the leader of the school but was given a head position in the English department.

Brownsberger rejected the blueprint training for a liberal arts education that was in opposition to true learning. He knew nothing about vocation training, farming, and practical work. He demanded that liberal arts be given at the school.

“For example, in 1877-1878, some of the students were taking the classical courses (Latin, Greek, mathematics, natural science, rhetoric, elocution, and geology). There was an almost complete lack of Bible courses. Only a few were required to attend Uriah Smith’s ‘Bible lectures.’ - BBP p. 10

Ellen White and Bell tried to convince Brownsberger to follow God’s blueprint of education, but he refused. In 1881 Brownsberger resigned from the school in Battle Creek.

Alexander McLearn: Back at Battle Creek, after the departure of Brownsberger they still refused for Bell to lead because he did not have a degree so they hired Alexander McLearn in 1881. He had a classical liberal arts degree. He led the school as president and did not believe and rejected the blueprint of education.

There was great tension at the school, some were on McLearn's side while others were on Bell's side. The tension became so great that the school was shut down for one year.

“The following statement by Bell clarifies his understanding of the Spirit of Prophecy blueprint: “The popular method of filling the student’s mind with that which is not practical and hurrying him through a certain course, in order that he may obtain a diploma, is not true education. True education begins on the inside, at the core, with that which is practical. It builds up and strengthens a symmetry of character that by and by, in this life, will show itself in some grand, good, and noble

work for the world. The school at South Lancaster seeks to attain to this ideal.”—G.H. Bell, Review December 26, 1882. (BBP, p. 10)

Two New Schools

During the year Battle Creek was closed during the controversy two more colleges were opened by GC. One in Healdsburg, CA lead by Brownsberger and the other in South Lancaster, Massachusetts that was led by Goodloe Bell. Bell's school was known as the South Lancaster Academy which later was renamed Atlantic Union College.

“Regarding Bell, Arthur W. Spalding made this statement:

“Professor Bell was perhaps the most clear-sighted educator the denomination has ever known. He believed thoroughly in the system of Christian education which Mrs. White, divinely inspired, had already presented and he sought here [at AUC] to put it into operation.”—Footprints of the Pioneers, p. 16.

Bell's courses at Lancaster “The Course of Study will embrace English Language; Mathematics; Geography; Human Physiology and Hygiene; and Bible History; together with practical instruction in Tract and Missionary Work, and in the most useful of the Agricultural, Domestic and Mechanic Arts . . . But of all studies, the Bible ranks highest . . . A practical knowledge of the laws of health is all-important . . . Pupils will be expected to take but few studies at a time, thereby mastering them the more rapidly.”—Review, March 7, 1882. (BBP p.11)

“Two articles in the Review (June 28 and August 15, 1882) explained that, instead of ‘games and frivolous amusements’ each evening, the students had taken a special course in physiology. Manual labor was scheduled and required three hours each day (one hour after breakfast, one after dinner, and another at night). Students were paid according to the value of their work. The daily schedule required rising at 5 a.m. Study period ended at 9 p.m.; during this time, assistance from teachers was available.

There was a daily Bible class, evening worship, and weekly prayer meeting. Baptisms resulted. Students engaged in missionary projects, such as sending publications to non-believers, corresponding with interested persons, placing books in libraries, and corresponding with isolated believers.” BBP p. 11

What happen to the school that Brownsberger led in Healdsburg, CA? What happened to Brownsberger that led to his conversion to follow the blueprint schools of evangelism?

To be continued...