

From Where I Sit . . .

"HONOR TO WHOM HONOR"

Actually this title only suggests the recognition I want to give to a giant of a man in this congregation for his work's sake. Then I want to print as the lead feature one of his own writings. Bro. Charles Cobb has been a Gospel Preacher for the most part of his life, beginning at a very tender age in the Shoals area after being baptized at the age of 12 years. He began his ministry at age 16 for the Stony Point Church of Christ near Florence. He recently celebrated his 84th birthday. Read the poem his daughter has lovingly written and is posted on our bulletin board. His preaching spanned at least 67 years, over half of which was right here at Broad Street and Larkinsville. He has preached thousands of radio sermons in addition to the pulpit works and writings of various sorts including the Tennessee Valley Christian. His health is poor, but he is still faithful in attendance at Broad Street. Please read his words very carefully

. . . . Terry Broome

By What Standard?

Charles E. Cobb

Jesus said, *"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"* (Matthew 4:4). There is no higher standard than that here given by the Savior of the world- *"...by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."*

Our society has lost sight of the divine standard by which men are to live. We can see this manifested in the home, school, and religious institutions of the land. The wisdom of men has been exalted above the wisdom of God (See Isaiah 55:8,9; I Corinthians 1:20,21). Because of this attitude our society has reached the low level of seeking to live and work by that which is inferior and self-destructive. Where there is no standard, a society finds itself in total chaos. Without respect for and submission to the way of God, man is groveling in the mire of divergent opinions which are bred and then discarded as the finite minds of men are blown about by the winds of change. Stability is sought, but not found, in the thoughts of men without God.

Centuries have come and gone and histories have been written, but we have refused to learn from those experiences. "Our Way" has been given top billing, and God's way has been discarded to languish in the dust. Humanism, idolatry, and infidelity rule in the minds of men who have forsaken God, or who have never acknowledged Him.

What real standard of life and moral conduct is certified by humanism or promoted by idolatry or encouraged by infidelity? Is a dog, sheep, or hog not as well off as those who stand in defiance or unbelief of God's perfect standard? If not, why not?

Quality does not trickle uphill. Quality comes from having a perfect standard, tried and true, that sets our goals and establishes our priorities. We cannot expect to drink pure water from a mud hole.

"Let God be true..." (Romans 3:4). He is the source of all good, of all right. His will should be the foundation of all our endeavors in living in a society properly motivated and controlled.

Rejection of the divine standard leads only to eventual destruction. God's way is our protection in an evil world.

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