



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
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THE LAST PICTURE SHOW

By Carl B. Garner
The Eastside Edifier

Twenty-six years ago I wrote an article, "The Last Picture Show." The Movie industry in the early '70s had won the battle to show and say whatever they wanted to show and say. They had discovered that the modern moviegoer would plunk down their dollars to see sex and violence. They had discovered that there were no apparent forces that would or could do anything about it. They discovered that movie "stars" would do anything for a buck, and today's movies and TV shows are the results. Ratings were initiated to satisfy the "prudes" in our society who think parents should be warned. However, they are enforced so loosely that anyone who has the money can gain entry. If anyone protests, the theaters reply, "Don't blame us. Parents are bringing their own eight-year-old kids with them to see these movies. Besides, teen-agers can rent them and watch them at home without anyone monitoring their viewing habits." So, we see the fruit that issues from this up-to-date, modern "Morality." I, for one, have had more than enough of it.

I'm disappointed in parents who are Christians, but who still allow their children to attend these foul movies, or rent them and bring them into their homes. Can parents really be thinking when they do this? Are they really aware of what they are doing? Do they realize what their children are seeing in those movies? It doesn't take much time or effort to find out what they contain, for the newspaper plainly spells it out. Many are filled with profanity of the most perverted kind. Many include both male

and female nudity, much of it in the context of sexual intercourse. Many have graphic scenes, including even the youngest children using obscene language. And homosexual sex is now a big thing in today's movies, and is equally graphic. Is it possible that the alarming rise of teen violence could be related to the how-to movies shown in locals theaters and on TV? *Why are we shocked that the copy-cat violence of the movies is being played out in cities and communities all over the country and the world?*

Defenders of "free speech" have responded by characterizing any criticism as "self righteous . . . shrill . . . prudish . . . right-wing hysteria . . . out of date . . . censorship," etc. Preachers probably do sound "prudish" to them. Those who have little respect for righteousness have always accused opponents of hypocrisy and being "self-righteous," though they know that such is not true. It is not self-righteous to show the world what the true consequences of fornication, pornography, adultery, sexual abuse of children and violence really are.

Movie-makers have used the "we must be realistic" and "everybody is doing it" excuses for so long that even they know it is a smoke screen. And for them to imply that adultery, child abuse, divorce, homosexuality, dynamite explosions, guns and abortions are taking place in every home is not realistic, but is intentionally misleading. Even that sensationalist 1992 book, *The Day America Told The Truth*, never claimed that more than one third of Americans have committed adultery. One is too many, but movie-makers want us to believe that such is now the norm. But even if everybody is doing it, that doesn't make it right.

As long as we are willing to spend our

money at their theaters, buy their magazines, and rent their movies, someone will make a living on it, and we will be found by God to be supporting it. In I Timothy 3:13 we read, "*Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.*" Sadly, many of us are inviting them home for supper. Modern moralists respond by saying, "If you don't like it, don't go to the movie," or "Just turn off your TV." But surely they know better than that. It will be good for me to turn off my TV and stay away from the theaters, but it will not keep them from polluting the minds of my neighbor or his children. It cannot prevent these violent scenes from giving our neighbor's children ideas on how to treat their mates. No, movies, books and magazines have an impact on the community.

A syndicated journalist observed, "*Today's parents were teenagers during this proliferation of sex and violence on TV and in the movies. They have become numbed to its danger because they have seen so much of it.*" If that is true, those who grew up in those times had better think soberly about what they want their children to be, and how they want their children to be treated.

What can parents be thinking when they rent these movies and, in doing so, tell their children that this is acceptable entertainment? What can we be thinking when we pipe HBO and Showtime movies into our minds and/or into our children's minds? Especially, how can any Christian justify financing these movies and idolizing these movie "stars" by their support? Paul wrote, "*Whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*" (Philippians 4:8)

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Did you know that Albert Einstein could not speak until he was four years old? And that he could not read until he was seven? His parents and teachers worried about his mental ability.

Beethoven's music teacher said about him, "As a composer, he is hopeless." What if Ludwig believed it?

When Thomas Edison was a young boy, his teachers said he was so stupid he could never learn anything. He once said, "I remember I used to never be able to get along at school. I was always at the foot of my class. My father thought I was stupid, and I almost decided that I was a dunce." What if young Thomas believed what they said about him?

When F. W. Woolworth was 21, he got a job in a store, but was not allowed to wait on customers because he "Didn't have enough sense."

Walt Disney was once fired by a newspaper editor because he was thought to have no "good ideas." Caruso was told by one music teacher, "You can't sing. You have no voice at all." And an editor told Louisa May Alcott that she was incapable of writing anything that would have popular appeal.

**Author Unknown
(West Side Vision)**

Often we give up on ourselves because we listen to what others say about us. Most of us can do anything we want as long as we work hard. We must be diligent, always working toward a goal that will bring success. And success doesn't mean riches or material gain. Most importantly, it means success in our spiritual life. Because at the end, what will be important to us? It won't be any of those things we can't take with us. It will be how we have lived our life for the Lord.

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do."

Edmund Everett Hale

Remember Our Sick

Amie Barkley – appointment in Denver Thursday, March 5th.

Iris Bates – home, receiving therapy, improving.

Hoyt Ensey – back in hospital

Tim Green – Bonnie Vinson's friend, battling cancer.

Helen Moore – still receiving chemo treatments for cancer.

Kristen Nordin – (age 25) severe pain, diagnosed with acute mono.

Leonard Oakes – Tommy Oakes' father, home recovering from hospital stay.

Marge Ratchford – still battling cancer.

Sherry Strick – Brain tumors

Cara Waldo – grand-niece, age 4, of Rachel Curtis, Feb.26, check-up was good.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton
Robert Lee**

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:

**Joyce Austin
Evelyn Driver
Lorene McNutt**

Stella Manor:

Louise Killer

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Bob/Carolyn Bennett, Bill Boley, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Susie Boley, Tommy Causey, Troy & Rachel Curtis, Jeff Davis, Melvin Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, Pat Holloway, Dorothy King, Rose Lee, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Eugene Qualls, BJ/Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Juanita Townsend, and Judy Will.

Special Children: Zeke Church, Garrett Hogan, Tiffany Knight, Elysia Lee, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Our Military: D. J. Bandy, Travis Coe, Byron Lee and April Morgan.

**H 4 H (Hunger for Healing),
Dover Church of Christ every
Tuesday, 6PM thru March 31st.**

Please, Daddy, Can't we Go?

A little girl with shinning eyes,
Her little face aglow,
Said, "Daddy, it is almost time
For Sunday school. Come on, let's go!
They teach us there of Jesus' love,
Of how He died for all,
And saves those who on Him call."

"Oh, no!" said Daddy, "not today.
I've worked hard all week;
I'm going to the creek,
For there I can relax and rest,
And fishing's fine they say.
So run along; don't bother me.
We'll go to church someday."

Months and years have passed away,
But Daddy hears that plea no more –
"Let's go to Sunday school."
Those childish days are o'er.

And now that Daddy's growing old,
When life is almost through;
He finds time to go to church –
But what does Daughter do?

She says, "O Daddy not today –
I stayed up almost all night;
I've just got to get some sleep.
Besides, I look a fright.

Then Daddy lifts a trembling hand
To brush away the tears,
As again he heard the pleading voice
Distinctly through the years.

He sees a small girls shining face
Upturned with eyes aglow,
She says, "It's time for Sunday School –
Please, Daddy, won't you go?"

*"Fathers . . . bring them up in the
nurture and admonition of the Lord."
(Ephesians 6:4)*

*House to House/Heart to Heart
Jacksonville Church of Christ
Jacksonville, AL.*

**"If you want to feel rich, just count all
the things you have that money can't
buy."**

*Carol Alexander
Midland Michigan*

Events

Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon
Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Story and
Activities
Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

2009

Lads to Leaders
Leaderettes
Overall Theme:
“... *All that You command
us we will do,
and wherever You send
us we will go.*”
(Joshua 1:16)

The song leading, songs
of praise and scripture
reading will continue
every Sunday, 5 PM, for
Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes.
They are getting ready
for the Lads
To Leaders/Leaderettes
Convention, Memphis TN,
April 9th thru April 12th!

5th Sunday Celebration
& Potluck following
Young men's Evening
Services

Mark Your Calendars

Dover Ladies Night (Devo)
4th Thursday, 7 PM,
March 26th
Hostess: Diane C. Walters

Dover Ladies

CCSC Noon Meal
Wednesday, April 8

DOVER LADIES' DAY!

April 25, 2009
Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas
Continental Breakfast and
Registration 9:00 AM
Program 9:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 Noon
Theme: “Today's Moments
become . . .
Tomorrow's Treasured
Memories . . .

Sunday, March 15th thru
March 18th
The Clarksville
Church of Christ
2211 West Main
Invites you to attend
a series of lessons
Speaker: Jimmy Allen
Morning services Sunday
thru Wednesday, 10 AM
Sunday 6:00 PM
Monday - Wednesday 7 PM

MARCH Birthdays

02 Kelly McDonald
03 Keaton Creel
Rick Hollis
Aidan Pointer
05 Austin Myers
07 Sarah Ensey
Harold Turner
Colton Williams
10 Janette Litch
12 Carl Lawley
13 Matthew Moss
17 Jim Killer
21 William Boley
22 Alan Herron
25 Ethan Letson
26 Mike Creel
Shelby Statler
27 Wilma Johnson
Gary Shinn
28 Kaeli Miller
Elizabeth Robbins

If we missed your birthday, *please*
let us know so it won't happen
again.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 4th
Camp Caudle 2-4 PM

Anyone interested in
helping contact:
Kim Miller

THOSE TO SERVE

March 15, 2009

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Earl Stamps
Drew Walters

Communion

Podium: William Boley
Serve: Chris Loper
Chris Moss
Donny Forehand
Earl Whitted

Scripture Reading

Marion Helton

Sunday P.M. Prayers

Donny Forehand
Chris Moss

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.

Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.

Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Sandra & Alan Boatright

Communion to Shut-Ins

Marion Helton

Greeters

Allen & Marilyn Veasman

Wednesday Night Devotional March 18, 2009

Merrell Shoptaw

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes

9:45 A.M.

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

Sunday Evening Worship

6:00 P.M.

Ladies Tuesday Bible Class

10:00 A.M.

Wednesday Bible Classes

6:30 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams

Church Office: 479-331-3428

Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Chris Moss

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: JoAnn Killer
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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