

**All Rights Reserved By HDM For This Digital Publication  
Copyright 1993 -- 2006 Holiness Data Ministry**

**Duplication of this disc (CD or DVD) by any means is forbidden,  
and copies of individual files must be made in accordance with  
the restrictions stated in the B4UCopy.txt file on this disc.**

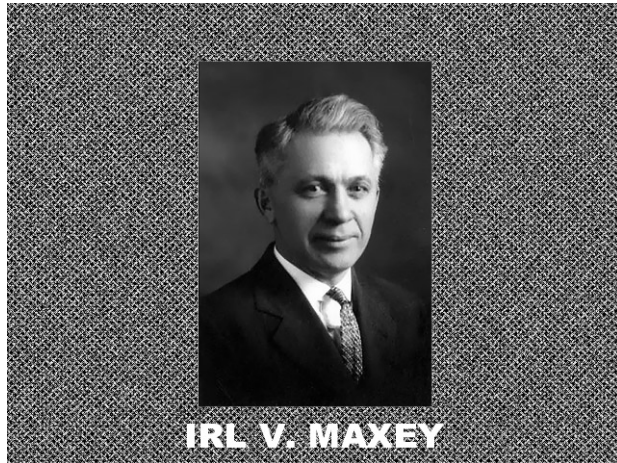
**REAL EDUCATION  
By Irl V. Maxey**

**Digitized and Edited  
By Duane V. Maxey**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Digital Edition 02/12/06  
By Holiness Data Ministry**

\* \* \* \* \*



## **CONTENTS**

**Introduction To This File  
Sermon Text:  
Introduction To The Sermon**

- 01 -- The Truth Must Be Bought With A Price**
- 02 -- The Truth Must Not Be Sold**
- 03 -- Buy Wisdom And Instruction -- An Education**
- 04 -- Do Not Sell Your Education**
- 05 -- Buy Understanding -- The Knowledge Of God**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **INTRODUCTION TO THIS FILE**

**This sermon was written on March 11, 1916 in Ashton Idaho. It was interesting to me to read in this sermon about papa's support for the establishment of Gooding College in Gooding, Idaho, not a great distance from Ashton. Also, having had his own, complete College Education cut short, it seems quite clear to me from his remarks in this sermon that papa regretted that this had happened -- and, it comes through loud and clear that he was a strong advocate of higher education, so long as it was Christ-centered. The title to this sermon is papa's; the subtitles are mine. -- Duane V. Maxey, (Ahwatukee) Phoenix, Arizona, February 12, 2006.**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**You will find our text in the 23rd chapter of Proverbs and the 23rd verse.**

### **SERMON TEXT:**

**Proverbs 23:23 -- "Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding."**

**\* \* \***

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE SERMON**

**Truth is so often spoken of in various ways that I think we need some explanation. Pilate once asked Jesus, "What is truth?" (John 18:38) -- and he did not wait for an answer, for he was confronted with a Great, Eternal Being in the flesh Who said, "I am the way, the truth.." (John 14:6).**

**Truth, as Webster describe it, may be of three or four kinds -- three in particular, as I see it:**

- (a) Truth is THE RIGHT, or THE OPPOSITE OF ERROR.**
- (b) Truth is THE FACT in all cases.**
- (c) Truth is RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

**Now, let us call your attention to some old sayings:**

**"Truth" (meaning the right, rather than error) -- "Truth crushed to the earth will rise again, for the eternal years of God are hers. But error, wounded, writhes in pain and dies among its worshippers" (William Cullen Bryant).**

**"It always pays to tell the truth. Tell the real facts in the case.**

**"Truth forever on the scaffold,  
Wrong forever on the Throne,  
Yet that scaffold sways the future,  
And behind the dim unknown,  
Standeth God, within the shadows,  
Keeping watch above his own."**

**-- James Russell Lowell**

**Jesus said, "I am the truth." He might have said, "I am the real righteousness. No man can have real righteousness till he has me." Those are the real facts in the case, and it is also a fact that no man need expect to live eternally unless he has Christ. We may long for eternal life, but "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:12).**

**Jesus is the Right, and the devil is the Wrong -- the source of error. The eternal years of God belong to Christ, but error -- the devil -- must die among his worshippers, who likewise die with him. So, when Pilate asked the question -- "What is truth?" -- and was standing before the blazing Embodiment of Truth! No wonder his question did not need an answer!**

**Jesus also said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32) -- free in body, free in mind, eternally free in your spirit.**

**\* \* \* \* \***

## **01 -- THE TRUTH MUST BE BOUGHT WITH A PRICE**

**Now friends, I think the exhortation of the text is in place: -- "Buy the truth."**

**Somebody has said, "We enjoy what we pay for." Truth is costly priced. Somebody paid dearly that truth might be in the world. While the old statement is correct, salvation is free. Surely it needs to be said, "It cost Somebody a Great Price!"**

**Yet, salvation is offered to us at a Bargain. Oh, the great Bargain Counter of the eternal God! During the time of Man's Earthly Probation, see the God's Signs everywhere: -- "Buy! Buy!"**

**"Buy?" you say, "Can truth be bought with money!?"**

**No, my friend, the price is not money. We may put a money-price upon things. What is money? It is supposed to represent so much labor, -- but,**

**"Not the labor of man's hands  
Can satisfy the law's demands."**

**"Come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price" (Isaiah 55:1).**

**God may be had for the asking -- IF, we pay the price.**

**The PRICE is: -- giving up sin. Does anyone think that is no PRICE? If you don't think there is a price in giving up sin, TRY IT! It may cost you your vocation, your reputation, your home -- and, the further price is giving up your life to God's will.**

**Does anyone mistakenly think that Consecration is no price? It will cost you your ambition, it may cost you your home -- it will cost you ALL!**

**The last price is Eternal Vigilance -- to always detect the wrong and uphold the right, and to stand by the facts of the case and trust God. "There are wrongs that need resistance, and rights that need assistance."**

**Oh friends, I stand along with you tonight. I am ready to pay the price! I give up sin! It never has brought you one bit of true happiness. Jonah "paid the price" of rebellion against God: -- "He found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord" (Jonah 1:3) -- and it nearly cost him his life.**

**You had better not pay that price! But, pay the price for truth tonight! Give up sin -- rebellion against God! Christian, are you not willing to pay the price to God of entire consecration? Pay the price, and let the truth make you free-minded!**

**Oh, let us all pay the last price: -- Eternal Vigilance! Jesus said, "Watch." Let us pay the price of watching by day and by night, staying by the facts, living with Him Who is the Truth. Discern the errors and resist them. Watch and pray. Stay in this real freedom of thought which buying the truth brings. Sell it not! Put no price upon it!**

**\* \* \* \* \***

## **02 -- THE TRUTH MUST NOT BE SOLD**

**Christian, Truth is to you like the "Pearl of Great Price," or like the "Treasure Hid in a Field." You have sold all to get it. Sell it not for money. Oh, how many barter the truth for money! Many a business man out on the mart of trade sells the clear-eyed truth for money. "Honesty is the best policy."**

**Brother, stay by the truth! Many a man tries to sell his training for more than it is worth -- in the teaching profession or office. Oh, my brother or sister, stay by the truth! -- you will win there. Jesus stands there ready to assist you. Even though it does bring you more money to misrepresent your qualifications, stay by the truth!**

**Oh, how many school-board directors, or bank directors, would be saved hours of trouble and dilemma if some people had not sold the truth for money! Many a lawyer sells the facts in the case for money -- takes his stand with error for money, while truth stands shamefaced, ready to leave the courtroom. Oh, lawyers! sell not the truth for money!**

**Many a preacher stands in his pulpit and does not declare the fact of righteousness by faith in Jesus Christ only -- though it is the truth, eternal truth! He speaks of the glories of man and man's wonderful being instead of Christ, the Cross, and His Glory. It is selling the truth for money! It means menpleasers and big money. Oh, preacher! Sell not the truth for money.**

**Do not sell the truth for sentimental love. Yes, love is great -- greater than money -- but truth is eternal -- and for sentimental love you must not sell the truth. Divorce courts are filled, homes wrecked, lives lost in prostitution and shame, because somebody sold the truth!**

**Yea, friend, we cannot sell the truth as did Judas unless we, like him, barter our happiness and finally our life. Though it cost bread and butter, honor, reputation or life, to maintain the truth, DO IT!**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **03 -- BUY WISDOM AND INSTRUCTION -- AN EDUCATION**

**We are exhorted also to buy wisdom and instruction: -- "BUY the truth, and sell it not; ALSO WISDOM, AND INSTRUCTION, and understanding" (Proverbs 23:23). I think all the world of learning is busily engaged in pursuit of that side of the truth known as facts. Here is our great public school system about this business. Buy! Buy! exclaims the text.**

**You know Berkely\* said he thanked God there were no public schools in Virginia. But we say, Thank God we have them,\* and we will pay the cost whatever it may be.**

**[\*I failed to find the first name of the Berkely to whom papa referred. Also, when papa said, in 1917, that he thanked God for having public schools, that was long before public schools degenerated into the horrible and immoral state in which they now are.]**

**There will be a price paid by the individual. Solomon said in Proverbs 18:1 -- "Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom." I tell you, if a man has the burning desire to know, he will separate himself from anything, whatever it costs him, in order to obtain that knowledge. Some children in high school and college prey upon their parents for many luxuries. Pay the price, children! You will have to part with something, yea anything, to get a real education.**

**"The heights, that some men gained and kept,  
Were not attained by sudden flight,  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Were toiling upward through the night."**

**-- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow**

**Nobody ever receives a real education who does not pay the price for it. But the greatest price falls upon the parents. It will mean hours of toil, nights without sleep, many real pleasure foregone, yea, tears and prayers! Parents, before your boy or girl is educated, pay the price! Pay the price, parents -- whatever it costs. Children, reduce to the minimum that cost your parents have to pay for your education.**

**Ah, parents, do not sell your child's chance to be educated for money. Do not take him out of school to farm, raise sugar-beets, feed hogs, or herd sheep! Many times the teacher begins the desire of a boy to leave school by saying he is getting in education to make more money.\* The sale of instruction for money is too costly. Sell it not.**

**[\*It is rather difficult to discern papa's exact meaning here. He seems to say that if a teacher boasts to a student that he, as a teacher, is in his profession to make more money, then that would encourage a student to drop out of school and immediately seek to get rich instead of continuing and completing his education.]**

**\* \* \* \* \***

#### **04 -- DO NOT SELL YOUR EDUCATION**

**Do not sell your education for sentimental love. Many a man leaves common school, high school, or college, ere he completes the course -- to get married. Oh, do not sell your chance of getting an education for this!**

**We must not leave the line of instruction for the sake of all our professions. We need prepared men. Preachers need preparation, as do doctors, lawyers, business men. All must be educated, and that in college that exalts Christ. Give us Gooding College to go to, equipped with a godly set of instructors.\***

[Indirectly, this statement in this March 11, 1916 sermon shows that papa was still in the Methodist Episcopal Church while pastoring in Ashton, Idaho. At an online site, I found the following about Gooding College, which was located in Gooding, Idaho: -- "Gooding College was a higher education school from 1917-1938. It was founded and operated by the Methodist Episcopal Church... Prior to its opening the community of Gooding gave \$267,000 to the institution with the understanding that the Methodist Episcopal Church and its constituents would raise another \$130,000." From papa's statement above, and those which follow, it is very clear that he was zealous in his support of raising up of this institution in Gooding, Idaho, which was not a great distance from Ashton were he was then pastoring. However, before Gooding College closed in 1938, papa had been long out of the Methodist Episcopal Church. According to my brother Parker's account, he joined the Church of the Nazarene in the latter part of 1922.]

Friends, we must have Gooding College. Now is our chance. Lets put that college there! Oh, let us have the real facts. However, let us not forget the eternal fact, Christ Jesus. In search for facts, why should this fact be eliminated? Oh, shame on us! We have not counted upon, nor looked upon Jesus as a fact -- The Greatest Fact in all the world.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 05 -- BUY UNDERSTANDING -- THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

My text says, "and understanding." I cannot say to you, as one said lately, "Understanding is Science." I will not trust any man's definition. Let's go to God's Word. Proverbs 4:5-7 -- "Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

Further, Proverbs 9:10 -- "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Here we are back to the eternal facts. God is back of all truth. But listen, "and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Now we have it. In all our search for facts we must have knowledge of the One Great Fact -- GOD. We only know Him through Jesus Christ. "This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent" (John 17:3).

Buy the truth. Buy instruction, but best of all, buy the knowledge of God. Buying the knowledge of God will cost complete abandonment of self and leaning on Jesus Christ. Here we must not fail. "With all thy getting, get understanding" (Proverbs 4:7).

\* \* \* \* \*

**THE END OF THIS SERMON**