

Builders Calvinists

TEXT PS. 127:1

"Except the Lord build the house they labor
in vain that build it; except
the Lord keep the city, the watch-
man waketh but in vain"
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When I see a congregation of people as-  
sembled as you are to-day in a union service  
to celebrate, in a way, the opening of our city  
schools, I think of the importance of building  
in human society. I cannot myself fortu-  
nate indeed in having the pleasure and  
the honor of talking to the fathers and mothers,  
the trustees and the faculty, and to a large  
part of the student body of our splendid  
school system.

Will you listen again to my text? "Ex-  
cept the Lord build the house, they labor in vain  
that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watch-  
man waketh but in vain."

"To build a house is taken in three different  
senses in the Sacred writings;

1. To build the temple of the Lord
2. " " any ordinary house to dwell in
3. To build up a household in the personnel of boys  
and girls. It is a fact that the Hebrew words:
  - a. Ben meaning son
  - b. Bath " daughter
  - c. Beith " houseall come from the same root  
word "Bayah" which means  
to build.

Now it is very evident that whether we build a  
temple, a dwelling house, or a school house we  
build those that there may result this higher form of  
building in the personnel of fine boys and girls  
to glorify our homes until they make homes for

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themselves on the same high order. But a household may be built that will not have good character - It, for "Except the Lord build the house - whatever the house is - they labor in vain that build it: -"

God then must be the chief builder in the family. His blessings must be prayed for, for the nourishment of wife and family.

and except the Lord keep the city the watchman waketh but in vain. The Jews now had a trumpet in one hand and a sword in the other for fear of the enemies but the prophet told them that unless God was in it all magistrates, judges, and watchmen would be of no value.

He illustrates this by an industrious man who strives to be rich but looks not to God.

1. He rises early.
2. Sits up late.
3. Eats the bread of sorrow.

On the other hand the prophet teaches us the blessings of children.

1. An heritage. a man may not have money education, or fame as heritage but the Lord blesses them with children and allows him to have them educated for useful men and women.
2. As to their education - let them be brought up in the fear of the Lord thus they are able to do great deeds, to defend themselves and others.
3. Happy is the man that has his quivers full of them because as each becomes a powerful shield the more the more multiplies its power.

In union County and in new Albany we have strong banks good roads fine farms but I tell you the truth the greatest asset we have is the young life of this County.

One of the sad things we see is a man and wife wanting children and yet are not blessed with having them. But the thing that reaches beyond borders is to begeth the couple that choose puddle dogs or no children.

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while our young people are a great asset  
of the same time they are a great liability. we  
parents, preachers, and teachers are responsible  
for them, we have got to assist these young people  
in forming their characters, we have got  
to cooperate as citizens, parents, and teachers  
in putting God in to their building program  
for "Except the Lord build the character house  
they labor in vain that build it: Except the  
Lord be in our lives to protect us we work but  
in vain when the enemy appears."

I am becoming more convinced all the  
while that we need more emphasis laid on  
fatherhood, and motherhood both of these  
focusing in better homes. This accom-  
plished our nation will unfold in to such  
a season of character building as has never been  
experienced in any nation or in any time.

We read and talk much of the Prodigal son  
and girl but do not think so much about the  
prodigal father and mother. I have in my  
possession "The Parable of the Prodigal Father"  
which has impressed me very greatly and  
would be very appropriate for us fathers at  
this hour. It follows; -----  
----- etc.

After all each boy and girl is a unit of strength or of weakness in the home and in the community. In fact this is true with each individual.

We build dwelling houses, church houses, and school houses. All of this is important but why is building important? For this reason only: to build greater souls.

The school house is not most important } these are  
" dwelling " " " " " } all for the  
" church " " " " " } child.  
" Bible is not most. " " }

All of these things are for the child, or in other words to build greater lives, physically, mentally, and spiritually. We must not neglect the body nor the mind. But what is the reason why we should not neglect body and mind? Why in order that there may be a stronger dwelling for the soul which is to live on forever either in heaven or in hell.

All of our building, all of our means, and all of our agencies are for the one purpose of building greater souls. The way you cut & line determines to a large extent whether the souls will enlarge or be diminished in this community. The all important thing is putting God in the building. Fathers, mothers, teachers let us remember really and very seriously that we are building for them.



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