

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

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THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

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Good Manners

The year 1970 should be one of the most prosperous years in the history of the United States. There are more doors open to job, school, and social opportunities than ever before, but one should not forget the editorial of Good Manners which we publish every year.

It has always been said that good manners will carry a person further than money. That doesn't mean that a Negro has to be an "Uncle Tom" or "Aunt Hannah" or a person with a master's degree in education to acquire the habit of using good manners in the everyday walks of life.

Our older parents were accustomed to wearing tacky garments when they went out to seek a job, or a bargain of some commodity which was needed. By going out in this manner, they felt that the proprietor would have sympathy and grant them a better bargain or job because their appearance showed they were in need.

This is a new day. The younger generation is wiser and understands his needs without putting on ragged attire.

I often see nowadays, many of the older parents uptown seeking a bargain with their teen-age jackets and misfitted suits, bowing and being submissive to some proprietor of a business firm. The first reply comes from the salesman of the firm, "Come in Auntie (or Uncle), what can I do for you today?" The customer answers, "I am looking for certain commodities." Their appearance induces the salesman to present some cheap or store worn goods which cannot be sold as first-class materials. On many occasions, the buyer usually falls for the cheap goods and buys it at a price that he could get the same line of products at first class. The salesman tells the customer to pay ten dollars down on the price of the goods which is twenty-five dollars and pay a dollar a week for goods which are worth about ten dollars. The salesman tells auntie or uncle, "I have seen you around town, and I know you have good credit references, but give me at least three of them, and sign your name on this application blank. The buyer signs his name John Hancock or Mary Jones with the understanding that payment will be made each Monday following. If a payment is missed one or two weeks, she receives a letter addressed to Mary Jones. When she opens the letter, the first thing she reads is, "Mary, you have missed two weeks on your payment," or a collector may be sent to the residence requesting payment of back bills. If the buyer is able to catch up his payments and also pay a week in advance, the same salesman is back telling the customer of some new commodity on display. Before any business is transacted, he will have to tell two or three commercial jokes with reflections on some Negro, to create humor, and a big laugh. The salesman of the firm places all Negroes in the same category. The new generation is educated to the point that they are getting away from such manners. Many refuse to buy from a sales agent when they do not put a handle to their name on the contract. The customer mails a check when payment is due, and will not allow agents to come to their homes early in the morning before the household duties are done in order to receive guests.

May we urge our readers, please do not be high pressured by salesmen to buy commodities beyond your earnings and then be humiliated by bills and collectors at home and especially at work. Put yourselves in a position with business firms so you may be able to demand respect.

On many occasions when one goes shopping properly dressed and stops in a cheap credit store he is greeted by a salesman as Reverend, Professor, or Madame. Hold this standard up with good manners in your transactions or business, even though you may be an ordinary industrial worker.

The little things that count most in the use of good manners are, first: the use of your neighbors telephone. If you do not have one, long drawn out conversations are unmannerly; cut your conversations short, even if you do have a telephone. Beware of the type of conversation you have on the telephone. I was told that three children were burned in a house where a family was on a three party

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

THE FRUIT OF HATE**Beginning Where You Are**

Achieving brotherhood and peace is the biggest unsolved issue of the twentieth century. Perhaps it has been the biggest problem for any century since the dawn of history. The big issue of our lives is less often what we have to live on than whom we have to live with.

When we turn from the Bible stories of creation and the garden of Eden, which tell how man became alienated from God and the lower creatures, we come immediately to the story that portrays man as having become so deeply estranged from his brother that he kills him. Cain, the first-born son of Adam and Eve, murders his only and younger brother, Abel. While the reasons for the murder are as complex as life and death, one obvious motivating factor is Cain's jealousy.

The first man, Adam, disobeys God's command; then his first-born kills his brother. The events are pictured as domestic strife within the first family, but they describe the situation of the whole family of mankind—the elder kills the younger although he should be guardian and helper of his brother.

As we study Genesis 4:1-16, we can understand how relevant—how all too relevant—for our times is the Bible's diagnosis of man's sickness and sin. Man is jealous of his brother, even when he is at the altar of God in prayer. Jealousy, pride, and

line, and one of the parties was using the line and refused to hang up so the family could call the fire department. Getting revenge over the telephone, they talk as long as they wish, not knowing what circumstances, the other parties are having, such as the need of a doctor, taxi, policeman, or the management of one's job.

One should go neatly dressed to and from work. Go before time to change clothes or uniform, if required. When working on construction jobs, be sure that the proprietor has a dressing room with showers. Most business firms like for their employees to be neat in appearance and conduct.

We are not writing this story as an authority on etiquette, but we are pointing out a few things for which we are criticized.

It has been said from time to time to train a child in the way it should go and when it becomes old, it will not depart from it.

The first step of good manners is in the home. All types of profanity that a child uses is picked up from family squabbles, mostly from the mother, because she is with the child all during the day, and she thinks the child is cute when it uses some profanity that he learns in the home. Not only the child, but in most cases when you see congregations of teen agers on the street and old dirty men, all you can hear is all types and kinds of profanity, regardless of who passes.

Why so many people are unable to keep their jobs is that the boss gives certain employees more privileges than he does them. They are jealous and think other employees take advantage of their earnings and use it more properly for better living conditions. They say the boss accuses them of being impetuous and contrary on the job simply because they try to tell the boss how to run his business. They refuse to work in the rain, or snow and they just have to get the boss told every day. This is why we say good manners carry one further than money. Many proprietors would rather pay a contrary person a month's salary in advance and get rid of them than to have him keep confusion all the time. Good manners pay in every respect. It has been said time and time again that a good name is better than all richness and fine gold, and is derived from good manners. A person with good manners is first pure, peaceful, gentle, and is easily entreated, full of mercy and of good fruit without partiality and without hypocrisy.

Space and time will not allow us the privilege of explaining the use of common sense and the use of good manners. What do you think?

covetousness divide mankind. He needs a saving Redeemer.

Searching The Scriptures

The Scripture for this lesson is Genesis 4:1-24; 1 John 3:11-15. Selected verses are printed below.

Genesis 4:1-15

1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord." 2 And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. 3 In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4 and Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. 6 The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is couching at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it."

8 Cain said to Abel his brother, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him. 9 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" 10 And the Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's

er's blood is crying to me from the ground. 11 And now you are cursed from the ground which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. 12 When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength; you shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." 13 Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. 14 Behold, thou hast driven me this day away from the ground; and from thy face I shall be hidden; and I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will slay me." 15 Then the Lord said to him, "Not so! If any one slays Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who came upon him should kill him.

Memory Selection: Any one who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murdered has eternal life abiding in him. —1 John 3:15

Exploring The Questions

Genesis 4 is a sequel to the story about the origin of sin and man's estrangement from God recorded in Genesis 3. The result of the first couple's eating of the forbidden fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil is disorder in creation. Genesis 4 is like Chapter 2 in a long book about how sin begets sin and how evil goes from bad to worse.

After leaving Eden's garden, Adam and Eve had two sons. Cain killed his brother, Abel, because God seemed to favor Abel. Why did Cain get angry with his brother instead of God? Are we to assume that an offering from the flocks is better than one from the fields?

What was the mark of Cain, and why was it regarded as necessary?

What is the meaning of God's warning that sin was couching at Cain's door and that Cain must master it? Are we to understand sin as some sort of eternal force rather than an inner attitude?

Finding Help**With Your Questions**

The setting for the events of Genesis 4 is the land of Eden, near the garden where grows the tree of life and the forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Here Adam and Eve took up residence. It is noted that Adam "knew" Eve, and a child was conceived.

The first child born to the first parents was a boy. He was named "Cain." Eve bore a second son. The biblical record suggests that the two boys were twins since only one conception is mentioned. The second child was called "Abel."

These two sons were unlike in interests and abilities. The elder became a farmer, a tiller of the soil. The younger became a shepherd, a keeper of flocks.

Two Ways of Life

Then, as now, there was conflict between these two occupations — between the shepherd or rancher and the farmer. Throughout most of history, the agriculturist has symbolized the settled life and a society organized around towns and state centers. The shepherd was a

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