

Biblical Wisdom



Christopher Hitchens, a famous writer and self-described “anti-theist” who published a hit piece on Mother Teresa, wants his children to learn the Bible. Why?

“You are not educated if you don’t know the Bible. You can’t read Shakespeare or Milton without it,” he told *World* magazine. “I doubt it, but I’m very glad I was taught it.”

Mr. Hitchens understands what the U.S. Supreme Court also acknowledged: the value of a working knowledge of the Bible. Just think of all the expressions that come from this great book: “forbidden fruit,” “David and Goliath,” “in the belly of the beast” and “the Good Samaritan” are just a handful.

Teaching the Bible, even only as literature, cements us together as a society. It has played a significant part in making us a nation, “out of many, one.” We may look different or eat unusual food. But Americans share beliefs in how we should relate to one another (treat others as you would want to be treated) and how society must operate to flourish, based on honesty (thou

shalt not bear false witness), respect for other’s property (thou shalt not steal), sympathy for the vulnerable (care for widows and orphans), and an understanding of original sin (note the checks and balances in our government, which require even the most powerful to be accountable).

Studying the Bible does not force anyone to convert. But at the least, students will be better educated and able to function successfully by drawing on its history and wisdom. They can feel comfortable with the most popular book in history.

As Christians, we know that the Bible is more than stories and sayings. It imparts rich Truth. And while some students, without God’s gift of faith, may end up like Christopher Hitchens, others’ appetites may be whetted to know the Bible and its Author. That’s why Biblical literacy is so important.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wendy Wright". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Wendy Wright
President

Check Out CWA's Congressional Scorecard

The November election is just around the corner, so CWA has compiled key votes of members of Congress in our *Congressional Scorecard*. Versions are available for your state’s U.S. representatives and U.S. senators, or for votes of the entire House and Senate. Visit www.cwfa.org, or call 1-800-323-2200 to request your copy. Be sure to pass it on to your friends!