

STUDY GUIDE

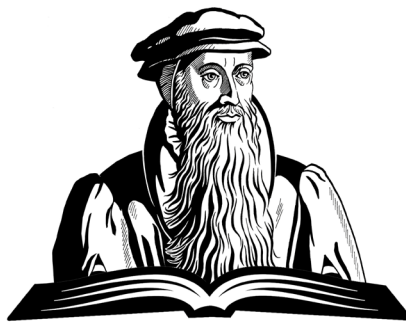
for

Classical Christian Education

Video Lecture Series
by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

LECTURE #2

Christian Commitments in Education



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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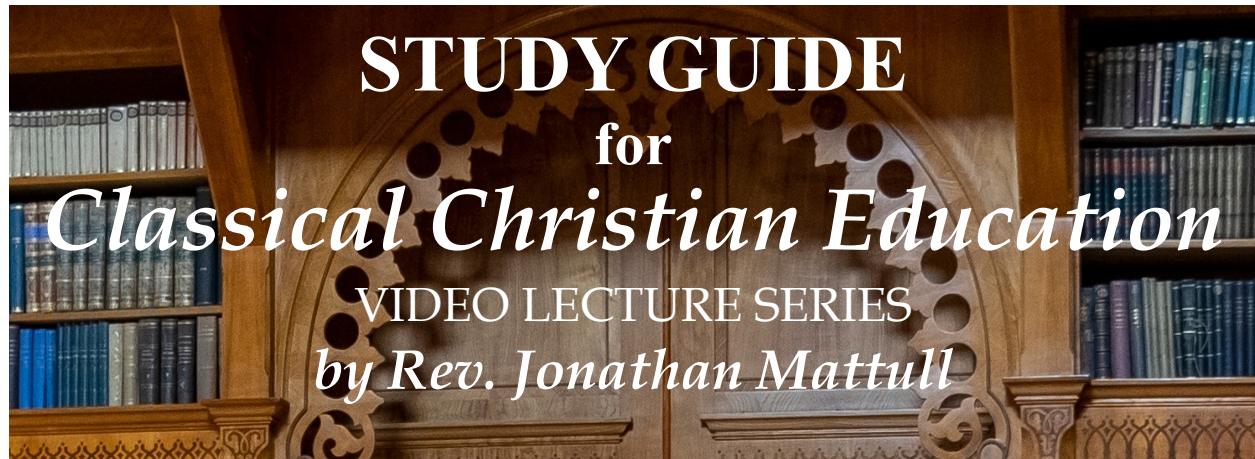
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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

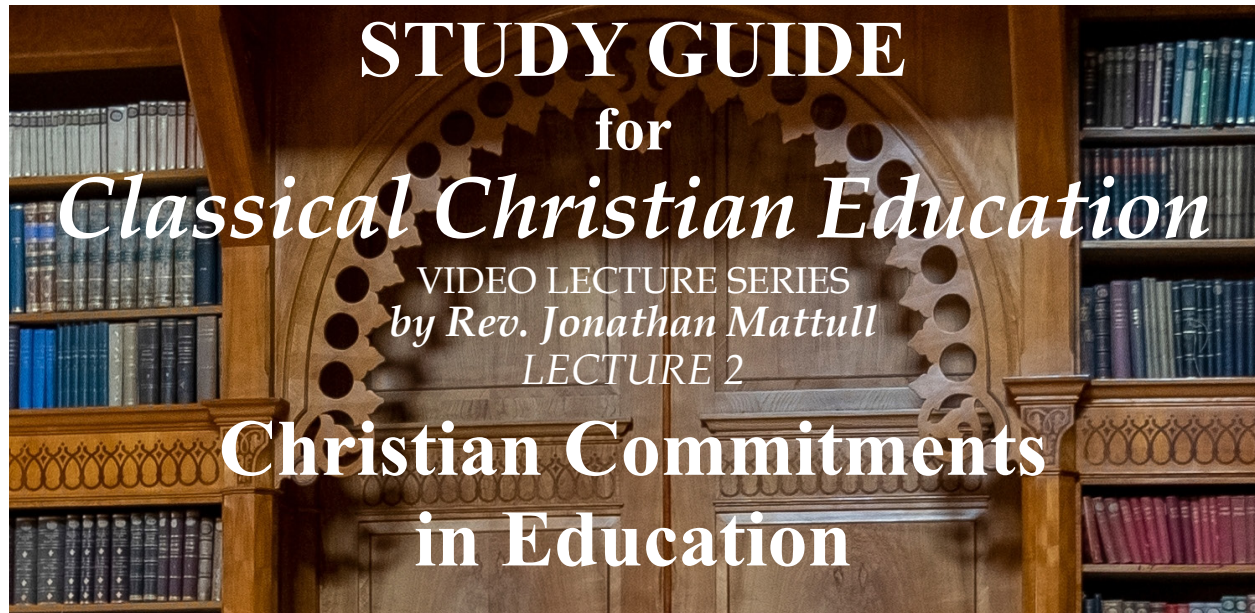
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Introduction

Education, for the Christian, is not to be separated from the Lord. It is certainly not to be in opposition to the Lord either. The path of education is to be a path devoted to the Lord. In other words, a Christian education is not just the current trends of education with a Bible study included. When we speak of Christian education, we're speaking of a Christian approach to all of education. We do not mean that all the students are Christians in the fullest sense of the word. Nor do we mean that everyone involved is converted. We mean that the truths, and lessons, the teaching, the aims, and the approach are all brought under Christ's lordship, and dependent upon his grace.

Theme

Education must be committed to the Lord.

Key Points

1. A Christian must submit all he is, all he believes, and all he does to the Lord.
 - a. Matthew 16, verses 24–25.
 - b. Romans 12, verses 1–2.
 - c. A Christian approach to all of education.
 - d. The path of education should be a path devoted to the Lord.
 - e. Christian education should not replace the ministry of the church.
 - f. Christ transforms our approach to education.
2. Christ directs us to the source for learning.
 - a. Creation itself teaches us.

- b. Holy Scriptures teach us.
 - 1) History.
 - 2) The nature of man.
 - 3) The life and ministry of Jesus Christ.
 - c. The close bond between these two sources for learning: God’s world, and God’s Word.
3. Christ identifies the goal of learning.
- a. The main reason for education is God’s glory.
 - 1) Thinking God’s thoughts after him.
 - 2) Discovering God’s truths.
 - 3) Elicits praise and thanksgiving to God.
 - b. A second reason for education is to love and serve our neighbor.
 - c. A third reason for education is to cultivate maturity.
 - d. Certain trends in education today are antichristian and antihuman.
4. Conclusion.
- a. All this is only by God’s grace.
 - b. We must have an education that submits all things to Christ, depends on Christ, and delights in Christ.

Study Questions

1. Rev. Mattull said, “A Christian is to submit all that he is, all that he believes, and all that he does to the Lord.” In what Bible verses do we find the Lord Jesus Christ articulating this?

2. How does the passage in Romans 12, verses 1 and 2 show us that the Christian’s mind and body should be set apart unto God? How does this apply to the education of a Christian?

3. What does it mean to have a Christian approach to all of education? Can a Christian education replace the ministry of the church?

4. How do we know that all of creation is there for us to study? Which biblical figure is a clear example of this? How should we view what we learn from other men?

5. Why is it essential to have a sound and conservative understanding of the Scripture in Christian education? What does this good understanding basically include?

6. How do the Scriptures educate us about history, and about the nature of man? How important is it for us to study the life and ministry of Jesus Christ?

7. What are those two sources that must be part of a fully-developed approach to education? What would happen if you neglect either?

8. What is the main reason, or goal, for education? When Johannes Kepler was given credit for a great discovery, why did he say, "I was merely thinking God's thoughts after him"?

9. What is the second reason for education which was given in this lecture? How does this comport with the second great commandment that Jesus gave us in Matthew 22:39?

10. What is the final reason for education that is given in the lecture? How does this reason help to fulfill the first two reasons?

Further Study

1. How can we keep a balance of trusting in God's sovereignty over us, and our own responsibility to be diligent and deliberate in the arena of Christian education?

2. Do you see the importance of deep and sound knowledge of Scriptures for all Christian educators? As for professional development, how might a teacher gain maturity in the Word of God in a practical way?
