



*Ockenga Fellows Retreat 5*  
**Matthew 22:34-40 | Education**

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary



# Matthew 22:36-37

36 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

37 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ (NIV)

# Deuteronomy 6:4-9

4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

# Deuteronomy 6:4-9

4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.



**Education matters to God.**



# Education matters to God.

## Psalm 19:1-2 (NIV)

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
- 2 Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.



# Education matters to God.

“I was brought up in a Christian environment where, because God had to be given pre-eminence, nothing else was allowed to be important. I have broken through to the position that because God exists, everything has significance.”

- Evangeline Paterson, Irish poet



# Education matters to God.

All truth is God's truth.



# Education matters to God.

All truth is God's truth.

**James 1:17 (NIV)** Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.



# Education matters to God.

All truth is God's truth.

**John 14:6 (NIV)** Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.



"A brilliant study by a first-rate  
Evangelical mind." —*Publishers Weekly*

# THE Scandal OF THE Evangelical Mind



MARK A. NOLL



# All truth is God's truth.

- Ellen White (1827-1915), the founder of Seventh-Day Adventism, originated the idea of a young earth, which means contrary to popular opinion it's not part of traditional Christian beliefs.



# All truth is God's truth.

- Ellen White (1827-1915), the founder of Seventh-Day Adventism, originated the idea of a young earth, which means contrary to popular opinion it's not part of traditional Christian beliefs.
- Up until the middle of the 1950-60s most conservative Protestants believed in an old earth and that God filled our world through a series of creative acts.

# Education matters to God.

All truth is God's truth.

Knowledge is not an end in itself.



# Education matters to God.

Knowledge is not an end in itself.

**Ecclesiastes 12:12b-13 (NIV)**

12 ...Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body.

13 Now all has been heard;

here is the conclusion of the matter:

Fear God and keep his commandments,  
for this is the duty of all mankind.

# Education matters to God.

Knowledge is not an end in itself.

**1 Corinthians 8:1b (NIV)** ...But knowledge puffs up while love builds up.



# Education matters to God.

Knowledge is not an end in itself.

**1 Corinthians 8:1b (NIV)** ...But knowledge puffs up while love builds up.

**2 Timothy 3:7 (NIV)** always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth.





Boston College



# Education matters to God.

All truth is God's truth.

Knowledge is not an end in itself.

Many of God's chosen leaders were highly educated.

# Education matters to God.

Many of God's chosen leaders were highly educated.

**Moses - Acts 7:22 (NIV)** Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.



# Education matters to God.

Many of God's chosen leaders were highly educated.

**Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego - Daniel 1:4 (NIV)** young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians.

# Education matters to God.

Many of God's chosen leaders were highly educated.

**Ezra - Ezra 7:6a (NIV)** this Ezra came up from Babylon. He was a teacher well versed in the Law of Moses, which the Lord, the God of Israel, had given.



# Education matters to God.

Many of God's chosen leaders were highly educated.

**Jesus - Luke 2:40 (NIV)** And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

# Education matters to God.

Many of God's chosen leaders were highly educated.

**Paul - Acts 22:3b (NIV)** “...I studied under Gamaliel and was thoroughly trained in the law of our ancestors...”



**Education matters for the gospel.**

# Education matters for the gospel.

It helps us reach our neighbor.

# It helps us reach our neighbor.

## **Acts 17:28-30 (NIV)**

28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’  
As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his  
offspring.’

29 “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should  
not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or  
stone—an image made by human design and skill.

30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but  
now he commands all people everywhere to repent.



# Education matters for the gospel.

It helps us reach our neighbor.

It helps us love our neighbor.

# Education matters for the gospel.

It helps us love our neighbor.

**Matthew 22:37** (NIV) Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzyuSG--oJA>

*Boston Education Collaborative*