

## NUNTIATA

Providence Classical School  
of Spring, TX

presents

**Pursuing Wisdom  
in a  
Credentials-based Culture**

February 25-26, 2005

*Guest Speaker:*  
**Wes Callihan**

*Sample Workshop Topics:*

Every Subject Has a Theology  
Avoiding Mission Drift  
Progymnasmata  
Competing Like Christ  
Musically Wise  
Teaching Little Hearts  
Dorothy Sayers: A Biography  
Classical Education for Parents  
Establishing a Library

**Don't miss Friday night's  
Many-Splendored Evening of  
Classical Conversation and  
Fine Chocolate**

*To register:*  
call (281) 528-5005 or email  
[providencecgs@earthlink.net](mailto:providencecgs@earthlink.net)

An ACCS-endorsed conference  
for classical Christian schools  
and home schools

**\$40 per person  
\$70 per couple or  
\$20 each day per person**

## Book Review

**Myths, Lies, & Half-Truths:  
How Misreading the Bible  
Neutralizes Christians**

**by Gary DeMar**

*American Vision, Powder Springs, GA  
2004, 293 pages, \$25*

There is increasing talk about Christians needing to have a uniquely biblical world and life view; a view that constantly evaluates all that goes on around them through the sound teaching of the Scriptures. This discussion is being driven by the observation of some in the church that an increasing number of Christians have adopted a world and life view that, in most respects, mirrors the assumptions of the unbelieving world around them. Sadly, these Christians believe in the Bible, but draw their beliefs from "an out of context reading and application of a text, a misreading or incomplete reading of a text, a misstatement of fact," and/or a "faulty reasoning from an incorrectly established premise." As a consequence, these Christians are increasingly unable to respond to their unbelieving family, friends and fellow workers in an effective way as a witness. Indeed, they live in much the same way as the unbelievers around them because they have bought into the myths, lies, and half-truths circulated as the way Christians "ought" to believe, when in reality, these teachings only neutralize the impact of the gospel, making these Christians irrelevant in contemporary society.

Over the years, the author, Gary DeMar, has recognized this downward spiral in the understanding of modern evangelicals, and has taken the time to try to do something about it by writing *Myths, Lies & Half-Truths: How Misreading the Bible Neutralizes Christians*. This book identifies many of the common, false assumptions or incorrect beliefs that are held by many Christians, and then provides

Bible texts and explanations that show why these assumptions are thoroughly wrong. There is no need for Christians to be neutralized in their lives, culture or witness.

What are some of these myths, lies, and half-truths that are addressed by Gary DeMar's book? Here is a limited sampling intended to spark your interest: "Involvement in the World is Not Spiritual," "You Cannot Legislate Morality," "Religion and Politics Do Not Mix," "God's Kingdom is Not of This World," and "It's Never Right to Resist Authority". Again, this list comprises only a small portion of the topics addressed. In challenging these false beliefs, the author goes beyond the simple statements themselves to show the false presuppositions and premises that have allowed these ideas to develop and come to carry such force among Christians, who of all people, should know better.

In each instance, the author brings the Scriptures to bear on the subject, explains them in such a way as to make the antithesis clear, and the correct path of understanding plain. Not only do we find that Gary DeMar is a capable and committed Christian writer, but he is also a committed American citizen, who loves his country and its history. He passionately desires to see the gospel effectively proclaimed and lived, and for godly justice to reign in the land to the glory of God.

The book is well organized, and provides stimulating reading. It is "must" reading for both parents, teachers and students, not only to possibly correct any misunderstandings of their own, but to better enable them to gently correct their fellow Christians who may have unintentionally adopted some of these myths, lies, and half-truths into their own world and life view. The less the neutralizing effect of error, the greater effectiveness of the truth of the gospel, and of those who proclaim it.

REVIEWED BY PATCH BLAKEY  
CLASSIS