

WHEN IS A PERSON TRULY EDUCATED?

By Carolyn Caines

IF I learn my ABCs, can read 600 words per minute, and can write with perfect penmanship but have not been shown how to communicate With the Designer of all language, I have not been educated.

IF I can deliver an eloquent speech and persuade with my stunning logic but have not been instructed In God's wisdom, I have not been educated.

IF I have read William Shakespeare and Jon Locke and can discuss their writings with keen insight but have not read the greatest book - the Bible- and have no knowledge of its personal importance, I have not been educated.

IF I have memorized addition facts, multiplication tables, and chemical formulas but have never been disciplined to hide God's Word in my heart, I have not been educated.

IF I can explain the law of gravity and Einstein's theory of relativity but have never been instructed in the unchangeable laws of the One who orders our universe, I have not been educated.

IF I can classify animals by their family, genus, and species and can write a lengthy scientific paper that wins an award but have not been introduced to the Maker's purpose for all creation, I have not been educated.

IF I can recite the Gettysburg Address and the Preamble to the Constitution from memory but have not been informed of the hand of God in the history of our country, I have not been educated.

IF I can play the piano, the violin, and six other instruments and can write music that moves men to tears, but have not been taught to listen to the Director of the universe and worship Him, I have not been educated.

IF I can run cross-country races, star in basketball, and do 100 push-ups without stopping but have never been shown how to bend my spirit to do God's will, I have not been educated.

IF I can identify a Picasso, describe the style of DaVinci, and even paint a portrait that gains acclaim but have not learned that all harmony and beauty in a life comes from a relationship with God, I have not been educated.

IF I graduate with a perfect 4.0 and am accepted at the finest university with a full scholarship but have not been guided into a career of God's choosing for me, I have not been educated.

IF I become a good citizen, voting at each election and fighting for what is moral and right, but have not been told of the sinfulness of man and his hopelessness without Christ, I have not been educated.

However, IF one day I see the world as God sees it, and come to know Him, Whom to know is life eternal, and glorify God by fulfilling His purpose for me, **Then I have Been Educated!**