# Stamping Eternity on the Eyeballs:

Enabling the Masterpiece to See His Master

By Jason Valley, Ph.D.

man after cities struggling Life strove fools oxen goddess speak



Tell me, Muse, of the man of many ways, who was driven far journeys, after he had sacked Troy's secret citadel. Many were they whose cities he saw, whose minds he learned of, many the pains he suffered on his spirit on the wide sea, struggling for his own life and the homecoming of his companions. Even so he s could not save his companions, hard though he strove to; they were destroyed by their own wild recklessness, fools, who devoured the oxen of Helios, the Sun God, and he took away the day of their homecoming. From some point here, goddess, daughter of Zeus, speak, and begin our story.







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#### Education

• Educere: to lead out

• Zwerneman:

"...leading students out of ignorance
and out of the limits of their immediate
world. Genuine education involves
...bringing the student into the culture
so that they can move out and know
and love the wider world."



### Education

• Do our students <u>see</u> truth, goodness, and beauty?

- Do they <u>see</u> how things relate to each other?
- How do our students <u>see</u> themselves?
  - How do they <u>see</u> each other?
  - Do they see God?

# HOW DO WE

<u>SEE</u> OUR

## **STUDENTS?**

### **Main Objective of Presentation**

<u>Perception</u> of student (poiema)

A. Sax.

<u>Positioning</u> of student (paideia)

> <u>Communion</u> with Christ in the classroom (paideia)

## "There is a lot more in him than you guess, and a deal more than he has any idea of himself."





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<u>Perception</u> of student (poiema)

A. Sax.

Cors Tpts.



<u>Communion</u> with Christ in the classroom (paideia)



### Poiema

 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. (Eph 2:10)

#### • <u>Masterpiece:</u>

- Work of art skillfully created by a master
- Shaping of a masterpiece:
  - adversity, relationships, challenges, divine intervention, environments





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<u>Perception</u> of student (poiema)

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Cors Tpts.



<u>Communion</u> with Christ in the classroom (paideia)

#### Paideia

• Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline (paideia) of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

 Paideia is instituted to form the students' habits, character, desires, and loves.



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#### **Ancient Greek Paideia**

- Orestes as a *role model* for Telemachus
- The "holding up" of Orestes so Telemachus could gaze on Orestes, and in doing so, become like him



#### **Classical Christian Paideia**

 Exaltation of Christ in the classroom so that the student can gaze on Christ and become like Him (2 Cor. 3:18)

> BUT WE ALL, WITH OPEN FACE BEHOLDING AS IN A GLASS THE GLORY OF THE LORD, ARE CHANGED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM GLORY TO GLORY, EVEN AS BY THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD.

> > 2 CORINTHIANS 3:18

#### Paideia

"The more we get what we now call 'ourselves' out of the way and let Him take us over, the more truly ourselves we become... He invented—as an author invents characters in a novel—all the different men that you and I were intended to be. In that sense our real selves are all waiting for us in Him. It is no good trying to 'be myself' without Him...It is when I turn to Christ, when I give myself up to His Personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own."

(C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity)















### "Only get rid of Man, and the produce of our labour would be our own."





A. Sax.

Cors

## On the contrary, I am





#### Psalm 8

- <sup>3</sup> When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
- the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
- what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?
- <sup>5</sup> Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. <sup>6</sup> You have given him dominion over the works of
- your hands;

- you have put all things under his feet, 7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, 8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
  - whatever passes along the paths of the seas.







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#### Questions to Discuss...

1. Do I see through an eternal lens in the classroom, or is this a struggle because I get too focused on covering all the curriculum, or making sure my students are getting good grades, or demonstrating good behaviors, etc.?

2. What are some practices we can implement to avoid a reductionistic perspective of our students, and instead, see them through an eternal lens?

3. What are some practices we can implement to properly position our students so that they are better able to see Christ the Logos in all things in the classroom?