

## We Are What We Read

TikTok is ablaze! Well, like most things, I arrived late. The debates concerning TikTok, i.e., National Security, and Free Speech are alive and well. Whatever has been said for or against TikTok, there is an article, posted in Epoch News, “TikTok Lawfare Against America,” that expresses an age-old truth: “We are what we read.”

The reality of this principle was stated by the Lord, saying, “If any man hath ears to hear, let him hear. And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete it shall be measured unto you; and more shall be given unto you. For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken away even that which he hath” (Mk. 4:23-25), cf. Lk. 8:18 – “Take heed therefore how ye hear.”

Taking heed to what we hear, and how we hear, has been the topic of many articles, sermons, and admonitions. Although the knowledge that *what goes in does not go out* is a recognized fact, there remains a lack of understanding. When the apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, he said, “may your spirit and soul and body be preserved entire, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thess. 5:23). Paul told Timothy, “Take heed to thyself, and to thy teaching. Continue in these things; for in doing this thou shalt save both thyself and them that hear thee” (1 Tim. 4:16). Does an individual “hear” what they are reading: “A new paper from New York University researchers suggests that most people do hear an internal voice while they're reading.” The point, if there is a point, is that regardless of the medium through which information enters the mind (?), it will alter an individual’s perception of any attained knowledge.

Solomon said: “Train up a child in the way he should go, And even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Prov. 22:6). Training is of vital importance for the health of the individual, family, nation, etc. Paul instructed Titus to impart information that would benefit “that aged women likewise be reverent in demeanor, not slanderers nor enslaved to much wine, teachers of that which is good; that they may train the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sober-minded, chaste, workers at home, kind, being in subjection to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed” (Titus 2:3-5).

William Ross Wallace, penned this poem in 1865:

“They say that man is mighty,  
He governs land and sea,  
He wields a mighty scepter  
O'er lesser powers than he;  
But mightier power and stronger  
Man from his throne has hurled,  
For the hand that rocks the cradle  
Is the hand that rules the world.”

It is a sad state when young women refuse to be trained by aged women who have been there and done that, from a Biblical perspective. Have you noticed that Solomon personifies “Wisdom” as “She” (Prov. 1:20-33)? Give it a “read”. ret