



Article Title— "Hahvuhd, Dahling!"

Article Category— Practical Christianity



Found this long-forgotten story on our TC's Friends Club site (Facebook) this morning. It had been thoughtfully shared with us by a highly respected friend who lives halfway around the globe. I think you'll find enormous value in it, too—

A lady in a faded grey dress and her husband in a homemade suit walked timidly, without an appointment, into that university President's outer office. The secretary was immediately aware that such backward folk had no business at Harvard and probably didn't even deserve to be on that elite campus. "We want to see the president," the man said softly. "He'll be busy all day," the secretary snapped. "We'll wait." the lady in the faded dress replied.

The secretary ignored them for hours, hoping they'd become discouraged and go away. They didn't. Frustrated, she disturbed her boss: "Maybe if you'll see them for a few minutes, they'll leave." Stern faced, he strutted pompously towards the couple, "Yes?"

The faded-grey-dress lady shared, "Our son attended Harvard for a year and he loved it. He was happy here. But about a year ago he was accidentally killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial for him somewhere on your campus."

Not touched, the president responded, "Madam, we cannot put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery."

"Oh, no, no," the grieving mom reacted, "We don't want to erect a statue. We want to give a building to your Harvard in his memory."

With an eye roll, the president glanced briefly at the dress and the suit and then scoffed, "A Building? Do you have any idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here." For a moment his unwelcome guests were silent. He was visibly pleased. Maybe they'd go, now...

The lady turned to her husband: "Is that all it costs to start a University? Why don't we just start our own?" Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment. Leland and Jane Stanford got up, walked away and traveled to Paolo Alto, California. There, they established Stanford University. It stands today as memorial to their son for whom Harvard hadn't cared.

Has there been observable change in the prevailing mindsets of our academic elitists? That president didn't approve of Mr. and Mrs. Stanford's attire. Stereotypically, the academics of our time reject all whose mindsets and thinking and talking points don't fit perfectly into their collaboratively manufactured neo-liberal box. "Neo-liberal," because it is the opposite of what our long established word for an open-minded, truly intellectual worldview still means in sensible circles. "Neo-liberal," then, is the equivalent of *pseudo-intellectual*.


Human nature is the sin nature, you know. That kind'a-sort'a explains such an observably pervasive mindset within our communities of higher education. But please remember that you and I are also burdened by that human nature thing. It's why we feel compelled to express sincere regrets to our Maker more often than we'd like. Goes something like this—"Oops! I screwed up again! Sorry! Please forgive me."

And He does forgive us...so long as we don't continue in a lifestyle^ that's characterized by that behavior. Even without that *lifestyle^* component, there are still personally damaging consequences of what we've said or thought or done—even after we've said "Oops!" Wanna bet that Harvard president wasn't reflecting on his own world-class "Oops! event" on his deathbed?

^ Follow this hotlink for complete insight into the "lifestyles" thing: https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/a359a3_dbdccc803cbf4c34be536fe2fd6dd5c4.pdf

The bottom line? It is beautifully but simply captured in the timeworn cliché, "What goes up must come down." In short, even when our "Sorry!" is completely sincere and fully forgiven we must still experience the consequences of each new screw-up. Regardless of what you've likely heard from lots of well-meaning folk, God's grace and mercy and forgiveness and justification don't come even close to "It's just as if I never did it." (Sounds really religious, I know, but then fables typically sound and feel somehow more religious than Truth.) Yes; you might want to take that bittersweet FYI to your spiritual bank and deposit it for safekeeping...after sharing it with somebody you love.


I was a successful Bible teacher for a LOT of years—big sanctuary classes.
I knew what my denomination believed and that's what I taught.
Yes, I should've checked it out to make sure it was true.

So why didn't I do that? Well, maybe I didn't do that for the same reason that you haven't really checked out what your denomination teaches. 
"In religion and politics, people's beliefs and convictions are in almost every case gotten at second hand, and without examination." —Samuel Clemens




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Humility is often viewed as weakness. Instead, it's a lot like a stick of dynamite...with its fuse always ready "for such a time as this."

—T. C. Newsome 

PS: Comments? Questions? Scriptural rebuttals? They're all welcome! www.Link1.info/contact-us.
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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/136708110091989/>

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