



The Scholé Way with Christopher Perrin

Lecture 2: Overcoming Anxious Education in the Renewal of Classical Learning

Outline:

In this lesson, Dr. Christopher Perrin explores the concept of "Anxious Education" and contrasts modern educational practices with the classical tradition. He examines how the structure of modern schooling contributes to stress and fragmentation while highlighting the historical and philosophical foundations of classical education. The lecture traces the rise of progressive education and the ongoing efforts to renew classical learning in contemporary schools.

The Nature of Anxious Education

- Reflection on personal educational experiences
- Characteristics of modern schooling:
 - Stress, anxiety, and standardized testing
 - Fragmentation of subjects and lack of interdisciplinary learning
 - Rigid school structures, factory-like environments

The Classical Understanding of Education

- The etymology of "education":
 - *Educare* (to lead out) and *educere* (to raise up)
 - Related Latin and Greek terms: *Humanitas*, *eruditio*, *paideia*
- Classical education as the full formation of a human being
- Emphasis on wisdom and virtue as chief educational goals

The Rise of Progressive Education

- Factors contributing to the shift:
 - Immigration and the challenge of mass education
 - The influence of the scientific and industrial revolutions
 - Psychology and sociology shaping educational theories



- Emphasis on job training over holistic education
- The progressive education movement's dominance by the early 20th century

The Classical Renewal Movement

- The decline and calcification of classical education in the late 19th century
- The resurgence of classical education since the 1980s:
 - Early classical school initiatives (Care Parve Latin School, Logos School, Trinity Christian School)
 - Growth of classical schools and homeschooling cooperatives
- The importance of *scholé* (restful learning) in classical renewal
- The retrieval of contemplation and wonder in education