

# *A Creative Mind*

ANGEL ABREA

Looking over those missionaries, I suppose that I am here like a good example of all the problems that you will have with the language if you are going to a foreign country.

When Solomon received his calling and with it the responsibility of the kingdom, he became apprehensive and somewhat insecure because of the tremendous load and responsibility which confronted him. In words very explicit he expressed his sentiments, as we read in 1 Kings, chapter 3, verse 7: "I know not how to go out or come in." I must tell you that, personally, I prefer the Spanish version of that verse because therein the order is reversed. Translated literally, it reads, "I know not how to come in or go out." In this case the order is very important because "I come in," and, after seeing so many of you here today, I would like to find the way "to go out."

I am certain that I will find my way out when I have completed my assignment here tonight. But first I would like to share with you some thoughts that might be of help to you in your lives. So during the course of this discussion, I would ask of the Lord that he grant me that which he gave to Solomon upon hearing his fears and misgivings—the wisdom necessary to carry out my commitment.

Very possibly I will not impart to you anything original tonight. However, the many hours I have spent interviewing and visiting with young people of varying degrees of knowledge, faith, and objectives and goals in life, and of different cultures cause me to realize I have gained experience and a certain degree of knowledge and understanding which will allow me to analyze some of the most common problems evident among young people today.

If this night I can stimulate you to think creatively, if I can help you to act upon correct principles, then I believe the worries of finding the way "to go out" will have been well compensated.

## **The Scientist and the Boatman**

Perhaps if we begin with a story, it might help us to better understand the theme of this discussion, and at the same time, help to introduce it.

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*Angel Abrea was a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints when this residence address was given at Brigham Young University on 7 March 1982.*