

THE INSTRUCTOR



"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness," Timothy 3:16

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"WHATSOEVER HE SAITH UNTO YOU, DO IT"

Jesus attended a marriage in a city called Cana which was located in the province of Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there also. Mary, the mother of Jesus, told the servants, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it." (John 2:5). These words of Mary express the attitude which all of us should have toward the word of Christ. The word of Christ shall judge us in the last day. (John 12:48). Since this is true, it is imperative that we do what Jesus says regardless of what He tells us to do. ". . . to him shall ye hearken in ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER he shall speak unto you." (Acts 3:22).

In this article I want to call attention to some things which the Saviour has told us to do. As these things are called to our attention let us remember that we are to do whatever Jesus says for us to do.

". . . BELIEVE THAT I AM HE . . ."

The Pharisees did not believe that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God. There are many today who do not believe that Jesus is God's Son. Like Peter, all must confess that Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matt. 16:16). Have you made this "good confession in the sight of

many witnesses"? (1 Tim. 6:12). Remember, "whatsoever he saith unto you, do it," because Jesus also said, "except ye believe that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." (John 8:24).

". . . REPENT . . ."

There is no doubt but that it is hard for us to turn from that which we find to be pleasurable. But we must repent of every sin of which we are guilty. There may be some fleshly pleasure in living in adultery, lying, cursing, dressing immodestly, or being a talebearer. However, Jesus said, "Except ye repent, ye shall all in like manner perish." (Lk. 13:3). "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."

"HE THAT BELIEVETH AND IS BAPTIZED SHALL BE SAVED"

Remember that we are to DO WHATSOEVER Jesus says. That means that we are to do what Jesus says whether our friends or trusted counsellors advise us against it or not. Jesus gives no unnecessary commands. He gives no commands that are unwise. We must omit nothing which He tells us to do. He said to be baptized.

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Editorial . . .

Man In God's Service

Jesus Christ said in Matt. 4:10 ". . . it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou SERVE." We learn from 1 Thess. 1:9 that some of the Thessalonians had "turned to God from idols TO SERVE the living and true God." Service that we as Christians render unto God begins at the time we become God's children. We should count it a distinctive honor to serve the creator of heaven and earth and all things therein.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

No one is compelled to serve God. We are free moral agents who have the power of choice. God will not force us to serve him. We can choose to serve God or Satan. A short time before the Israelites crossed over Jordan into Canaan Moses said unto them: "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." (Deut. 30:19). Although service to God is voluntary, we urge you to "choose life" that you may live!

SINGLE OR UNDIVIDED SERVICE

Jesus said in Matt. 6:24 that "No man can serve two masters . . ." He also said "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." He further said: ". . . it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." (Matt. 4:10). Servants of Christ should do the will of God from the heart. We should serve God with fear and trembling in singleness of heart. (See Col. 3:22).

CONTINUOUS SERVICE

We learn from Acts 2:42 that the disciples "continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." For those who are true servants, there are no vacations nor furloughs. Our service is to last until death. We must "finish" the course. (See Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7). If you are not willing to continue, there is no point in beginning.

REASONABLE SERVICE

In Rom. 12:1 the apostle Paul said: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." God expects us to serve him in keeping with our ability. We learn this lesson from the parable of the talents in Matt. 25:14-28. "It is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not", if first there be a willing mind. (2 Cor. 8:12). God does not require more than we are able to do, but he does make us responsible to the extent of our abilities plus our opportunities. God will not allow us to be tempted above that which we are able to bear, but will provide a way of escape when we are tempted. (See 1 Cor. 10:13).

WELL-REWARDED SERVICE

Jesus promises the essentials of life to those who will seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.

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Why Study The Bible?

1. THE BIBLE IS NOT THE WORD OF MAN, BUT OF GOD. "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of any private interpretation." (2 Pet. 1:20).

2. IT IS THE POWER OF GOD TO SAVE. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." (Rom. 1:16).

3. IT GIVES LIGHT. "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." (Psa. 119:130).

4. IT GIVES UNDERSTANDING. "Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way." (Psa. 119:104).

5. IT IS POWERFUL. "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Heb. 4:12).

6. IT CLEANSSES. "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." (John 15:3).

7. IT CONVERTS. "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." (Psa. 19:7).

8. IT SANCTIFIES. "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (John 17:17).

9. IT PURIFIES. "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, so that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." (1 Pet. 1:22).

10. MAN CANNOT DISOBEY GOD'S WORD AND BE SAVED ETERNALLY. "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my father who is in heaven." (Matt. 7:21). "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." (Heb. 5:9). "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salva-

tion; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." (Heb. 2:3).

Yes, there is adequate reason for you to study the Bible! (CRS)

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"WHATSOEVER HE SAITH UNTO YOU, DO IT"

That settles it! Preachers, parents, and/or friends to the contrary notwithstanding. Have you been immersed into the remission of your sins? (Cf. Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:27).

". . . BEAR MUCH FRUIT . . ."

It may be that you have believed that Jesus is the Son of God, repented of your sins, and been baptized into Christ. That is fine because it is right. But what are you now doing? Are you bearing any fruit as a disciple of Christ? "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; and so shall ye be my disciples." (John 15:8). Let us emphasize "MUCH FRUIT." We must not be content to win one soul to Christ but all we possibly can. We must not be satisfied to teach the plan of salvation to our husband or wife or daughter or next door neighbor but to all whom we possibly can. My Christian brother or sister, you have been a member of the body of Christ a long time now. Have you borne any fruit? Are you making any effort to so do? "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh it away," (John 15:2).

". . . LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE . . ."

Do not shine your light but let your light shine in order that God and not self be glorified. God is not glorified when His children run around in bathing suits. God is not glorified when His children on vacation from their jobs forsake the assembly. Our lights do not shine when intoxicants are imbibed. Jesus said, "Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." (Matt. 5:16). "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it." —Lynn D. Headrick in "THE BIBLE INSTRUCTOR", July 1, 1959

JUST SUPPOSE

If you have heard a bit of gossip,
I will tell you what to do:
That before you tell another,
Just suppose it had been you.

Just suppose the latest scandal,
Had been on one you love, or you;
And that only half the details,
Really had been partly true.

And that all the reasons for it,
Circumstances strange and new,
All conspired to be a mix-up—
Just suppose, my friend, 'twas you.

Would you wish folks to repeat it?
Or forgive — forget it too?
So, before you tell another,
Just suppose it had been you.
(Author unknown)

"One Lord, one faith, one baptism."
(Ephesians 4:5).

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(See Matt. 6:33). Paul assures us in 1 Cor. 15:58 that our "labor is not in vain in the Lord." Jesus said, "There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or fathers, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life." (Mark 10:29-30). Those who are faithful unto death as God's children have the promise of an inheritance that is incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, but is reserved in heaven. (See 1 Pet. 1:4).

ARE YOU A SERVANT?

Are you a true servant of God? If you haven't been baptized into Christ upon a confession of your faith you are not. To be in position to truly serve God you must be a child of God. If you have "obeyed the gospel" and hence are a child of God, are you serving him faithfully? If not, you should repent and pray that God will forgive you. Why not resolve today to be "a wise and faithful servant?" (CRS)

Sentence Sermons

There is a difference between being full of "hot air" and getting up steam.

Good temper is like a sunny day; it sheds its brightness everywhere.

Many times the door of opportunity is opened by pushing.

Too many people cannot see what a man is on account of what he has.

The person who does as he pleases is seldom pleasing to the Lord.

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