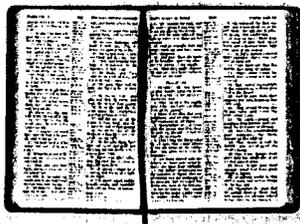


# THE INSTRUCTOR



*"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)*

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## WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO MARRY ANOTHER?

The question, *Who Has the Right to Marry Another*, should be of interest to all of us who are concerned about the welfare and happiness of people in this life and their eternal welfare in the world to come. The only reliable source of information concerning this question is the Word of God. To it we now appeal.

Mark 10:11-12- (Jesus said): "Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery."

Luke 16:18- "Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery." NOTE: God's law of putting a spouse away and marrying another is stated in the above passages. *Whoever puts away his/her spouse and marries another committeth adultery and whoever marries the one put away committeth adultery!*

In Matthew 19:9 we find an *exception* to the above stated law. Listen to Jesus: "...Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery." NOTE: The only exception to the law stated above is "*for fornication*". In Mt. 5:32 Jesus said: "... whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery."

In the above passages we have *one spouse who puts away* (or *divorces*) the other spouse and *one spouse who is put away* (or *is divorced*). Please consider the fact that *one puts away* the other one! So, according to Jesus, there is *one who puts away (divorces)* and there is *one who is put way (or is divorced)*. Simple, isn't it – if we stay with the texts?

According to the words of the texts, *who has a right to marry another?* The *one who is put away (is divorced)* or the *one who puts away the other one for the cause of fornication?* If you are having any difficulty whatsoever understanding the answer that Jesus gives in these passages to our question, please read the texts very carefully. The texts are plain. The answer is clear. The *person who is put away (is divorced)* does *not have the right to marry* another. *Only the person who puts away (divorces) his/her spouse for the cause of fornication has the right to marry another*, according to Jesus in the above texts.

Of course, all of us realize that Romans 7:1-3 and 1 Cor. 7:39 teach that a person whose spouse has died has a right to marry another, but "only in the Lord". (CRS)

# THE INSTRUCTOR

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## Editorial...

### HELL! IS THERE A PLACE OF ETERNAL TORMENT FOR THE WICKED? (NO. 13)

In our prior studies on the subject of *Hell*, it was pointed out that so-called "Jehovah's Witnesses", Seventh Day Adventists, Edward Fudge, Curtis Dickinson and other "Materialists" teach that the wicked will not be tormented eternally. They contend that the wicked will cease to exist or will be annihilated.

"Jehovah Witnesses" blaspheme God and His Word by saying that the teaching that the wicked will be tormented eternally in a place called hell is a "God-dishonoring doctrine" (Let God Be True, page 88). They assert, but they do not prove that such is the case.

Let us resume our study of some arguments that are made in an effort to prove that there is not a place of eternal torment for the wicked.

VII. ARGUMENT: (With reference to Revelation 20:7-10) "...To this point no human beings are involved in the lake of fire, nor does this passage say that any of Adam's race are tormented for ever and ever." (Edward Fudge in *The Fire That Consumes*, page 304.)

#### REPLY:

(1) The above statement is made in an effort to prove that the

wicked will not receive eternal torment.

(2) I see absolutely no point whatever to this "argument" because Edward Fudge says "that it (referring to the lake of fire - CRS) stands for the same ultimate destiny which in the Gospels (but nowhere else in Scripture) is pictured under the name 'Gehenna.'" (ibid.302). NOTE: The word *Gehenna* is translated *hell* in KJV, NKJV, ASV, NASV, TEV, etc. Jesus used the word '*Gehenna*' 11 times in His teaching during His personal ministry on earth. The passages in which He used it are Matthew 5:22, 29, 30; 10:28; 23:15, 33; Mark 9:43, 45, 47; and Luke 12:5. It is used by James 1 time in James 3:6.

Since Edward Fudge says, "it (meaning the expression the lake of fire and brimstone - CRS) stands for the same ultimate destiny which in the Gospels...is pictured under 'Gehenna'", it is obvious that the point he was trying to make when he said: "Yet to this point (referring to the time that the lake of fire and brimstone is specifically mentioned in Rev. 19:20 - CRS) no human beings are involved in the lake of fire, nor does this passage say that any of Adam's race are tormented for ever and ever" is of no benefit whatsoever in trying to prove that sinners will not suffer eternal torment since human beings (those of Adam's race) are involved in those 11 passages where Jesus warns against going to or being cast into *hell* (Gehenna). Please read those passages very carefully. They read as follows.

Matthew 5:22- "...Whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire." NOTE: Certainly the expression "*whosoever*" includes "*human beings*". It certainly includes some "*of Adam's race*".

Matthew 5:29-30- "And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole

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**body should be cast into hell.**" NOTE: Jesus was speaking to His disciples in these verses. Yes, they were "*human beings*"! Yes, they were "*of Adam's race*". Yes, Jesus was warning them about *hell*! It is the same place (even according to Edward Fudge) where the devil will be cast and be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Matthew 10:28- "**And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both body and soul in hell.**" NOTE: Jesus was warning the twelve disciples about God being able to "**destroy both body and soul in hell.**" Yes, they were "*of Adam's race*". Yes, they were "*human beings*". Yes, they were being warned about the wrath and power of God to destroy their bodies and souls in a *lake of fire and brimstone*. The word translated "*destroy*" as used here means "**To devote or give over to eternal misery**" according to THAYER'S LEXICON, p. 64.

Matthew 18:9- "**And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.**" NOTE: Again we see a warning again being cast into *hell*. Yes, "*human beings*", those "*of Adam's race*" are involved.

Matthew 23:15- "**...Ye make him (a proselyte - CRS) twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.**" NOTE: Instead of the proselyte receiving more blessings from God he was destined to be lost in *hell*. Yes, those "*of Adam's race*," "*human beings*" were involved.

Matthew 23:33- "**Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell?**" NOTE: Obviously the hypocrites to whom Jesus was speaking would not escape the damnation (condemnation, judgment) of *hell*. Yes, some "*human beings*", those "*of Adam's race*" were involved.

Mark 9:43-48- "**And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better thee**

**to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched. Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.**" NOTE: We have warnings about going *into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched!* Yes, these warnings are being given to "*human beings*." Yes, those "*of Adam's race*" are involved.

Luke 12:4-5- "**...Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.**" NOTE: The warnings are given to those "*of Adam's race*" who can be cast into hell after someone has killed their bodies. Yes, "*human beings*" are involved.

OBSERVATION: Let us keep in mind that "*the lake of fire and brimstone*" stands for *the same ultimate destiny which ... is pictured under the name 'Gehenna'* (even according to Edward Fudge). Now since the devil is pictured in Rev. 20:10 as being "**cast into the lake of fire and brimstone...and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever**" it is obvious that there is *torment in the lake of fire, hell or hell fire*. We learn from Matthew 25:41 that some "*of Adam's race*" will be told to "**Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.**" In Matthew 25:46 we read that "**these shall go away into everlasting punishment...**" Yes, "*human beings*" will be in the same place of torment as the devil and his angels! *They will be punished for ever and ever along with them.* (Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

(3) Revelation 20:10 says: "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." NOTE: Although Edward Fudge admits that this passage states that the devil "shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" he tries to "reason it away" by assuming and asserting that since the lake of fire and brimstone is the second death, then it "clearly means annihilation and cessation of existence" with respect to the beast and false prophet and, he says, "it would seem to have the same meaning" with respect to the devil. He further says, "But it becomes ambiguous and somewhat questionable in light of the specific statement that he will be tormented for ever and ever." Edward Fudge *should just believe it!*

It is evident that Edward Fudge overlooks the teaching of passages that teach that the wicked will be tormented for ever and ever. See Rev. 14:10-11. With reference to "any man" who "worship the beast" etc. it

says: "The same shall drink of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." QUESTION: Is "any man" of "Adam's race"? Surely so! Is "any man" a "human being"? The text clearly says, "he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone." What do you say?

(4) Although Edward Fudge *assumes* and *asserts* that since the *lake of fire and brimstone* is the *second death* then it "clearly means annihilation and cessation of existence", he *does not prove it* to be the case! No doubt, he wishes it did mean that! We want *facts*, not mere *assertions!*

(CRS) (To be continued)

GOSPEL MEETINGS at East Albertville  
June 15-20, 2003 at 7:00 P.M. - T. N. Thrasher

## SENTENCE SERMONS

We should oppose ignorance and indifference daily and make prejudice our lifetime enemy.

\* \* \* \* \*

The parent should make the child realize that "NO" is a complete sentence.

\* \* \* \* \*

There are no degrees of honesty. You are either honest or dishonest.

\* \* \* \* \*

If you do not love righteousness and hate evil, you have a serious heart problem.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sometimes the best way to answer anger is by silence.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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