

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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THE LORD'S KINGDOM

There are those who are looking for the kingdom of God, the kingdom of heaven, the Lord's kingdom, to come in the future when He comes the second time. It is not enough to say these people have a big surprise coming! It is not enough to say "this is a theory not supported by the holy Scriptures." It is not enough to say such a doctrine is of the devil. But we must proclaim the eternal truth concerning the establishment of the Lord's kingdom.

The Lord's kingdom is a spiritual kingdom. Although it is in the world, it is not of the world. Jesus told His disciples, (this statement was made directly to Pilate-CRS), "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then my servants would fight." (John 18:36). A spiritual kingdom differs not in make-up to that of a physical kingdom. There must be four things to make up a kingdom. There must be a king, a territory, subjects, and a law.

The angel of the Lord promised Mary that she would bring forth a son, and call His name **Jesus**. He shall be great, shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David: and He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end. (Luke 1:31-33). He was to reign or rule as a king over His king-

dom of which there would be no end.

Jesus proclaimed all authority or power had been given Him in heaven and on earth, after His resurrection. (Matt. 28:18). God told Him, "Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool." (Heb. 1:13). Paul said He must reign until He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. (1 Cor. 15:25-26). Where is the man that will say death is already destroyed? Death has not yet been destroyed; therefore Christ is still reigning as king at the right hand of God over His spiritual kingdom.

Jesus Christ is king of His kingdom.

The territory over which the Lord's kingdom exists is the world, all nations Jesus told His disciples, "Go, ye therefore, and teach all nations, Go ye into all the world." (Matt. 28:19; Mk. 16:15).

The subjects of the Lord's kingdom are peoples from every nation that will hear and obey the law of His kingdom. Jesus told His disciples to preach the gospel to every creature; God is no respecter of persons, but he that feareth God and worketh righteousness, in every nation is accepted with Him. (Mk. 16:15; Acts 10:34-35). The law of the Lord's kingdom is the word of God. (Lk. 8-11).

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CARROL R. SUTTON
EDITOR

Send all questions, comments, and criticisms to the editor, Route 3, Highway 431 South, Albertville, Ala. 35950.

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Editorial.....

"WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND THEREFORE SPEAK"

The apostle to the Gentiles said: "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, **I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak**, Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus, shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you." (2 Cor. 4:13-14). Reference is here made to the statement of the psalmist in Psalms 116:10 where he said: "**I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted. He believed and therefore he spake**. He was obviously a man of conviction. In the text (2 Cor. 4:13-14) the Apostle Paul suggested that he and Timothy had the **same spirit of faith** that characterized the psalmist. The psalmist **believed and therefore spake**. Likewise, Paul and Timothy **believed and therefore spake**. This is the **same spirit of faith** that characterized Peter and John in Acts 4. They were taken into custody by the priests, the captain of the temple and the Sadducees because they were preaching through Jesus the resurrection from the dead. After examining Peter and John, "they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, **Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we**

have seen and heard." (Acts 4:18-20). We thus see that Peter and John **believed, and therefore they spake**.

Today, there is a dearth of speaking the truth because there is a lack of conviction. **If we really believe, we cannot hold our peace! "LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD SAY SO!"**

On one occasion during the personal ministry of Christ, when the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, some of the Pharisees said unto him, Master rebuke thy disciples. But Jesus answered and said unto them, **I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.**" (Luke 19:37-40).

Men of conviction who will **speak the truth** are sorely needed today. Many profess faith but in works they deny their profession. Many who profess to believe the truth will compromise because of the pressures of those about them. Their "**faith**" is shallow. It takes **conviction** and fortitude of character for a person to stand for the cause of truth and righteousness in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. Only those who are "**strong in faith**" will **speak the truth** in such a way as to "**resist the devil.**"

We believe that "**all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works,**" (2 Tim. 3:16-17), and **we therefore speak!** As a matter of conviction, we must condemn all human creeds.

We believe "**that God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth,**" (John 4:24), and that worship is "**vain**" when after the doctrines and commandments of men, (See Mt. 15:7-9), and **we therefore speak!** As a matter of conviction, we must condemn all human systems of worship.

We believe that "**neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved,**" (Acts 4:12), and **we therefore speak!**" As a matter of conviction, we must condemn the wearing of human names in religion.

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**WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND
THEREFORE SPEAK**

We believe that there is one body, and one Spirit, even as you are called in one hope of your calling: One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." (Eph. 4:4-6), and we therefore speak! As a matter of conviction, we must condemn the error that advocates more than ONE of each of the seven things mentioned in Eph. 4:4-6.

We believe that "unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end," (Eph. 3:21), and we therefore speak! As a matter of conviction, we must condemn the idea that men may glorify God in human denominations.

We believe that "the house of God, which is the church of the living God, is "the pillar and ground of the truth," (1 Tim. 3:15), and we therefore speak! As a matter of conviction, we must condemn the idea that churches may build or contribute to human organizations called "missionary societies" to enable them to preach the gospel.

We believe that "it (the church) may relieve them that are widows indeed," (1 Tim. 5:16), and we therefore speak! As a matter of conviction, we must oppose the idea that churches may build or contribute to human organizations called "benevolent organizations" (or "homes for the aged" or "orphan homes") to enable them to relieve the needy.

We believe that "pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world," (Jas. 1:27), and we therefore speak! As a matter of conviction, we oppose the idea of doing nothing in "visiting the fatherless and widows in their affliction. We also condemn the idea that Christians may engage in such worldly activities as social drinking, dancing, swearing, cursing, gambling, wearing immodest clothing, etc.

We believe that "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned," (Mark 16:16), and we therefore speak! As a matter of conviction, we condemn

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REYNOLDS-SUTTON DISCUSSION

A series of public Bible discussions have been scheduled to be conducted at the **Neighborhood Center** on West McKinney Ave. (near Evans Elementary School) in Albertville, Alabama on July 16, 17, 19, 20, 1973 at 7:30 each evening. Preliminaries will begin about 7:20 each evening.

The disputants will be **Mr. E. J. Reynolds**, District Overseer of the Alabama City District of the Churches of God, which have their headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee and **Carrol R. Sutton**, a Gospel Preacher.

On July 16th and 17th, **Mr. Reynolds** will affirm that "The Scriptures teach that believers today receive Holy Spirit baptism, speak in tongues and receive spiritual gifts as did the apostles in the first century." **Carrol R. Sutton** will deny that proposition.

On July 19th and 20th, **Carrol R. Sutton** will affirm that "The Scriptures teach that Holy Spirit baptism and the spiritual gifts mentioned in 1 Cor. 12 ceased with the apostolic age." **Mr. E. J. Reynolds** will deny this proposition.

Mr. W. D. Smith, pastor of the East Gadsden Church of God (denomination) will serve as moderator for **Mr. Reynolds**. Earlier **Mr. O. N. Franks** had planned to serve as moderator for **Mr. Reynolds**. **Hiram Hutto**, Evangelist of the Midfield Church of Christ, will serve as moderator for **Carrol R. Sutton**.

As far as we know, this will be the first religious debate to be broadcast in this area. We cordially invite and sincerely urge you to attend these sessions. IT CAN PROFIT YOU IMMENSELY!

(Continued from left column)

**WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND
THEREFORE SPEAK**

the idea that a person may be saved without believing and being baptized like Jesus taught.

We believe that "the Lord Jesus Christ shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ," (2 Thess. 1:7-8), and we therefore speak!

Do you have the same spirit of faith that characterized Paul and Timothy? If so, YOU WILL SPEAK! (CRS)

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THE LORD'S KINGDOM

The New Testament is the Lord's perfect law of liberty, the law of His kingdom. (Jas. 1:25).

As Jesus spake to some of His disciples He said that there were some of them that stood in His presence that would not taste of death until they had seen the kingdom of God come with power. (Mk. 9:1). It is certain that none of them are still living today; therefore the kingdom has already come with power. He told them to go into Jerusalem and wait until they be endued with power from on high. (Lk. 24:49). They are not still waiting in Jerusalem; therefore they must have been clothed with power from on high before this present time, today.

Jesus promised them that they would receive power **when** the Holy Spirit came upon them. (Acts 1:8, A.S.V.). Acts 2:4 says they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Therefore the power came when the Holy Spirit came, as Jesus promised. The kingdom of God came on this same Pentecost because it was to come with

power and the power was to come when the Holy Spirit came on this Pentecost.

The apostle Paul said he and the Colossians had been translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son. (Col. 1-13). Yes, my friends, the kingdom of God is here! It is the Lord's church.

—E. L. Walker in

WORDS OF TRUTH, 3/5/61

DEBATE TO BE BROADCAST

THE REYNOLDS-SUTTON BIBLE DISCUSSION WILL BE BROADCAST OVER WQSB, 105.1 MC. (Albertville FM Radio Station) AT 7:30 P.M. ON JULY 16, 17, 19, 20. The discussion will be broadcast live as it originates in the **Neighborhood Center** in Albertville, Alabama. For more details of the discussion, see page 3 of **THE INSTRUCTOR**.

Sentence Sermons

It is a sickly faith that is shaken because some frail human being goes wrong.

The only "race" some "Christians" engage in is the race to the door at the last amen.

A sharp tongue does not necessarily indicate keen thinking.

True wealth is not determined by the size of a man's bank account.

When compared to the burden of sin, the yoke of Christ is easy and His burden is light.

It is not what you think, but what God's Word says that will judge you at the last day.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Route 3, Highway 431 So.

Albertville, Alabama 35950