

# 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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## DEATH

Hebrews 9:27 says: **"...It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."** *It is appointed unto men to die! We must die! This is a very sobering thought!*

Let us consider some facts about death.

**WHAT IS DEATH?** *Death* is "(a) *the separation of the soul (the spiritual part of man) from the body (the material part), the latter ceasing to function and turning to dust...*(b) *the separation of man from God...*" according to W.E. Vine's Expository Dictionary of N. T. Words.

*Death is the separation of the spirit and the body.* Gen. 35:18 says, **"And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing,, (for she died)..."** NOTE: Rachel's soul departed from her body in death. Referring to death Solomon declared: **"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."** (Eccl. 12:7). NOTE: The spirit that leaves the body returns unto God and the dust of the body returns to the earth in death.

James said: **"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."** (2:26). Also read Luke 23:46.

**DEATH IS THE CESSATION OF ALL EARTHLY ACTIVITIES!** Eccl. 9:10 says: **"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might: for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave whither thou goest."** NOTE: When the body goes to the grave it can no longer work. Neither is there any device, knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave where the body goes. The spiritual part of man does *not* go to the grave.

**DEATH IS SPOKEN OF UNDER VARIOUS REPRESENTATIONS.** For example, in Job 14:1-2 it is spoken of as *"a flower"* that *"is cut down"* and *"a shadow"* that *flees*. In 2 Sam. 14:14 *death* is spoken of as *"water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again."* In Rev. 6:8 *death* is represented by *a rider on a pale horse*.

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## Editorial...

### SOME SINS OFTEN OVERLOOKED (NO. 5)

Many who claim to be Christians often overlook many sins. It may be because of ignorance due to a lack of study of the Scriptures or it may be because the seriousness of such is not realized or it may be for other reasons. Let us continue our study of some sins often overlooked.

**XIX. THE SIN OF "SWELLINGS".** Please read 2 Cor. 12:20, 2 Pet. 2:18 and Jude 16. The sin of "*swellings*" is mentioned in the list of sins that appears in 2 Cor. 12:20. W.E. Vine says the word translated *swellings* in this passage "*denotes a puffing up, swelling with pride*". This suggests that one is puffed up or filled with pride. The word translated "*great swelling (words)*" in 2 Peter 2:18 and Jude 16 is "*an adjective denoting of excessive weight or size*, is used metaphorically in the sense of *immoderate*, especially of *arrogant speech*"... according to W.E. Vine.

In 2 Cor. 12:20 the NASV says "*arrogance*" instead of "*swellings*", and instead of "*great swelling words of vanity*" in 2 Pet. 2:18 it has "**arrogant words of vanity.**" In Jude 16 the NASV has "**they speak arrogantly, flattering people...**" instead of "**their mouth speaketh great swelling words...**"

"*Swellings*" is an inward disposition of pride that often prompts boasting and bragging. In reality, boasting or bragging is an outward display of an inward feeling.

Are you puffed up? Do you swell up with pride at times? If you are puffed up you are guilty of sin. If at times you swell up with pride you commit sin. You stand in need of repentance. Do not overlook the sin of "*swellings*". Let us remember to "**... be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.**" (1 Pet. 5:6).

**XX. THE SIN OF EVIL CONCUPISCENCE IS OFTEN OVERLOOKED.** The word translated "*concupiscence*" means "*a desire, craving, longing, mostly of evil desires*" according to W. E. Vine but may be used in a good sense. All lusts (i.e., desires) are not necessarily wrong, (i.e., immoral or base), "they may be refined in character, but are evil if inconsistent with the will of God." (W.E. Vine). They must be legitimately expressed or fulfilled or they become sinful.

In Col. 3:5 Paul said: "**Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience.**" NOTE: This text not only says "*concupiscence*" (desire), but it is qualified by the word "*evil*".

In 1 Thess. 4:3-5 Paul said, **"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God."**

In Rom. 6:12 we read: **"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof."** Gal. 5:24 says, **"And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections (NKJV says *"passions"*) and lusts."**

In Titus 2:11-12 Paul said: **"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world."** We learn from 1 Pet. 2:11 that we should **"abstain from fleshly lusts, which was against the soul."**

We learn from James 1:13-15 how sin is brought about. We are tempted when we are drawn away of our own lust and enticed. When lust conceives it brings forth sin and when sin is finished it brings forth death. NOTE: We must be vigilant. We must *not* be guilty of *evil concupiscence*. It is easily overlooked. However, we can receive strength from our Lord Jesus Christ and overcome the world ("**with its lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life**") if we will give diligence to hold **"faith and a good conscience"**.

**XXI. THE SIN OF "VARIANCE" IS OFTEN OVERLOOKED.** *"Variance"* is listed in Gal. 5:19-21 as a work of the flesh

and it is stated that those who *do* such things *shall not* inherit the kingdom of God. From this we see that *"variance"* is sinful and will keep a person out of the kingdom of God. It is a serious matter to be guilty of *"variance"*.

The word rendered *"variance"* in the KJV is rendered *"strife"* in the RSV. It is defined by New Strong's Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament as *"a quarrel, i.e., by impl.) wrangling::-- contention, debate, strife, variance."* (# 2054). NOTE: This certainly condemns *quarreling, wrangling* and *strife*. *Debate* that involves these things is certainly wrong. The *strife* mentioned here *"is the expression of enmity."* It involves *contentions* with improper feelings and motives.

Rom. 1:29 list *debate* in the list of sinful activities. The word rendered *debate* in this passage is rendered *strife* in the NKJV, NASV, RSV, etc.

The word translated *"debates"* in the KJV is rendered *"strife"* in the NASV; *"contentions"* in the NKJV and *"quarreling"* in the RSV.

When we *"debate"* (i.e., *"try the spirits"*, *"prove all things"* and *"contend for the faith"* as 1 John 4:1; 1 Thess. 5:21 and Jude 3 teaches) with the proper attitude and proper motives we are *not violating* the above mentioned Scriptures, but we are following the injunctions given by the Holy Spirit of God.

We must be cautious and on guard lest we will not overlook the sin of *"variance."*

**XXII. THE SIN OF REVELLINGS IS OFTEN OVERLOOKED.** *Revellings* are mentioned in the list of the works of the flesh in Gal. 5:19-21. The word (Continued on page 4)

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translated *revellings* in Gal. 5:21 and in 1 Pet. 4:3 is rendered "*rioting*" in Rom. 13:13.

W.E. Vine defines the word "*a revel, carousal, the concomitant and consequence of drunkenness...*" Thayer's Lexicon defines it as "*a revel, carousal...hence used generally, of feasts and drinking-parties that are protracted till late at night and indulge in revelry...*" NOTE: Webster defines "*revel*" as "*a usu. wild party or celebration.*" **Revellings** may include boisterous and noisy merry making.

Let us give diligence that we not overlook the sin of *revellings*.

(CRS)

(Continued from page 1)

## DEATH

*Death is the result of sin!*  
Death came upon Adam as a curse because he had sinned. (See Gen. 3:17-19). All of the human race must die physically because of the sin of Adam. Paul declared: **"For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead."**

**"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."**

NOTE: *All will die "in Adam" and "in Christ shall all be made alive."* All are thus assured of death and the resurrection from the dead. The fact that God hath raised Jesus Christ from the dead assures all of a resurrection and judgment! See Acts 17:30-31).

## THE CERTAINTY OF DEATH IS TAUGHT IN THE SCRIPTURES.

Please read Heb. 9:27; Eccl. 9:5; James 4:13-17 and 1 Peter 1: 23-25.

**"There is a time to be born, and a time to die..."** (Eccl. 3:2). Joshua said: **"And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth..."**

NOTE: After addressing the Israelites with words of exhortation and admonition, Joshua died a short time later as recorded in Joshua 24:29.

**THE TIME OF ONE'S DEATH IS UNCERTAIN!** In Gen. 27:2 Isaac said: **"Behold now, I am old, I know not the day of my death."**

Also see Prov. 27:1 and James 4:13-17.

*Prepare today for death!* (CRS)

## SENTENCE SERMONS

God's provisions are always as great or greater than our needs. Let us praise and thank Him.

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God calls lost men by the *gospel as revealed in the Scriptures*, but many refuse to listen & heed.

\* \* \* \* \*

We can learn how to pray only if Jesus through His Word teaches us. (See Luke 11:1)

\* \* \* \* \*

Christ does not take us out of the world, but He wants to take the world out of us.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Forgiveness will only come where there is love!*

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