

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 FAITH" (NO. 2)

In our study last month we discussed the question, "What Is Faith?" and "Some Facts About the Faith". We discussed six of them. Let us now continue our study. Here are some additional facts about the faith.

7. Man is justified by the faith of Jesus and not by the works of the law! In Gal. 2:16 Paul said: "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified."

NOTE: Here a contrast between the law given by Moses and the faith (the gospel) given by Christ is being made. Paul declares that the works of the law cannot justify a man but the gospel (the faith) of Christ is that by which we are justified! John 1:17 tells us that **"...the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."**

8. In Acts 24:24-25 Felix "...sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time: when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."

NOTE: Paul *preached the faith* to Felix and to his wife Drusilla. He was not preaching the law of works (the law of Moses)!

9. When Paul and Barnabas preached the Word of God (the faith, the gospel), to Sergius Paulus (the deputy of the country), "Elymas the sorcerer ... withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith." (Acts 13:7-8). NOTE: Elymas endeavored to turn Sergius Paulus away from the one true faith!

10. It is possible for people to depart from the faith! In 1 Tim. 4:1 Paul warned Timothy, saying: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron..."

(To be continued)

(CRS)

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Editorial...

PREACHING JESUS & HIM CRUCIFIED (4)

In our first three studies on "PREACHING JESUS AND HIM CRUCIFIED" we showed from the Scriptures that:

1. It means to condemn division and preach and plead for unity of God's people and, 2. It means to preach that the wisdom of the world is foolishness with God! *We also showed* and, 3. It means to condemn the sin of fornication and, 4. It means to condemn Christians fighting in carnal wars! Let us now resume our study.

5. It means to condemn false teaching and expose false teachers! In writing to Titus (in Titus 1:10-14), the apostle Paul said: "For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for

filthy lucre's sake. One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith." Paul compared some to Jannes and Jambres who withstood Moses. He said, "so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was." (2 Tim. 3:8-9).

In Rom. 16:17-18 Paul admonished the saints at Rome to "...Mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

In Col. 2:4 Paul warned saints saying: "And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words." Then in verse 8 he further warned them by saying, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

In Tim. 1:4 Paul wrote: "Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister question, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."

Writing to Timothy, the apostle Paul said: "Alexander the copper-smith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words." (2 Tim. 4:14-15).

In Romans 1:18 Paul mentions that "the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men,

who hold the truth in unrighteousness" and in verse 25 he mentions some "Who changed the truth of God into a lie..."

Paul said some had put away concerning faith and had made shipwreck of whom were Hymenaeus and Alexander whom he had delivered unto Satan, that they learn not to blaspheme. (See 1 Tim. 1:19-20)

Hymenaeus and Philetus, concerning the truth erred, saying "that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some." (2 Tim. 2:17-18). Some teach the same false doctrine today! They, too, must be condemned & exposed! NOTE: Many times Paul condemned the false teaching and exposed the false teacher! Remember Paul said: "Those things, which ye have...seen in me, do..." (Phil. 4:9).

Please read John's warning to those who do not abide in the doctrine of Christ in 2 John 9-11.

In Matthew 7:15-16 Jesus warned, saying, "Beware of false prophets which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits..." (Also read verses 21-23).

Jesus warned his disciples to "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees...Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees." (Mt. 16:6-12).

In Mt. 24:4-5 Jesus told His disciples to "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

Let us keep in mind our obligations to "Believe not every spirit, but to try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1) and to "Prove all things; hold fast that which is

good." (1 Thess. 5:21). In writing to the church of Ephesus Jesus declared: "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience' and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars." (Rev. 2:2).

In preaching Jesus and Him crucified, we must use the Word of truth to reprove, rebuke and condemn sin, error and those who propagate and participate in such!

6. It means to condemn immorality (& other sins of worldliness as it appears in every form) among God's people as well as well as in people outside the body of Christ!

In 1 Cor. 6:9-10 in preaching Christ and him crucified Paul said: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind. Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." NOTE: We should preach this truth as the apostle Paul did!

In preaching Jesus and Him crucified, Paul condemned the works of the flesh "and such like." In Gal. 5:19-21 he said; "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." NOTE: Paul implies that there are other things that are "works of the

flesh" in addition to the 17 things that are specifically mentioned in the text when he added "*and such like.*" We may learn what some of them are because they are specifically mentioned in some other passage or because there are Scriptural principles that indicate that they are in the same category as "works of the flesh."

A study of such principles as are found in the following passages will be of great value in determining what things fall in the same category as those that are specifically listed as "works of the flesh."

- (1) 1 John 2:15-17.
- (2) Romans 12:1-2.
- (3) Matthew 13:22; Mk. 4:19.
- (4) 1 Cor. 3:18; 2 Cor. 4:4.
- (5) Gal. 1:4.
- (6) Eph. 6:12.
- (7) 1 Tim. 6:17.
- (8) 2 Tim. 4:10.
- (9) Titus 2:11-14.
- (10) Matthew 16:26
- (11) James 1:27; 4:4.
- (12) John 15:19; 18:36.

- 13) 1 Cor. 5:1-13.
- (14) 1 Cor. 6:12.
- (15) Eph. 2:1-3.
- (16) 1 Thess. 5:22-23.
- (17) 1 Cor. 15:33-34; 14:40.
- (18) 1 Cor. 8:1-13; Rom. 14
- (19) Eph. 4:17-32.
- (20) James 1:13-15; etc.

(To be continued) (CRS)

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FURTHER NOTICE: If you would like to receive a copy of the last nine years of the bound volume of THE INSTRUCTOR let us hear from you. My e-mail address is <sutton413@charter.net>.

GOSPEL MEETINGS at East Albertville, Albertville, AL - April 18-23, 2010. Regular times on Sunday, 7pm nightly. Different speakers in each service!

Make plans to visit with us!

GOSPEL MEETINGS at El Bethel in Shelbyville, TN - June 13-18, 2010- Carrol R. Sutton will be preaching. Please attend!

GOSPEL MEETINGS at Elon, NEW HOPE, AL—July 18—23, 2010 - Carrol R. Sutton.

SENTENCE SERMONS

Our Heavenly Father feeds the birds of the air! Are we not much better than they? Why worry?

* * * * *

All the instructions, warnings, directions, commandments & information we need are in the Bible.

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Sinners should ask, "What must I do?" instead of asking "How should I feel?"

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You cannot go to heaven unless you get in the right road and then go straight!

* * * * *

An empty wagon going down the road makes more noise than a full one.

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