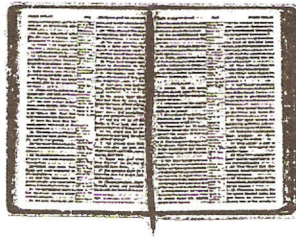


# THE INSTRUCTOR



"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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Number 5

## "THE FAITH" (NO. 3)

In our previous studies we discussed the question, "What Is Faith?" and "Some Facts about the Faith". We considered ten of them. Let us now continue our study. Here are some additional facts about the faith.

### 11. Some things we should do:

#### (1) *Continue in the faith!*

After preaching the gospel in Lystra & Derbe and the nearby cities, Paul and Barnabas "returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to *continue in the faith...*" (Acts 14:22). Also read & study carefully Col. 1:23. NOTE: We should continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel.

(2) *Be established in the faith!* We should be "rooted and built up in him, and *established in the faith...*" (Col. 2:7). We read in Acts 16:5: "And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily." NOTE: The churches, as congregations, (or units or groups) were established in the faith as well as disciples as individuals.

(3) *Stand fast in the faith!* In 1 Cor. 16:13 Paul exhorted saints, saying: "Watch ye. *Stand fast in the faith, quit ye like men, be strong.*"

(4) *Be sound in the faith!* Since there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, bishops (or elders) are to "rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith." (Titus 1:13).

(5) *Keep the faith!* Paul said: "For I am now ready to be offered...I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, *I have kept the faith.*" Because of that a crown of righteousness was laid up to be given him in the last day! (See 2 Tim. 4:6-8).

(6) *Live by the faith!* Paul said: "...the life which I now live in the flesh *I live by the faith of the Son of God...*" (Gal. 2:20).

(7) *Hold the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience!* (1 Tim. 3:9). NOTE: The faith that once was a mystery had been revealed!

(8) *Resist the devil steadfast in the faith!* (1 Pet. 5:9). NOTE: To do so, we must be humble, sober and vigilant. We should always cast all our care upon God because He cares for us! (To be continued) (CRS)

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## Editorial...

### PREACHING JESUS & HIM CRUCIFIED (5)

In our previous 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, and 6. It means to condemn immorality (& other sins of worldliness as it appears in every form) among God's people as well as in people outside the body of Christ! Let us now continue our study of "Preaching Jesus and Him Crucified".

7. It means to preach that women are to keep silence in the churches! There are many "women preachers." Many "churches" not only allow women to "preach", but they encourage them to do so. In some churches women are allowed and encouraged to take a "leadership role" such as leading in public prayers, directing congregational singing, directing and serving the Lord's Supper, etc. Even in some "churches of Christ" women serve as "elders" (bishops, shepherds) as well as preachers. However, in preaching Jesus and Him crucified, we must preach what Paul said in 1 Cor. 14:34-35. He said: **"Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak: but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."** NOTE: The "churches" (or assemblies) in which women are told in this passage to "keep silence in" is when "the whole church be come together in one place" according to 1 Cor. 14:23.

Instead of placing women in a "headship" or "leadership" role, God commands them to "be under obedience, as also saith the law." He said very clearly: **"Let your women keep silence in the churches..."**

When Jesus chose His apostles he chose only men, not even one woman. (See Luke 6:13-16; Acts 1:24-26). When Paul gave the qualifications for elders (bishops) one of them was that "a bishop must be the husband of one wife." (See 1 Tim. 3:1-2; Titus 1:5-9). There is no way that a woman could ever meet this qualification. Therefore a woman cannot serve as a bishop (elder)! For men to serve as deacons they must be the husbands of one wife and their wives must meet cer-

tain qualifications. (See 1 Tim. 3:8-13). NOTE: This eliminates even the possibility of women serving as deacons in the Lord's church!

A study of 1 Tim. 2:11-12 will also help us understand the role of women in their relationship to men. It said: "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." NOTE: The expression "to usurp authority" simply means "to have dominion."

Also read and be impressed with what Paul declared in 1 Cor. 11:3 where it is written: "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God."

8. It means to preach that there is but one church! We learn from Eph. 4:4-6 that "There is one body..." Paul tells us in Eph. 1:22-23 that "he (God - Ed) hath put all things under his (Christ's - Ed) feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body..." Col. 1:18 tells us that Christ "is the head of the body, the church..."

NOTE: It is clear from these verses that the body is the church and the church is the body and that there is ONE body! We learn from 1 Cor. 12:20 that there is "but one body!"

FURTHER NOTE: When the Scriptures speak of "but one body" (or church), reference is to the one true church! Of course, there are many false churches, gods, lords, spirits, faiths, baptisms and hopes, but only one true church, God, Lord, Spirit, faith, baptism and hope!

In preaching there is but one true church we should preach the truth as taught in such passages as Mt. 16:18; Acts 2:47; Eph. 5:23-27; 1 Cor. 4:17, etc.

9. It means to preach that sal-

vation is in Christ! In 2 Timothy 2:10 the apostle Paul declared that he endured "all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." In 2 Tim. 3:15 Paul wrote to Timothy saying, "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." NOTE: The above verse says that salvation is in Christ!

We learn from Eph. 1:3 that saints have been blessed "with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." NOTE: Since all spiritual blessings are in Christ and salvation is a spiritual blessing, it proves that salvation is in Christ!

In Col. 1:13-14 Paul tells us that the Father "hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." In Eph. 1:6-7 Paul said: "To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he (God the Father - Ed) hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace."

NOTE: The above verses prove that redemption, the forgiveness of sins and acceptance (which are also spiritual blessings) are also in Christ!

10. It means to preach that sinners are baptized into Christ! In preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified, the apostle Paul preached that sinners are baptized into Christ where salvation and all other spiritual blessings are.

In Gal. 3:26-27 Paul said the brethren at Galatia: "For ye are all the children by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have

been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

NOTE: (1) They were children of God by faith in Christ Jesus! (2) They became the children of God by faith by being baptized into Christ! (3) All who had been baptized into Christ had put on Christ!

In writing to those at Rome who had been called to be saints, Paul said: "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Rom. 6:3-4)

NOTE: (1) Those who were baptized into Christ were baptized into His death where He shed his blood. (2) Baptism into Christ (and His death) is a burial! (3) We are raised from baptism to walk in newness of life!

In preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified, Paul also preached that it is by the teaching or instruction of one Spirit that we all are "baptized into one body." (1 Cor. 12:13).

Have you been *baptized into Christ* where salvation is found? If not, why tarry any longer?

(To be continued) (CRS)

NOTICE: If you requested a copy of the last nine years of the bound volume of THE INSTRUCTOR, and have not received it, please notify us!

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 El Bethel in Shelby ville, TN - June 13-18, 2010- Carrol R Sutton will be preaching. Please attend!

GOSPEL MEETINGS at East Albertville, Albertville, AL - June 27 - July 2, 2010. Regular times on Sunday. 7pm nightly. Larry Bailey of Sidney, NY will be preaching. Welcome!

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

## SENTENCE SERMONS

Someone has said: "The best way to 'save face' is to keep the bottom half shut."

\* \* \* \* \*

Each one of us should stand "in his own place" instead of merely filling a space. (Judges 7:21)

\* \* \* \* \*

Someone has said: "A man of words and not of deeds is like a garden full of weeds."

\* \* \* \* \*

If your hope of being saved eternally in heaven has faded, revive and restore it!

\* \* \* \* \*

Many people have too much bone in their head and not enough bone in the back!

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