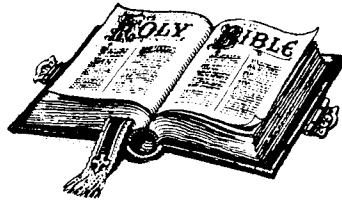


THE INSTRUCTOR



"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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IS JESUS CHRIST AN ANGEL?

Some religionists contend that Jesus Christ is a created being, hence, an angel. In fact, some even say that He is Michael the archangel. Is this contention true? Is Jesus Christ really an angel? Did God really create Him? How can you know? The **only** reliable information that we have is contained in the Scriptures. As we study the Scriptures we learn the following facts.

1. Jesus Christ is the **Word** and the **Word** was in the beginning with God and the **Word was God**. "**ALL things were made BY HIM; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.**" NOTE: This would include angels. (Please read and carefully study John 1:1-14).

2. The Son (Jesus Christ) is contrasted with angels in Hebrews 1:1-14. Hence, He is **not** an angel!

A. He (the Son of God) is "**so much better than the angels.**" (1-4)

B. He (the Son of God) has by inheritance obtained "**a more excellent name**" than the angels. God said to the son: "**Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten thee**" and "**I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to me a son**", but God did not say these things to (or of) an angel at any time. (1:5-6) Note: The Son was in existence when God said these things to Him. Hence, He was not later created.

C. When the Son came into the world God said: "**And let ALL the angels of God worship Him.**" (1:6). NOTE: If all the angels of God were to

worship the Son of God, the Son could **not** have been an angel!

D. God said to the Son: "**Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever.**" . . . But God did **not** say this to any angel. (1:6).

E. God did **not** say to any angel at any time: "**Sit on My right hand until I make thine enemies thy footstool**", but He **did** say this to the Son. (1:13)

3. Jesus Christ (the Son) is the Lord! He is Deity! He is God! He is **not** the Father, but He is the Son! He is **not** the Holy Spirit, but He is the Son of the living God! Beware of the so-called "Jehovah's Witnesses" and others who say otherwise!

(CRS)

IT IS NOT THE MIRROR

When you see a dirty face in the mirror you wash the face, not the glass. Don't try to make God's Word read differently but rather bring your spiritual activities into alignment with the Word of God. Remember friend, it isn't the mirror — it is you!

James said: "**For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass. For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.**"

James 1:23-24

THE INSTRUCTOR

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CAROL R. SUTTON
EDITOR

Send all questions, comments, and criticisms to the editor, 1107 Highway 431 South, Albertville, Alabama 35950.

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Editorial - - -

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PROOF GIVEN (No. 25)

In the March, 1986 issue of THE INSTRUCTOR we began a consideration of the statement that says:

"The blood of Christ will cleanse the child of God of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance without repentance and prayer."

In our study we proved by the Scriptures that salvation is by the grace of God and cleansing is by the blood of Jesus Christ! We also proved that salvation (from alien sins) by the grace of God is conditional, (Cf. Eph. 2:1-10; Titus 2:11-12; acts 20:24; Rom. 3:24; Titus 3:7) and that **faith, repentance, confession and baptism** are essential conditions of such salvation! (Cf. Acts 16:31; Rom. 10:9-10 & Acts 2:38). We also proved by the Scriptures that **cleansing** by the blood for the child of God is **conditional**, (cf. Mt. 26:28; Col. 1:13-14; Rom. 5:9; Rev. 1:5 & Rev. 7:14; 1 John 1:7), and that **repentance, confession of sins and prayer** are essential conditions of such cleansing! (Cf. Acts 8:22; James 5:16 & 1 John 1:9).

Since **repentance and prayer** (and confession of sins) are conditions of **forgiveness of sins** (i.e., cleansing by the blood) for a child of God, we have no right to make **exceptions UNLESS** we can find **exceptions given in God's Word**. Is there a passage that indicates there are exceptions? If so, **where** is the passage and **what** are the exceptions? Do those exceptions apply to **all sins**, or **only** to the sins

committed either through weakness or ignorance? Do those exceptions apply to **all sins** committed either through weakness or ignorance, or **only** to **some** such sins? If the exceptions apply **only** to **some** such sins, to which ones do they apply? What Scripture (or Scriptures) **proves** that such is the case?

It is not enough for someone to say that the blood of Christ automatically cleanses the "faithful child of God" of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance. We need **proof** from the **Scriptures** that such is the case. It is not enough for someone to argue that "cleanseth" in 1 John 1:7 is "**continual**" and thus the sins one commits either through weakness or ignorance are forgiven **without** repentance and prayer. We need **proof** from the **scriptures** that such is the case! If the "**continual**" argument **proves** cleansing from **any** sin without repentance and prayer, it proves cleansing from **every** sin without repentance and prayer! **Note:** The verse says: "... the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from ALL SIN." The apostle Peter said: "**If any man speak let him speak as the oracles of God; . . .**" (1 Peter 4:11).

SIMON AND FORGIVENESS

1. Simon did what Jesus said do in order to be forgiven of his past sins. (Cf. Mark 16:15-16 and Acts 8:12-13). He thus became a child of God. See Gal. 3:26-27.

2. Simon, a child of God, sinned through ignorance (and possible weakness) when he offered the apostles money saying: "**Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.**" (Acts 8:19). **NOTE:** The apostle Peter said to Simon: "**Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast THOUGHT that the gift of God may be purchased with money.**" (Acts 8:20). **OBSERVATION:** Simon **really thought** that the gift of God could be bought with money. Peter, an inspired man, said Simon did! **His thought was wrong!** He was in ignorance regarding the matter. He had neither part nor lot in the matter under consideration because his **heart** was not right in the sight of God.

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3. Peter called the **thought** of Simon's heart **wickedness!** NOTE: Keep in mind the fact that Simon really **thought** he could purchase with money the gift of God. In fact, he was ignorant of what was right on this point. However, **his thought was wickedness!**

4. The blood of Christ did not cleanse Simon, a child of God, without repentance and prayer. He was told to **"Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee."** QUESTION: If the blood of Christ cleanses the children of God without repentance and prayer, why did it not cleanse Simon of his sin of ignorance?

SOME CONSEQUENCES

If the blood of Christ cleanses the child of God of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance without repentance and prayer, THEN:

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST WILL CLEANSE THE CHILD OF GOD without repentance and prayer of:

1. **The sin of hating his brother**, if he does so either through weakness or ignorance, although John says: **"He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother is in darkness even until now."** (1 John 2:9). NOTE: John also says that such a person who hates his brother is a liar and a murderer and does not have eternal life abiding in him.

2. **The sin of extortion**, if he commits such either through weakness or ignorance, although Paul lists an extortioner along with the fornicator, the covetous, the railer, the drunkard and the idolater in 1 Cor. 6:9-11 and says: **"not to company"** and **"not to eat"** with such an one.

3. **The sin of witchcraft**, if he commits such either through weakness or ignorance, although Paul lists witchcraft as a work of the flesh in Gal. 5:19-21 and says that **"they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."**

4. **The sin of transgressing and abiding not in the doctrine of**

Christ, if he commits such either through weakness or ignorance, although John said: **"Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God..."** (2 John 9). NOTE: One may transgress the doctrine of Christ by playing mechanical instruments of music in assembly worship, or by burning incense as an act of public worship, or by assembling with the church to eat when he is hungry, or by teaching that Jesus is **not** Deity, etc. (Cf. Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 11:33-34; John 1:1; Col. 3:17).

5. **The sins of envy, wrath, seditions, strife, hatred and heresies**, if he commits such sins either through weakness or ignorance, although Paul lists such sins as "works of the flesh" in Gal. 5:19-21 and says that **"they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."**

6. **The sin of sorcery**, if he commits such sin either through weakness or ignorance, although in Rev. 21:8 John says that sorcerers **"shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."**

7. **The sin of lasciviousness** (which would include such sins as dancing, dressing immodestly and telling filthy jokes, etc.), if he commits such sin either through weakness or ignorance, although in Gal. 5:19-21 Paul lists **lasciviousness** as a "work of the flesh" and says that **"they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."**

8. **The sin of adultery**, if he commits such sin either through weakness or ignorance, although **adultery** is listed as "work of the flesh" in Gal. 5:19-21 and Paul says that **"they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."**

9. **The sin of homosexuality**, if he commits such a sin either through weakness or ignorance, although in Rom. 1:24-32 the apostle Paul states that those who commit such things **"are worthy of death."** (Also see 1 Cor. 6:9-11).

10. **The sin of idolatry**, If one commits such sin either through weakness or ignorance, although in Rev. 21:8 John says that idolaters **"shall have their part in the lake which**

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burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.” (Also see 1 Cor. 6:9-11 & Gal. 5:19-21).

**SOME DANGERS OF SUCH
TEACHING**

The teaching that the blood of Christ will cleanse a child of God of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance, **without repentance and prayer** is dangerous. As I see it, here are some of the dangers.

1. It tends to minimize sin!
2. It tends to encourage God’s children to become careless and slack regarding sin in their own lives.
3. It tends to encourage God’s children to become careless and slack regarding sin in the lives of others.
4. It encourages Christians to make such distinctions in sins as to cause them to think that some sins should be, at least, approved, if not practiced.
5. It encourages Christians to have fellowship with those who persist in the practice of their sins as long as they do so, either through weakness or ignorance.
6. It gives a false sense of eternal security.

FURTHER OBSERVATIONS

1. There is **no** passage in the Scriptures that states that a child of God will be cleansed by the blood of Christ of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance, **without** repentance and prayer!

2. There is **no necessary implication** in the Scriptures that a child of God will be cleansed by the blood of Christ of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance, **without** repentance and prayer!

3. There is **no example** in the Scriptures of a child of God being cleansed by the blood of Christ of the sins he committed either through weakness or ignorance, **without** repentance and prayer.

4. There is **no example in the New Testament** where any inspired man ever told a child of God that he was (or that he could be) forgiven of **any** sin he committed through weakness or ignorance, **without** repentance and prayer.

5. There is **no authority in the Scriptures** for a person to teach that “the blood of Christ will cleanse the child of God of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance, **without** repentance and prayer!”

CONCLUSION: When a person presumes to speak the doctrine that “the blood of Christ will cleanse the child of God of the sins he commits either through weakness or ignorance without repentance and prayer” in the name of Christ, he is speaking **presumptuously** and is teaching **false doctrine** because such is **not** taught in God’s Book! **The person who so speaks is guilty of wickedness!** We should so speak and do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty!

(CRS)

(To be continued)

— SENTENCE SERMONS —

If a person is **right** on the inside he will be **right** on the **outside**.

* * * * *

The universe points to the God of whom the Scriptures speak.

* * * * *

Some people give unto the Lord a tenth — of what they ought to give.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST
1107 Highway 431 South
Albertville, AL 35950**