

# 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*

Volume 12

AUGUST, 1975

Number 8

## ADVICE TO YOUTH

1. **Remember your Creator in the days of your youth. Come to Christ before your zeal and enthusiasm are wasted in the service of Satan.** (Eccl. 12:1).

2. **Set an example of righteousness before others.** You do not have to sow wild oats. That is Satan's lie. Let no man despise your youth. (Gal. 6:7-8; 1 Tim. 4:12).

3. **Obey your parents in all things that are right.** Disobedience to parents breeds violation of the authority of the school, state and God. (Eph. 6:1).

4. **Help with the household chores and expect no pay for it.** Mow the lawn, wash the dishes, windows and car. Make your bed, clean your room, hang up your clothes and work in the garden. Working can be much more fun than idleness. (2 Thess. 3:6).

5. **Study hard at school.** Your failure to do so will only bring regret tomorrow. Be honest. Do your own work. (Romans 12:17).

6. **Read some good books.** They will put you in contact with some of history's greatest minds. Good books help to mold great men. Above all, read the Book of books-the Bible. (1 Timothy 4:13).

7. **Engage moderately in unquestionable recreation and sports.** There are other things much more important than having a good time, yet bodily exercise does profit a little. (1 Tim. 4:7-8).

8. **Entertain your friends and dates in the home.** Give your parents an opportunity to know them. There are many inexpensive games and activities that can be enjoyed at home. (Eph. 6:2-3)

9. **Smile.** Be courteous, kind, sympathetic and helpful to others. Make the world brighter and more pleasant each day because you live in it. (Phil. 4:4; Eph. 4:32).

10. **Visit older people and shut-ins.** Send them a card to cheer their day. To know that you care may be worth more to them than medicine. (Lev. 19:32).

11. **Contribute something useful for today and tomorrow.** Plant a tree. It will speak of your interest in mankind for generations to come. (Luke 6:31).

12. **Learn thrift and economy.** Deposit a part of your allowance in savings. Invest your money wisely. (Matt. 25:14-30).

13. **Decide on your life's vocation and prepare for it.** Choose that which will better enable you to serve God, your family and mankind. (Matt. 6:33).

14. **Prepare yourself for marriage.** Mature mentally and emotionally as you grow physically. Keep yourself pure. Seek advice from your parents, elders, evangelist, or teacher. (Heb. 13:4).

15. **Never do that which you believe is wrong.** Stand up for what you sincerely

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Published monthly in the interest of truth and righteousness by the congregation of Christ, meeting on Highway 431 South, in Albertville, Alabama.

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Second-class postage paid in  
Albertville, Ala. 35950

*Editorial--*

### “THESE THINGS”

In writing to Christians the apostle Peter said, **“And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.”** (2 Peter 1:5-7). In order to grow and develop properly Christians must ADD (i.e., supply) some things to their faith.

#### WHAT THINGS SHOULD BE ADDED?

1. **VIRTUE.** The word translated “virtue” means **“a virtuous course of thought, feeling, and action; virtue, moral goodness”** according to THAYER’S LEXICON, page 73. YOUNG’S CONCORDANCE defines it as **“strength, force”** and the DIAGLOTT renders it **“fortitude.”** W.E. VINE, in his dictionary, says, **“of any particular moral excellence.”** John the Baptist had **virtue or moral goodness.** He was a man of **“fortitude.”** He had **“strength”** of character. He refused to baptize unrepentant sinners. (See Matt. 3:6-12).

Although Herod had power to kill him, John said unto Herod: **“It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother’s wife.”** (See Mark 6:14-29). Many who claim to be Christians lack **“fortitude”** or **“strength”** of character. They are spineless. They do not have what it takes to resist evil. Compromise with error is prevalent. Sin reigns in the hearts and lives of many. **Christian, ADD to your faith virtue!**

2. **KNOWLEDGE.** The word translated **“knowledge”** in this passage means **“knowledge .... intelligence, understanding .... moral wisdom, such as is seen in right living”** according to THAYER’S LEXICON, page 119. A knowledge of the first principles of the gospel is **necessary in order for one to become a child of God by obeying the gospel.** (See Romans 1:16; 6:17-18; 2 Thes. 1:7-9; 1 Tim. 2:3-4; 1 Peter 1:22-23). However, the **knowledge** that Christians should **add to their virtue is not a knowledge of first principles, but a knowledge or understanding of the obligations and responsibilities of Christians. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”** (Prov. 1:7). Unless one **“fears the Lord”** he will not ever learn God’s will as he should. One needs to **add the knowledge of God’s will for man in worship and work and in living the life of a Christian.** One needs to learn and **know** what pleases God. **Christian, ADD to your virtue knowledge!**

3. **TEMPERANCE.** The word translated **“temperance”** means **“self-control ....(the virtue of one who masters his desires and passions, especially his sensual appetites),”** according to THAYER’S LEXICON, page 167. W.E. VINE, in his dictionary, defines the word to mean **“strength ....self-control and YOUNG’S CONCORDANCE says self-restraint, continance.”** In Acts 24:25 we are told that as Paul **“reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgement to come”** Felix trembled. **“Temperance”** is listed in Gal. 5:23 as a **“fruit of the Spirit.”** In 1 Peter 2:11 Christians are exhorted to **“abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.”** It was necessary for Paul to exercise self-restraint in order for him to be faithful. ((See 1 Cor. 9:25-27).). Christians should not be brought under the power of anything. (See 1 Cor. 6:12). In order for Christians to be faithful to God, it is necessary that we exercise self-control. **Christiann, ADD to your knowledge**

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### "THESE THINGS"

#### temperance!

4. **PATIENCE.** The word translated "**patience**" means "**steadfastness, constancy, endurance;** In the New Testament, the characteristic of a man who is unswerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety be even the greatest trials and sufferings," according to THAYER'S LEXICON, page 644. Christians are to be "**patient in tribulation,**" (Rom. 12:12). One should persevere under afflictions and trials. One's faith should not waver although trials are "fiery." We should earnestly strive to "**run with patience the race that is set before us.**" (See Heb. 12:1). As we wait for the Son of God from heaven, we should "**be patient.**" (See James 5:7). **Christian, ADD to your temperance patience!**

5. **GODLINESS.** W.E. VINE says the word translated "**godliness**" "denotes that piety which, characterized by a Godward attitude, does that which is well pleasing to him." It involves the idea of "**reverence, respect, ....piety towards God,**" according to THAYER'S LEXICON, page 262. Godliness profits us in this life and also in the world to come according to 2 Timothy 4:7-8 and 1 Timothy 4:6-8. Paul also tells us that "**godliness with contentment is great gain.**" (1Tim. 6:6). In view of eternity, let us serve God "**with reverence and godly fear:** For our God is a consuming fire." (Heb. 12:28-29). **Christian, ADD to your patience godliness!**

6. **BROTHERLY KINDNESS.** This trait or quality is "**the love of brothers (or sisters), brotherly love, ....** in the New Testament the love which Christians cherish for each other as 'brethren'" according to THAYER'S LEXICON, page 653. The Hebrew writer urges Christians to "**let brotherly love continue,**" (Heb.13:1), and Paul says, "**but as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.**" (1 Thess.4:9). Christians should "**not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth,**" (1 John 3:18), and "**be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.**" (Romans 12:10). Jesus said: "**By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if you have love (brotherly kindness-CRS) one for another.**"

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## INTIMATE THINGS

With some I can only talk of things,  
Not close or within the heart.  
Like styles, the news, the weather,  
Telling my thought in part.

Just with few I can talk of intimate things  
Like God, and home, and love,  
The sincere understanding kind,  
I count these friends above.  
Blanche Petry

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### ADVICE TO YOUTH

believe is right. Always keep an open mind and if you find that you are wrong - change; regardless of the consequences. Learn to face trials and disappointments with faith and courage. (Romans 14:23)

--Jimmy Thomas

(Continued from left column)

### "THESE THINGS"

(John 13:35). **Christian, ADD brotherly kindness!**

7. **CHARITY.** THAYER'S LEXICON, page 4, defines the word that is translated "**charity**" in this passage (2 Peter 1:7) as "**affection, goodwill, love, benevolence.**" The love that should characterize us has God for its primary object and it expresses itself in obedience to God's commandments. It is known by the actions it prompts. It is not selfish and does not act from impulse of feelings or natural inclinations, but it seeks the welfare of all. Love works no ill to any, but it seeks opportunity to do good to all men, and especially to those who are saints. (See 1 Cor.13:4-7; Romans 13:8-10; Romans 15:2; 1 John 5:2-3). We are admonished by the apostle Paul to "**let love be without dissimulation.**" (Romans 12:9). **Christian, ADD to your brotherly kindness love!**

If you are a child of God and "**these things**" are lacking in your life, **you should begin now to add them to your faith!** (To be continued)

(CRS)

## TAX EXEMPT INVESTMENTS

A tax assessor came one day to a poor minister of the gospel to determine the amount of taxes the minister would have to pay. "What property do you possess?" asked the assessor. "I am very wealthy," replied the minister. "List your possessions, please," the assessor instructed.

"I have everlasting life (John 3:16), a mansion in heaven (John 14:2), peace that passeth understanding (Phil. 4:7), joy unspeakable (1 Peter 1:8), a faithful and pious wife (Prov. 31:10), healthy, happy, obedient children (Exo. 20:12), true, loyal friends (Prov. 18:24), songs in the night (Psalms 42:8), and a crown of life (James 1:12)."

The tax assessor closed his book and said, "Truly you are a very rich man, but your property is not subject to taxation."

How very few people realize that the greatest blessings are tax free? How many work and strive for more of the taxable possessions (which they must soon leave here), and go from this life as spiritual  
(Continued in right column)

## THE HILL-SUTTON DEBATE

The Hill - Sutton Debate has not been re-scheduled yet. Just as soon as we receive word from **Albert Hill** of Florence or from **Herbert Chittam**, (or from one of the "elders" of the West Hobbs Street church) we will pass the details on to you. Some of you have waited patiently and expectantly to hear **when the debate** will be conducted. Others have waited, but have **not** expected **Albert Hill** or the West Hobbs St. "elders" to re-schedule the debate as they promised they would do. If there is a **reason** for the delay, don't you think at least we should be told **why**? I believe all honest people feel the same way.

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paupers, with no "treasures" for eternity. "Where your treasure is, there will you heart be also."

-Author unknown

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# Sentence Sermons

Those who "stretch" the truth find that it often "snaps back" and hits them.

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The gospel demands sacrifice but in turn it gives security.

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The smallest good deed is better than the greatest good intention

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The color of a man's skin is not as important as the color of his stories.

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Lying covers a multitude of sins-but only temporarily.

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It is possible for a man to live straight in a crooked generation.

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A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

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