

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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DO YOU HAVE "UNFEIGNED" FAITH AND LOVE?

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For a number of yearsFor a number of years there has been quite a bit of preaching, teaching and discussion about "mental divorces". There may have been more "heat" in some cases than there has been "light". Most of what I have heard and read on the subject has nothing more than "human reasonings" and "emotional arguments".

glory, with respect of persons." (2:1). In verse 2-6 James gives an example as to how this can be done.

(2) ***Err concerning the faith!*** In 1 Tim. 6:20-21 Paul Timothy saying, "**O Timothy, keep thy which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith...**"

(3) ***Be reprobate concerning the faith!*** Paul describes some evil men in 2 Tim. 3:1-7, and then says in verse 8: "**Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of**

corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith."

(4) ***Depart from the faith!*** In 1 Tim. 4:1 Paul stated: **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."**

(5) ***Deny the faith!*** In 1 Tim. 5:8 Paul said: "**But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."**

(6) ***Withstand those who preach the faith by seeking to turn others away from the faith!*** A careful reading of Acts 13:6-10 would prove that this is the case!

(7) ***Destroy the faith!*** Gal. 1:21-23 indicates without doubt that Paul "*destroyed*" the faith that he later preached!

13. *We should examine ourselves whether we be in the faith!* A study of 2 Cor. 13:5 indicates this!

14. *We should love others in the faith!* (See Titus 3:15).

15. We **"should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."** See Jude 3. (CRS)

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Editorial...

PREACHING JESUS & HIM CRUCIFIED (8)

In our previous articles 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! 2. It means to preach that the wisdom of the world is foolishness with God! 3. It means to condemn the sin of fornication! 4. It means to condemn saints going to law with one another! 5. It means to condemn Christians fighting in carnal wars! 6. It means to condemn false teaching and expose false teachers. 7. 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! 8. It means to preach that women are to keep silence in the churches! 9. It means to preach that there is but one church! 10. It means to preach that salvation is in Christ! 11. It means to preach that sinners are baptized into Christ! 12. It means to preach the truth as taught in 1 Cor. 11:1-16 relative to headship as set forth in v.3 and the uncovering of the head of every man when "praying and prophesying" and the covering of the head of every woman when "prayeth or prophesieth." 13. It means to preach the observance of the Lord's Supper! 14. It means to preach that there are many idols (false gods) that are called gods and many that are called lords, but that there is but one true God and one true Lord! 15. It means to preach the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and 16. It means to preach that the gospel of Christ is the power of God to save sinners! 17. It means to preach the grace of God! 18. It means to preach that Christians should withdraw themselves from disorderly brethren, and 19. It means to preach the kingdom of heaven (of God), which is the church!

As we continue our study on "***preaching Jesus and Him crucified***" we learn:

20. It means to preach that Holy Spirit baptism has ceased! Consider the following facts about Holy Spirit baptism.

(1) Holy Spirit baptism was promised by John the Baptist to some people (not all) who lived in his generation. Speaking to them of Jesus he said: "**...He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost...**" (Mt. 3:11). Also see Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16).

(2) Jesus Christ was the administrator of Holy Spirit baptism! Speaking of Jesus, John said: "**the same is he which baptizeth**

with the Holy Ghost." (John 1:33). Also see Mt. 3:11; Mark 1:6-8 & Luke 3:16-7.

(3) Holy Spirit baptism was promised by Jesus to the apostles. In Acts 1:5 he said unto the apostles: **"For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."** NOTE: John was the administrator of his baptism. Water was the element! Jesus was the administrator of Holy Spirit baptism! The Holy Spirit was the element!

(4) The apostles (some Jews) received Holy Spirit baptism on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2. Cornelius (and some other Gentiles) received Holy Spirit baptism in Acts 10. Also see Acts 11:12-18. There is no record where anyone else received or would receive Holy Spirit baptism. The Lord had "poured out" His Spirit upon "all flesh", i. e., representatives of both Jews and Gentiles.

(5) As a result of the apostles receiving Holy Spirit baptism (or being "filled with the Spirit" as recorded in Acts 2:4), they were guided into all truth as promised in John 16:13, etc. and they performed many miracles (see Mk. 16:20; Acts 5:12; Heb. 2:3-4, etc.), confirming that the message they preached was true.

(6) The apostles could lay their hands on other believers and impart to them miraculous gifts of the Spirit (see Acts 6:5-6; Acts 8:5-13; 8:14-24, etc.) However, there is no indication that those who received spiritual gifts could in turn impart them to others.

(7) Holy Spirit baptism was promised to some who lived in the first century, but no one was ever commanded to be baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Although there had been a number of "baptisms" such as the

"baptism of Moses" (1 Cor. 10:1-2) & the baptism of John in water. It was "the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins" (Mt. 3:11; Mk. 1:4-5) & the baptism of the "great commission" that Jesus commanded the apostles to practice. It was a baptism in water for believers in order for them to be saved. (Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:19; Acts 2:38). It would last as long as men were lost and needed to be saved. There was also the baptism of the Holy Spirit that the apostles received on Pentecost in Acts 2 & Cornelius and other Gentiles received in Acts 10 & 11.

However, by the time Paul wrote Eph. 4:5 there was only one baptism that was in effect (or in force). That was water baptism of the "great commission" that would last until the end of the world! Neither Holy Spirit baptism nor any of the other baptisms mentioned were designed to be permanent. We, like the apostle Paul, should preach "one baptism"! That eliminates anyone today receiving Holy Spirit baptism!

21. It means to preach that miraculous gifts of the Spirit have ceased! Consider the following facts about miraculous gifts of the Spirit.

(1) The nine gifts of the Spirit are enumerated on 1 Cor. 12:8-10. They are: "The word of wisdom", "the word of knowledge", "faith", "the gifts of healing", "the working of miracles", "prophecy", "discerning of spirits", "divers kinds of tongues" and "the interpretation of tongues". Different people received different gifts. All did not "speak with tongues", for example. See 1 Cor. 12:28-30. There is no evidence that every believer received one or more of these gifts.

NOTE: The Spirit gave these spiritual gifts through the laying on of the apostles' hands. (See Acts 6:5-6; 8:5-13; 8:14-24, etc.). Also see 2 Tim. 1:6 and 1 Tim. 1:14).

(2) Regulations of those spiritual gifts when they were in operation are recorded in 1 Cor. 14.

(Continued on page 4)

(3) The purpose of those gifts was for the revelation and confirmation of the word of God. (See Mk. 16:20; Heb. 2:3-4, Jas. 1:25, etc.).

(4) The duration of those spiritual gifts is recorded in 1 Cor. 13:8-12. They would continue until the perfect revelation of God's word had been completed and it had been confirmed.

NOTE: In preaching Jesus and Him crucified, we must preach that Holy Spirit baptism and spiritual gifts have ceased!

22. It means to preach what Paul preached about "giving". In 1 Cor. 16:1-2 Paul said: "**Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him...**"

In 2 Cor. 8:7 Paul taught that we should "abound" in the "grace" of giving.

In 2 Cor. 9:6-8 he wrote: "**But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; but he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver...**" Also see Gal. 6:7-8, etc.

(To be continued)

GOSPEL MEETING at East Albertville, in Albertville, AL – Sept. 12-17, 2010. Different men will be preaching each service. Please attend! Tell others!

GOSPEL MEETING at Walnut Ridge, AR October 3-7, 2010 - Carrol R. Sutton, preacher.

GOSPEL MEETING at Brummett, near Corbin, KY – October 17-22, 2010. Jonathan Sutton is to do the preaching! Please make plans to attend. Tell others!

FURTHER NOTICE: If you would like to receive a copy of the last nine years (through 2008) of the bound volume of THE INSTRUCTOR let us hear from you. My e-mail address is <sutton413@charter.net>.

SENTENCE SERMONS

Rocking in a chair, like worry, gives you something to do, but it does not get you any where!

* * * * *

One must be in Christ and living as He directs in His word before he can "fall asleep" in Jesus.

* * * * *

Deal with the faults of others as you would have them to deal with your faults.

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The less spirituality that a church has, the more entertainment & social activities it takes to keep it going!

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