

# 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 WORD OF GOD IS PURE, RIGHT, PERFECT AND SURE!

Without faith it is impossible to please God. [See Heb. 11:6]. In order to have faith, it is absolutely essential that we hear the word of God. [See Rom. 10:8-18]. Since we are justified [and live] by faith [see Acts 13:39; Rom. 5:1; 1:16-17], we should be thankful that *the word of God is pure, right, perfect and sure.*

**GOD’S WORD IS PURE!**

--Psalms 12:6a- **“The words of the Lord are pure words...”**

--Prov. 30:5a- **“Every word of God is pure...”**

--James 3:17a- **“...the wisdom that is from above is first pure...”**

--See Psalms 19:8; 119:140

**GOD’S WORD IS RIGHT!**

--Psalms 33:4- **“For the word of the Lord is right; & all his works are done in truth.”**

--Psalms 119:128- **“Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right: and I hate every false way.”**

--Psalms 19:8- **“The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.”**

--Psalms 119:75- **“I know, O Lord ...thy judgments are right.”**

**GOD’S WORD IS PERFECT!**

--Psalms 19:7a- **“The law of the**

**Lord is perfect, converting the soul...”**

--Psalms 18:30a- **“As for God, his way is perfect...”**

--Jas. 1:25- **“But who so looketh into the perfect law of liberty & continueth therein...shall be blessed...”**

**GOD’S WORD IS SURE!**

--Psalms 19:7b- **“...the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.”**

--Psalms 111:7b- **“...all his commandments are sure.”**

--Psalms 93:5a- **“Thy testimonies are very sure...”**

**SCRIPTURES FURNISH US  
UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS**

--Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:3; 1 Peter 4:11; 1 Cor. 4:6; 2 John 9-11, etc. very carefully & honestly.

**THE WORD OF GOD WILL  
JUDGE US IN THE LAST DAY.**

--Read John 12:48; Rom. 2:16; James 2:12; Heb. 9:27; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 2:6; Rom. 14:12; John 5:22, etc. carefully.

**WE SHOULD HAVE A LOVE OF  
GOD’S WORD [TRUTH]!**

--Read 2 Thess. 2:7-12; Psalms 119:97 2 & 3 John, etc. NOTE: The word of God is *pure, right, perfect & sure!*

We should *have faith in God & respect for his word!* (CRS)

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### *Editorial...*

## JUDGE NOT ... BUT JUDGE [John 7:24]

The above title is paradoxical. It is “*a statement that is seemingly contradictory or opposed to common sense*” but it is true when properly understood since it was taught by Jesus Christ.

Many times when Christians point out the error believed, practiced and taught by denominationalists and others, they reply by saying, “You are judging. The Bible says, ‘**Judge not, that ye be not judged.**’” Instead of trying to show that their belief and practice are right, this reply is used in an effort to condemn the person who has pointed out the error.

In my judgment, generally speaking, those who make this reply are either ignorant of what the New Testament really teaches on this subject, or they have no respect for New Testament teaching. All should be willing to honestly investigate the word of

God in order to understand the truth on the subject of “judging” as well as on all other subjects.

### PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE

--Mt. 7:1-2- “**Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.**” Also see Luke 6:37-38.

--John 7:24- “**Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.**”

--Luke 12:56-57- “**Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time? Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?**”

--Luke 7:43- “**Simon answered and said, I supposed that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged.**”

NOTE: There are many other passages in the New Testament on the subject of “judging”. You may want to read and study all of them in their context.

### TWO WAYS WE MAY JUDGE

There are two ways to judge. There is a right way and there is a wrong way. This should be obvious from the reading of the above passages. Jesus would not have said: “**but judge...**” if there is not a right way to do it. Neither would He have said “**but judge...**” if it was wrong to do it.

Many people will not accept the fact that there is a right way to judge, although the same Book that says “**Judge not**” also says “**But judge.**” Some people are not willing to accept this fact,

although they may recognize that there are at least two kinds of works mentioned in the New Testament; *works of men* that originate with men [see Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5, etc.] and *works of faith* that man performs which are *commanded of God*. [See John 6:28-29; Acts 10:34-35; Gal. 5:6; James 2:14-26, etc.]

We are **not** saved by works which are devised by man, but we **are** saved by obeying the works which God commanded!

There are two ways we may strive. In such passages as 2 Tim. 2:24; 2:14; Titus 3:9, etc. we are taught that we **must not strive**. However we learn from such passages as Luke 13:24; Phil. 1:27; etc. that **we are to strive**. We also learn from Paul's statement in 2 Tim. 2:5 that "**if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.**" In view of these Scriptures we must conclude that we **must not** strive **unlawfully**, but we **must** strive **lawfully** if we are to be saved eternally.

NOTE: All of the above Scriptures are inspired of God and thus they all are true. None of the above Scriptures are contradictory. We must believe, practice and teach all of them. However, we must "*give diligence*" with a desire to understand them in order to properly handle them.

#### THE WRONG WAY

In Matt. 7:1-2 our Lord Jesus said: "**Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete [use – NKJV], it**

**shall be measured to you again.**" It is obvious from this statement that there is a *kind* of judging that we must **not** do. We must **not** judge harshly, rashly or unjustly. We should **not** judge others hastily or uncharitably because it is sinful.

We should never judge according to the appearance since Jesus said: "**Judge not according to the appearance...**" in John 7:24. Things are not always as they may appear to be. We should not jump to unwarranted conclusions. Hasty, uncharitable judgment based only on the appearance should be avoided because it is indeed sinful!

There are some who, when their errors (in teaching) and other evil deeds are exposed, will "*judge*" and/or "*condemn*" the person exposing them. In so doing they become guilty of the very sin of which they accuse the other person. They become guilty of passing harsh, rash, uncharitable and unjust judgment on others. *Are you guilty of so judging others?*

#### THE RIGHT WAY

Let us now consider the right way to judge. Jesus Christ said: "**Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment**" in John 7:24. The context shows that the Jews judged by "*the appearance*" when they condemned Christ for healing the man on the sabbath and overlooked other principles of righteousness. Jesus Christ admonished them **not** to judge by "*the appearance*", but to **judge righteous judgment!**

Obviously, it is right, proper, and good to judge fairly, justly according to facts. *This constitutes righteous judgment!* This is the *kind* of “*judging*” that we are to do! Jesus said: “**Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.**” [Matt. 7:20]. When a person commits adultery, he is an adulterer! When a person teaches false doctrine, he is a false teacher! When a person practices false doctrine, he is in error. He has “missed the mark”, and thus he is in sin! When a person lives immorally, that person is living in sin! That person is in a lost condition and needs converting! *This is righteous judgment!*

Jesus said: “**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...**” [Matt. 7:15-16]. John said: “**Beloved, believe not eve-**

**ry spirit, but try the spirits whether they be of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.**” [1 John 4:1]. Also see 1 Thess. 5:21; Rev. 2:2; Gal. 1:6-12 etc. When I judge others [the “spirits”, “prophets”, “teachers” etc.] by their fruits, am I guilty of sin? Of course not! I am merely doing what the Lord commanded! You should do likewise.

CONCLUSION

Each of us will give an account in the Day of Judgment for the way we have judged others, as well as for all our thoughts and actions. *It is wrong to leave off judging righteously and it is wrong to judge according to the appearance.* We must always follow the Word of God as our standard in judging, as well as in all other matters. (CRS)

Two Lessons at East Albertville on **PREMILLENNIALISM** by BOBBY GRAHAM on March 4, 2012.

**SENTENCE SERMONS**

Don’t wait until you are flat on your back to look up. Do it now!  
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One very good way to break a bad habit is to drop it!  
 \* \* \* \* \*

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty. Watch your close associates.  
 \* \* \* \* \*

If you put both feet in your mouth at the same time, you won’t have a leg to stand on.  
 \* \* \* \* \*

“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.” (Prov. 17:22)

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