

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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JESUS CHRIST—A SUFFICIENT SAVIOUR!

Man is in sin. **"All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God,"** and **"the Scripture hath concluded all under sin."** (See Rom. 3:23 & Gal. 3:22). Without Christ man is lost in sin. **"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."** (Rom. 6:23). The angel of the Lord told Joseph his wife would bring forth a son and he further said to Joseph: **"...and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins."** (See Matthew 1:20-21). During His personal ministry on earth, Jesus declared: **"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me."** (John 14:6). Jesus also said: **"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."** (John 12:32).

JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD

John 20:30-31 says: **"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name."** Jesus Christ was **"declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."** (Rom. 1:3-4). **"Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"** (1 John 5:5). God the Father said unto the Son: **"... Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: ..."** (Heb. 1:8). Yes, Jesus Christ is God! He is not God the Father, but He is the Son! He is Deity!

JESUS CHRIST IS OUR MEDIATOR

Paul said: **"For this is good and**

acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour: Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Tim. 2:3-6). There is no one through whom we may go to the Father except Jesus Christ our Lord.

JESUS DIED FOR OUR SINS

We learn from Heb. 9:22 that **"...without shedding of blood is no remission."** Since it is not possible that **"the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins,"** (Heb. 10:4), Jesus shed His blood for the remission of sins. (See Matt. 26:28). Galatians 1:4 tells us that He **"gave Himself for our sins,"** and Heb. 2:9 says that **"he tasted death for every man."** We learn from Titus 2:14 that He **"gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity and purify Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."** It is **"in" Christ that "we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins,"** (Col. 1:14) because we were redeemed **"with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."** (See 1 Pet. 1:18-19). We must conclude that the blood of Christ is sufficient to wash us from our sins.

HE DESIRES THE SALVATION OF ALL

In Matthew 11:28 Jesus said: **"Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."** He is not willing that any should perish, **"But that all should come to**

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Editorial . . .

HUSBANDS: THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

(No. 3)

When husbands follow the instructions of the "inspired" -marriage "manual," they leave their parents and cleave unto their wives. They are not bitter against them and they do not put them away. Husbands who dwell with their wives according to knowledge recognize their responsibilities to be the **head over** and **to provide for their wives**. They do not assert their "rights," but they assume and fulfill their responsibilities.

SHOULD RENDER DUE BENEVOLENCE

Paul said: "**Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one another, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer, and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.**" (1 Cor. 7:3-5). Based on the teaching of Paul, let us now consider the following facts:

1. The husband has the responsibility to render unto the wife "**due benevolence.**" To "**render due benevolence**" means "**to render that which is owed** the wife in the marriage relationship. It means the husband should fulfill his obligation or duty to his wife. He definitely **owes** his wife something. He has an obligation to her.

2. In the marital relationship, the husband does not have power or authority of his own body, but his wife does. She has the right to expect sexual fulfillment from her husband. The husband has the responsibility of fulfilling the sexual desires of his wife. This can not be done unless there is co-habitation. A husband can not refuse to co-habit with his wife and have sexual relations with her and fulfill his obligations.

3. The husband has no right to "**Defraud**" (i.e., to **deprive**) his wife of the opportunities to fulfill her sexual desires. He may deprive her only by mutual consent (i.e. by her agreeing to it) and then it must be **for a limited time and for a specific purpose, i.e. that each may give or devote themselves to prayer.** Then they must come together lest one of them (or both) be tempted to commit fornication because of their lack of self-control.

If the husband fails to fulfill his conjugal duties to his wife, and she is tempted by Satan to commit fornication because of a lack of self-control, the husband has contributed to the sin of his wife. He will not be held blameless in such a situation. He, too, must bear the guilt of sin. One of the reasons that Paul gives for marriage is to enable one "to avoid fornication." In 1 Cor. 7:2 Paul said: "**Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, . . . let every woman have her own husband.**"

A husband has no right to think only of himself and his desires in the marital relationship. He has the responsibility of considering his wife and her desires in the conjugal state.

The wife is deprived of her marital dues when her husband leaves or departs from her. If he leaves her, he violates God's law. He has no right to deprive his wife of her "**dues**" just because he thinks her attitude about something is wrong.

Many marriages fail because the husbands do not consider the sexual desires of their wives. Not only does the husband have the obligation to fulfill his own desires in the marriage relationship, but he has the responsibility to render unto his wife her dues to enable her to avoid sin. Paul said: "**. . . to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.**" (1 Cor. 7:2).

Unless husbands fulfill their duties to their wives, they must share the blame when problems and unhappiness arise in their homes.

(CRS)

(To be continued)

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JESUS CHRIST—A SUFFICIENT SAVIOUR

repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9). Jesus also said: “. . . him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.” (John 6:37). The Hebrew writer said: **“Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.”** (Heb. 7:25)

SALVATION IS CONDITIONAL

In order to be saved by Jesus Christ, one must **believe** that Jesus is the Son of God, **repent** of sins, **confess** with the mouth his faith in Christ and **be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins.** (See John 20:30-31; Mark 16:15-16; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 2:38). There are many passages that teach that one **must obey God's will** in order to be saved. (See Heb. 5:8-9; Matthew 7:21; Rev. 22:14; 1 Pet. 4:17-18; 2 Thess. 1:7-9). Although Jesus Christ is a sufficient Saviour there is no escape from eternal damnation if we refuse or neglect to **obey Him.** (See Heb. 2:1-3).

JESUS CHRIST IS OUR HIGH PRIEST

“Wherefore in all things it behooved Him to be made like unto His brethern, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.” (Heb. 2:17). As our high priest He has **“an unchangeable priesthood”** and **“He ever liveth to make intercession”** for us. (See Heb. 7:24-25). No one can go to the Father unless he goes through Jesus Christ. We need no other high priests and we dare not suggest that Christ as our high priest is not sufficient. Those who claim to be high priests today with power to absolve sins who have no nail-scarred hands and no pierced-scarred side may feign piety, but they are imposters! We should always keep in mind that **“we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”** (Heb. 4:15).

JESUS STRENGTHENS CHRISTIANS

Hebrews 2:18 says: **“For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted.”** Christ is able to help and aid those who are tempted. A way of escape is always provided when a person is tempted.

We must place our faith in Jesus Christ and fully trust Him. We should come boldly to the throne of grace **“that we may obtain**

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THERE ARE BLESSINGS IN PRAYER

Prayer is a subject of great importance. **“Pray”** in different forms appears in the Bible more than five hundred times. Although there is much said in God's Word about prayer, many people do not understand the truth about it. Traditions and personal desires and preferences account for the error that is believed and taught by many on this subject. Unless one is willing to study and accept what God's Word says on this subject, he can not be pleasing to God and saved eternally.

Great men of the past have been men of prayer. **Abraham**, the friend of God, prayed to God on behalf of Abimelech, who had taken Sarah his wife, and God healed him, his wife and his maidservants. (See Gen. 20:1-18). When some of the Israelites were being consumed with the fire of the Lord because they were complaining, **Moses** prayed unto the Lord and the fire was quenched. (See Num. 11:1-2). **Hannah**, who was barren, prayed for a son and the Lord opened her womb and blessed her by giving her Samuel. (See 1 Sam. 1). **Elijah**, a man subject to like passions as we are, prayed for it not to rain, and **“it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.** And he prayed again, and the heaven gave

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mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” (Heb. 4:16).

Jesus is **“the bread of life,”** and he can give us spiritual strength. He assures us that all things will work together for good to those who are truly Christians.

Our attitude should be like Paul's who said: **“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”** (Phil. 4:13). Alone we are vulnerable to Satan's devices, but with Christ we can **“resist the Devil”** and he will flee from us. We can be **“more than conquerors through Him”** that loved us and gave Himself for us! **“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.”** (1 John 5:4).

Do you believe that Jesus Christ is a sufficient Saviour? Are **you** willing to be His disciple? Are **you** willing to forsake all and follow Him? He is able and willing to save you. In fact, He desires your salvation. We earnestly plead with you to accept **Jesus Christ as a sufficient Saviour** and faithfully follow His word. Will you do this?

(CRS)

THE SUTTON—SHARP DEBATES

Due to a mix-up in dates on the part of Mr. Sharp, the first SUTTON-SHARP DEBATE will **not** be conducted July 11-15, 1977 as announced in the last issue of THE INSTRUCTOR. The first SUTTON-SHARP DEBATE will be held October 24, 25, 27 & 28, 1977. It will be in Moulton, Alabama each evening at 7:30. The subject to be discussed is "THE GODHEAD." The number of persons in the Godhead will be discussed. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend this debate if you can.

Carrol R. Sutton and **Mr. Tom Sharp** have scheduled another debate for April 3, 4, 6 & 7, 1978. The subject to be discussed is "HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM."

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THERE ARE BLESSINGS IN PRAYER

rain, and the earth brought forth her rain." (James 5:17-18). God heard the prayer of **Hezekiah** who was sick and God healed him and extended his life fifteen years. (See 2 Kings 20). As a result of **Daniel** praying to God three times a day, he was cast into a den of lions, but God delivered him. (See Dan. 6:10-23). **Job** was blessed of the Lord because "he prayed for his friends." (See Job 42:10).

Jesus emphasized the need of persistent prayer in Luke 18:1-8. Paul taught that men

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THE HILL—SUTTON DEBATE

The HILL-SUTTON DEBATE has **not** been re-scheduled yet. This is due to the fact that the West Hobbs Street "elders" and **Albert Hill** have lost courage or conviction or both!

The debate was originally scheduled to be conducted in May, 1974 and was postponed due to an injury sustained by Sutton in an automobile accident. The "elders" and **Albert Hill** agreed to re-schedule the debate within a short time.

That was four years ago!

The Eastside Church in Athens and Sutton are still waiting for then to honor their agreement. Common courtesy and integrity demand that they do so. We will keep you informed as to the facts in this situation. No we don't give up easily in situations like this.

A SERIES OF MEETINGS

You are invited to attend a series of gospel meetings at the East Albertville Church of Christ building June 10-12, 1977. **Alvin Holt** of Athens will teach us. Please come if you can.

should pray often and regularly. (See Rom. 12:12; Eph. 6:18; 1 Thess. 5:17).

"**Lord, teach us to pray**, as John also taught his disciples" should be the sentiment of every true child of God. Is it yours? (CRS)

Sentence Sermons

A lie is a coward's way of trying to get out of trouble.

No man ever got lost on a straight road. —Lincoln

There is more chance for a cripple on the right road than for an athlete on the wrong road.

Time spent in pitying oneself is worse than a waste of time.

Being ignorant is not so much a shame as being unwilling to learn.

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