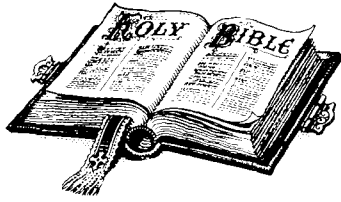


THE INSTRUCTOR



“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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REASONS WHY CHRISTIANS DO NOT DANCE

1. Dancing church members are called “hypocrites” by the very ones with whom they dance.

2. Three-fourths of the fallen girls in America were ruined by the dance-testimony of dance experts.

3. If dancing should not hurt me, it would cause someone else to be lost.

4. You would be thought a fool should you attempt to pray at the dance.

6. If you knew that God was really watching and knew your thoughts, you could not enter whole-heartedly into it.

7. A Christian’s influence and usefulness is completely destroyed by the dance.

8. The Roman Catholic confessional reveals the fact that 19 out of 20 of their girls who go wrong attribute it to the dance.

9. If a man embraced his neighbor’s wife in the modern dance attitude any place where there was no music, he would very likely get shot. He should, anyway. (**Editor’s note:** Maybe so, but a Christian should not do it.)

10. A modest girl who begins dancing quickly ceases to be modest.

11. One cannot dance without impure thoughts. (Phil. 4:8-9).

12. Dancing arouses the worst passions of humanity.

13. It brings shame upon the church and upon Christ.

14. It is more hurtful to the church than the saloon.

15. No persons who dances can win a soul for Christ.

16. You could not enjoy reading your Bible there.

17. Dancing is contrary to the spirit of Christianity.

18. Thousands of homes have been broken as a result of the dance.

19. Every dance that has been held in Belle Plaine, Kansas, has been accompanied by drunkenness. So the associates found in the dance are drunkards, and criminals. Do you want your daughter and son in this crowd? **“Be not deceived, evil companionships corrupt good morals.”**

20. In time past in Belle Plaine there have been those who danced, and not one of those were faithful to the church. (**Editor’s note:** To say nothing of being faithful to the Lord.) Contrariwise, when they quit the dance, they once more became faithful members of the Lord’s church!

21. The dance is the only place where the vilest men embrace the purest girls with society’s approval.

22. Thousands of men have used the dance as the surest way to trap a girl.

— Author unknown,
Taken from GOSPEL DIGEST,
April, 1951.

THE INSTRUCTOR

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Editorial . . .

DEAD AND LOST!

The younger son in Luke 15:11-32 who **“wasted his substance with riotous living”** was dead and lost while living in sin. He was alive physically, but spiritually he was dead. He knew where he was physically, but he was lost spiritually. Paul says: **“ . . . she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.”** (1 Timothy 5:6).

Sin results in spiritual death and being lost spiritually. Paul mentions those **“who were dead in trespasses and sins.”** (Ephesians 2:1-2). We learn from Luke 19:10 that Jesus came **“to seek and to save that which was lost.”** John 5:25 tells us that **“the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of man: and they that hear shall live.”** Those who are dead in sin can be quickened with the gospel which is God's power unto salvation. (See Romans 1:16).

The prodigal son had to **“come to himself”** and **“repent”** and **“confess his sins”** in order to be **“alive again”** and **“be found.”** (See Luke 15:17-32).

If you are living in sin, **you are dead and lost!** Unless you **“hear the voice of the Son of man”** and obey his gospel, you can not live! **You will remain dead and lost!**

BUT HE WAS STILL LOST!

The sheep that was lost in Luke 15:3-6 was lost because of thoughtless straying. There is no indication that the sheep

planned to be lost from the ninety-nine sheep. **But he was still lost!**

The coin (one piece of silver) that was lost in Luke 15:8-9 was evidently lost because of carelessness of the woman who owned it. **But it was still lost!**

The younger son (of Luke 15:11-32) was lost because he made the wrong decisions. He chose to live riotously. He chose to be lost! **But he was still lost!** He was not a true worker, but a waster. He **“wasted his substance with riotous living!”** The end result was the same. **He was still lost!**

The older son (of Luke 15:11-32) was also lost because of his attitude toward his lost brother who was now penitent. When his brother returned, he (the older brother) did not rejoice, but he was angry, selfish, and self-righteous. He pouted. Although he obviously had lived a good life, **he, too, was now lost!**

A person may be lost because of thoughtless straying **but he still is lost!** A person may be lost because of carelessness, **but he is still lost!** A person may be lost because he has made the wrong decisions. He may have wasted his substance in riotous living, **but he is still lost!** Or a person may be lost because of his ungodly attitude toward someone else. Although he may at one time have lived a good life, he may become selfish, envious, and self-righteous. Instead of rejoicing when a brother or sister repents and returns to the Lord, he may sulk and pout, **but he is still lost!**

YOU ARE STILL LOST!

If you are lost, why are you lost? Have you, like the lost sheep, in Luke 15:3-6, thoughtlessly strayed away from God? Although this may be so, **you are still lost!**

Or, are you, like the lost coin, lost because of carelessness or neglect or others? Even if this is the case, **you are still lost!**

Or, are you, like the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32 lost because you have deliberately chosen the pleasures of sin? If this is the reason you are lost, it is nothing to brag about because **you are still lost!**

Or, like the boy that stayed at home

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DEAD AND LOST!

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in Luke 15:11-32, are you lost because of your attitude? Are you selfish, self-righteous and envious? Do you pout when you should be rejoicing because a prodigal has repented? Although you may have the wrong attitude, **you are still lost!**

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE DEAD AND LOST

To be spiritually dead and lost means that one is in sin. In Ephesians 2:1-2 Paul mentions the fact that prior to their becoming Christians that the Ephesians were **“dead in trespasses and sins.”** They were children of **“disobedience.”** They were influenced by **“the prince of the power of the air”** to walk **“according to the course of this world.”**

To be spiritually dead and lost means that one is **“in darkness.”** See Ephesians 5:8. The world is **“the power of darkness.”** When one obeys the gospel, he is delivered from **“the power of darkness and is translated into the kingdom”** of God’s dear Son. (See Romans 1:16; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Col. 1:13-14).

To be spiritually dead and lost means that one is **“without Christ,”** that he has **“no hope,”** and is **“without God in the world.”** See Ephesians 2:12. He is alienated from the life of God. He has no fellowship with God.

To be spiritually dead and lost means that one will be cast into hell fire and be eternally separated from God. The wages of sin is death. See Romans 6:23. Those who die in sin **“... shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”** (Revelation 21:8; Also see Mark 9:43-48). **Are you dead and lost?**

ARE YOU DEAD?

It is possible for a person to be alive physically but to be dead spiritually. Luke 9:60 says that **“Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury the dead: but go thou preach the kingdom of heaven.”** NOTE: Jesus is here saying that those who are dead spiritually (separated

from God) are to bury those who are physically dead. Jesus was teaching here that when He gave a commandment to follow Him that one could not ignore that command by saying, **“Let me first go and bury my father.”** In speaking of a widow who does not serve God, the apostle Paul said: **“But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.”** (1 Tim. 5:6) NOTE: She is alive physically, but she is spiritually dead!

To be physically dead is for the spirit to depart from the body. It is thus separated from the body. James 2:26 says: **“For as the body without the spirit is dead, . . .”** To be spiritually dead is for a person to be alienated or separated from God. It is to have no union or fellowship with God.

If you are **“in trespasses and sins,”** you are dead! You are separated from God! You have no fellowship with God! He will **not** hear you when you pray! He will **not** save you when you plead and beg!

The gospel is God’s power to save! In order for you to be saved by the gospel, you must believe and obey it from your heart! (Please read Romans 1:16; Mark 16:15-16 and 2 Thess. 1:6-10).

ARE YOU LOST?

If you are not a child of God, then you are a child of the devil, and you are lost! You can become a child of God by being **“born again.”** To be **“born again”** you must learn and obey the truth as revealed in the New Testament of Jesus Christ. (Please read and study 1 Peter 1:22-25; James 1:21; Matthew 7:21; John 3:1-5 and Mark 16:15-16).

If you are without God in the world, you are lost! In order to be saved, you must believe that God is and you must obey His will. (Please read and study Hebrews 11:6 and Matthew 7:21-23).

If you are without Christ, you are lost! You can have Christ (and God) if you are willing to abide in **“the doctrine of Christ.”** (See 2 John 9 - 11).

If you are in sin, you are lost! Christ will forgive you of your sins if you are willing to **“repent and be baptized”** in the name of Jesus Christ **“for the remission of sins.”** (See Acts 2:38).

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If you are lost, **you have no hope!** There is only "one hope." (See Ephesians 4:4). You can only have hope if you are willing to faithfully follow the Lord Jesus Christ. To do this, you must be willing to learn His will as revealed in His Testament. This will enable you to **know how to follow Him.**

Are you lost? If so, will you remain lost? Forever? If you do, whom can you blame?

ARE YOU ALIVE?

Of course, you are alive physically, but what about spiritually? Are you alive spiritually?

You are **not** alive spiritually if you are dead in your trespasses and sins. (See Ephesians 2:1-2 and Romans 6:23). You need to be quickened (made alive) by

the gospel, the word of God. (See Romans 1:16 and James 1:21).

You are **not** alive unto God through Jesus Christ if you are living in sin. (See Romans 6:10-12). You need to die to sin.

You are **not** alive unto God through Jesus Christ if you haven't died to sin in repentance, been buried in baptism and raised to walk in newness of life. (See Romans 6:1-8; Mark 16:16 and Acts 2:38).

If you are **not** alive spiritually you will be lost eternally because the wages of sin is death! (CRS)

THE APOSTLE JOHN SAYS:

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life. . ."

Sentence Sermons

The great thing in life is not where we are, (necessarily), but in what direction are we moving.

The world is better or worse because of every man who has lived in it.

To have the smile of God will mean the frown of men.

God does not measure our prayers, but he weighs them.

It is easier to find and learn God's will than it is to do it.

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