

# 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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## To The Man Who Says, "I'm Satisfied With My Religion"

We often hear people say this, and they use it as an evidence that their religion is good and acceptable in the sight of God. But is this necessarily true?

The Mohammedan is satisfied when he worships in idolatry. Is he right? Is he justified in being satisfied?

The Jew is satisfied, even while he rejects Jesus Christ. Is he right? He is satisfied.

The rich man was satisfied, and said, "I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou foolish one, this night is thy soul required of thee." (Luke 12:19-20). Was the rich man right in being satisfied?

It does not make any difference whether you are satisfied. We are not seeking our own satisfaction here, but God's pleasure. Jesus "also pleased not himself," and was constantly doing God's pleasure. He said on one occasion, "He that sent me is with me; He hath not left me alone for I do always the things that are pleasing to him." (John 8:29).

Demas grew dissatisfied with gospel work and forsook Paul. When he got dissatisfied with the gospel work did that therefore make the gospel wrong and Demas quitting right?

Nay, verily, Beloved, "to the law and to the testimony" is the only right way to decide whether you are on safe ground.

And if you wear a name not in the Bible, belong to a church you do not find in the Bible, practice a baptism you do not find in the Bible, use the instrumental music which you never find in the Bible, and have organizations not found in the Bible, whether you are satisfied or not, they are wrong and sinful, and will ultimately cause the ruin of the soul in perdition. (2 John 9; Rev. 22:18-19).

—Taken from RIVERSIDE MESSENGER.

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### Schedule Of Services

#### EACH LORD'S DAY:

Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Worship ..... 11:00 AM  
Worship ..... 6:00 PM

#### WEDNESDAY:

Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM  
WE URGE YOU TO ATTEND!

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### Hear The Good News!

Monday thru Friday at 11:15 AM  
Over WBSA, 1300 on the dial!

## THE INSTRUCTOR

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Send all questions, comments and criticisms to the editor at 1003 Baltimore Ave., Albertville, Ala., 35950.

## Editorial . . .

### WHY BE A CHRISTIAN?

There are many advantages from being a Christian. Many are not Christians because they do realize what these advantages are. By "Christian" I mean a true, faithful follower of Jesus Christ. I mean one who has heard the gospel of Jesus Christ, has believed it, has repented of his sins, and upon a confession of faith has been baptized into Jesus Christ. He has thus been added to the church by the Lord. (Acts 2:47). As a child of God, he is earnestly endeavoring to live as the grace of God teaches him to live. (See Titus 2:11-12). Let us now consider some of the reasons. **YOU SHOULD BE A CHRISTIAN**

### TO BE SAVED!

All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. (Rom. 3:23). The wages of sin is death, but you can be saved from your sins by being a Christian. (See Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:17-18; 1 John 1:7).

The Bible teaches there is a lake of fire and brimstone called hell. If you die in your sins, you will go there. (See Mk. 9:43-44; Rev. 21:8; Matt. 25:41). You can be saved from hell by being a faithful child of God! (Rev. 2:10).

### TO ENJOY GENUINE HAPPINESS

Solomon sought happiness but did not find it in worldly wisdom, riches or in earthly pleasures. He said: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." (Ecc. 12:13).

There is no hope beyond the grave

without Jesus Christ! (See Rom. 1:16-18; Eph. 2:11-16). We cannot be genuinely happy in this life unless we have hope of a better life in the world to come. Christians have promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come! This causes happiness here!

### TO ENJOY ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS!

Paul said, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." (Eph. 1:3). We must get into Christ to enjoy these blessings. Paul teaches that we must have enough faith to be baptized into Christ. (Rom. 6:3-4; Gal. 3:26-27). We are thus born into God's family and we become heirs of God. As Christians, we have forgiveness of past sins, (Eph. 1:7), life, (1 John 5:11), redemption, (Col. 1:13-14), the Holy Spirit, (Acts 5:32), the peace of God that passeth all understanding, (Phi. 4:7), completeness, (Col. 2:10), and hope of eternal life with God and the redeemed of all ages! (1 Pet. 1:3-4).

### TO SHOW LOVE AND HONOR FOR CHRIST!

When we consider the greatness of God's love in giving His Son for our sins and the greatness of Christ's love in giving His life that we might be Christians, we should have an earnest desire to manifest love and honor for God and Christ. Only Christians can truly show this love and honor. "We love Him because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19). We can honor Christ by being Christians in NAME and in DEED! (See Acts 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:16).

### TO GO TO HEAVEN!

Heaven is a prepared place for those who prepare for it. In reading the Scriptures we are impressed with the beauties and grandeur of heaven. (Read Rev. 21 and Rev. 22). The comforts of heaven are wonderful and very appealing! The inhabitants of this beautiful place will be there in purity and splendor. Those who have kept the commandments of God and have washed their robes and made them white in the precious blood of the Lamb will enjoy sweet rest and peace forever! **ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN? (CRS)**

## The Teacher's Responsibility

A church will never be stronger than its teaching program. Our children will grow in the knowledge of God in proportion to the efficiency of those that teach them. A program of Bible study that isn't carried out right will never get the desired results. Yes, the backbone of the work of a congregation is its teaching program. These facts should stimulate us to evaluate the effectiveness of our teaching.

The unsung hero in God's army is the one who teaches a Bible class. He has closer contact with the boy or girl than any other, except the parents. He is in position to shape the life of his students religiously. He can do one of the greatest works in the church by being a good teacher.

No greater honor can be had here on earth, than that of bringing someone to Christ. The teacher of God's Word can do that. The good that we can do should be enough to spur us on to study and improvement until we are the very best teacher possible. Anything short of the best would not be pleasing in the sight of God. He always demands the very best that is in us.

In order for a teacher to be successful he must properly prepare his lesson. He must maintain good order in his class. He must remember that he is to teach the Word of God, and not just spend the time allotted with a program designed to keep his students busy until time to close the class. His work should be set up so as to reach a definite goal.

Let us examine ourselves. Are we as close to our students as we could be? Do we know their problems? Are we interested in their salvation? Is our teaching designed to lead them to Christ and to make better Christians of them? Do we set an example by attending all the services, or do our students come on Sunday and Wednesday nights and find us absent?

(Taken from a church bulletin, Bloomington, Indiana).

## The Sulton-Batts Discussion

The discussion between the editor of this paper and Mr. Albert H. Batts of "The Church of God" of Cleveland, Tenn., was conducted September 14-17, 1965 in the Marshall County Coliseum as planned. Large crowds gathered each evening to hear the discussion on the subjects of water baptism and Holy Spirit baptism. Good interest was manifested by those who assembled. The disputants conducted themselves in such a way that a friendly atmosphere prevailed throughout the discussion. We believe that error was exposed and that truth prevailed. Many heard God's truth on the above mentioned subjects for their first time. Many people were disappointed in Mr. Batts. They had expected him to do a much better job of defending his doctrines than he did.

Hiram Hutto of Gainesville, Fla., served in the capacity of moderator for the editor of this paper. He did his job remarkably well. O'Neal Franks served as moderator for Mr. Batts.

In view of our obligation to "contend for the faith" and the good interest that was manifested in the discussions, we hereby challenge ALL denominations to get someone to meet us in such discussions as those recently conducted. We extend a special challenge or invitation to "the Church of God" that brought Mr. Batts here to bring him or someone else who is more capable and stronger here for future discussions. Such discussions are bound to do good.

I am no prophet, but I predict that it will be a long time before Mr. Batts will be willing to meet the editor of this paper in another Bible discussion! And I believe those who attended the above mentioned discussion know why!

(CRS)

### THE BROCK-McWHORTER DEBATE

A debate on "institutionalism" and the "sponsoring church" is scheduled to be conducted in the Lakeview church building in Rossville, Ga., beginning Oct. 25, 1965. The disputants will be Paul Brock and Don McWhorter.

# PLEASE TAKE NOTE

If the Lord wills, there will be a series of meetings in which the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ will be preached beginning October 18th and continuing through October 24th, 1965. These meetings will be conducted in the East Albertville church building which is located at 1003 Baltimore Ave., in Albertville. The time will be 7:30 each evening.

The purpose of these meetings is to instruct all who come in the way of the Lord and to encourage them to prepare to meet God in judgment.

During these meetings, the gospel will be presented in purity and simplicity by Bro. Charles G. Maples of Peoria, Illinois. Bro. Maples will do his job well. He isn't coming to please men, but God. His preaching will be such that both aliens and Christians should be stirred to a greater determination to do that which pleases God.

If you are interested in the salvation of your soul and the souls of others, we urge you to come and engage in these periods of Bible study.

## "WE" OR "THEY"

Before one is of great value to the church, he must possess the "we" feeling. As long as he has the "they" feeling, he will do little. What is meant by this? Here it is: when you talk of the work here, do you do so in terms of "WE are going to do so and so, or WE have done this or that", or do you say, "THEY did thus and so?" If you use "the" it indicates that you have no feeling of belonging, no feeling of responsibility to do your part. You feel that you ought to be ministered to, rather than minister. You feel that you ought to be visited, rather than to do the visiting. You feel that you ought to be the receiver of friendliness, rather than the giver. In a few cases this may be true—but FEW. Don't be an outsider looking in, but be an insider pitching in. —Author unknown but taken from THE WASHINGTON WORKER.

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If we do not have your ZIP CODE, please send it to us at your earliest convenience!

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## Sentence Sermons

A narrow mind with a wide mouth often cause trouble.

When children get on the wrong track, it's time to use the switch.

The church that is described in the Scriptures can be described by the Scriptures.

Man did not come from the monkey, but many people are going to the dogs.

Adverse criticism from a wise man does one more good than the enthusiastic praise of a fool.

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