

# 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*

Volume 14

SEPTEMBER, 1977

Number 9

## SHOULD WE BE CALLED "JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES"?

Those who call themselves "Jehovah's Witnesses" claim that the name "Jehovah's Witnesses" is the name that God's Word teaches His children to wear. Is this claim correct? Is it OF FAITH? Can it be advocated BY FAITH? It is NOT OFFAITH and it can not be advocated BY FAITH unless it is taught in God's Word since "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." (Romans 10:17). Let us consider the following Scriptural facts.

1. The so-called "proof text" (Isaiah 43:10) which says: "Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord..." (the ASV says "Jehovah") does NOT prove anything about what God's children in this age (the gospel age) should be called. It was nearly 700 years before Christ was born when the Lord (Jehovah) said to His people under the old covenant through Isaiah: "Ye are my witnesses." Later, God prophesied through Isaiah (in 62:2) that "the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name." NOTE: The new name could not have been "Witnesses" because that name had already been given when the prophecy was made.

2. It seems quite obvious that the prophecy of Isaiah 62:2 about a "new name" was fulfilled in Acts 11:26 which says: "...And the disciples were called CHRISTIANS first in Antioch." A FURTHER NOTE: If, as some

people think, the prophecy of Isaiah 62:2 was a prophecy to the Jews under the old covenant that was fulfilled before the new testament age, the fact still remains that "Jehovah's Witnesses" is not a name that was to be applied to God's children in this age.

3. 1 Peter 4:16 says: "Yet if any man suffer as a CHRISTIAN, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." NOTE: Men are not exhorted by Peter or any other inspired writer to suffer as a "Jehovah's Witness" but AS A CHRISTIAN. Men should glorify God "in this name," i.e., the name CHRISTIAN. (See the ASV on this verse.)

4. The Apostle Paul endeavored to persuade men to be CHRISTIANS. King Agrippa said unto Paul: "Almost thou persuadest me to be a CHRISTIAN." (See Acts 26:25-29).

5. We learn from Philippians 2:5-11 that God hath highly exalted Christ Jesus and gave Him "a name which is above every name."

6. Speaking of Jesus Christ, the apostle Peter said: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12).

*(Continued on page 4)*

# THE INSTRUCTOR

Published monthly in the interest of truth and righteousness by the congregation of Christ, meeting at 1107 Highway 431 South, in Albertville, Alabama.

CARROL R. SUTTON  
EDITOR

Send all questions, comments, and criticisms to the editor, 1107 Highway 431 South, Albertville, Alabama 35950.

Second-class postage paid in  
Albertville, Ala. 35950

## *Editorial . . .*

### **WIVES: THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES!**

(No. 3)

Wives who are truly Christians will realize that **they should not depart from their husbands**, but if they do, that they should not go further into sin by marrying someone else. They will realize that **they should remain unmarried or be reconciled to their husbands. Wives should not be contentious. Neither should they discourage their husbands in that which is right nor privately agree with their husbands to deceive. But they should be helps meet for their husbands and should render unto them due benevolence.**

#### **SHOULD LOVE**

Aged women should "teach the young women to love their husbands." (See Titus 2:3-4). True love is not inherited. Neither does it automatically come with marriage. A wife should have a sacrificial love as well as passionate and tender affection for her husband. True love is known by its actions. It is willing to act, work, give and sacrifice.

The love of God prompted him to give "**his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**" (See John 3:16). "**But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**" (Rom. 5:8). "**He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.**" (1 John 4:8).

Jesus said: "**By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to**

**another.**" (John 13:34). Of course, this passage is speaking of the love that all disciples should have for each other. If a wife does not have love for her husband, she will not cause men to know that she is a disciple of Christ.

True love consists of devotion and affection. The wife who loves her husband will not be content with giving only vocal expressions of her love, but she will give herself in that way which will be of greatest help to him. She will truly be a help suitable (meet) for him.

The wife who has true affection for her husband will keep herself neat, attractive and loveable. She will try to never be "too tired" to be sweet and thoughtful of his welfare.

When a wife is constantly criticizing and "downing" her husband, she is manifesting to others that she does not have proper love for him. A wife who truly loves her husband will not be envious of him. She will not be boastful or arrogant toward him. Neither will she be selfish, easily provoked nor behave herself unseemly toward him. She will not think evil of her husband nor rejoice in any unrighteous act he may engage in. A wife who truly loves her husband will be longsuffering and kind toward him.

#### **SHOULD OBEY**

All of us should recognize and respect God's general order of **headship** as set forth in 1 Cor. 11:3. Paul said: "**But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.**"

After Eve transgressed God's law in the garden of Eden, God said unto her: "I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; **and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.**" (Gen. 3:16).

In a general sense, man is over woman and in a particular sense a husband is head over his wife. In Eph. 5:22-24 Paul said: "**Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the Saviour or the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.**" In Col. 3:18 he said: "**Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.**" Titus was told to teach aged women to teach young

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

## WIVES: THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES!

women to be **"obedient to their own husbands"** that the word of God be not blasphemed. (See Tit. 3:1-5). In addressing wives, Peter said: **"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives."** He also stated that **"In the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord..."** (See 1 Peter 3:1-6).

The word of God is clear on this matter. **Wives should obey their husbands!** Of course, wives should never obey their husbands in that which is wrong. For example, a wife should not obey her husband if he should tell her to dress immodestly, drink strong drink, dance, gamble, tell filthy jokes, curse, smoke, have short hair, steal, lie, forsake the assembling, mistreat their children and such like. In such cases, she should obey God rather than her husband. (See Acts 5:29).

The husband should so love and honor his wife that he is considerate of her desires and feelings, but the final "say so" in matters should rest in the husband.

Wives who are interested in being saved eternally will **love** and **obey** their husbands. (CRS)

(To be continued)

(Continued from right column)

sent me." (Jno. 17:20-21). This prayer was not an act of showmanship. It was not a hypocritical appeal to the grandstands. It was the sincere desire of His heart. The man who says that Jesus is the author of many churches, doctrines and divisions actually accuses the Saviour of hypocrisy; for if our Lord prayed for oneness and then created many churches to bring about division, He was guilty of the worst sort of hypocrisy.

**Why be one?** "That the world may believe that thou hast sent me," is what Jesus said in the prayer. If unity promotes faith, then division promotes infidelity. Division is doubtless responsible for much of the infidelity in the world today.

**No, Christ is not divided!** Let us promote faith by being united on God's Word.

Lionel Gary

Rt. 7, Albertville, AL 35950

(To be continued)

## IS CHRIST DIVIDED?

Paul addresses this question to the members of the church at Corinth. (See Cor. 1:1-2, 13). We would ask the same question today. **Is Christ divided?**

It was a timely question because the church was riven and split by parties. (See 1 Cor. 1:12). Three of the four groups manifested a sectarian, denominational spirit, or attitude, even though this was years before denominationalism, as we know it, with its many bodies, faiths and creeds gradually developed.

Paul condemns their party spirit with biting irony and taunting ridicule. His questions reprov'd with sarcasm. **Is Christ divided?** Of course not! Then why are you divided? **"Was Paul crucified for you?"** Certainly not! Then why look to him as your liberator? **"Were you baptized in the name of Paul?"** Of course not! Then why be a "Paulite?" Paul besought them to speak the same thing and to have no divisions among them. (1 Cor. 1:10). He told them that division was evidence of carnality. He said: **"For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"** (1 Cor. 3:3).

This question is especially appropriate and challenging today in view of the existence of hundreds of denominations with their different names, conflicting creeds, and contradictory doctrines. Yes, **"is Christ divided?"**

Jesus promised to build only one church. He said: **"...I will build my church..."** (Matt. 16:18). How many? The word **church** is singular and that is **one**. One is all we need. A little boy in a divided home asked, "Does God do all things well?" His mother replied: "Yes. He certainly does!" The little boy inquiringly continued: "Then why didn't God make just one church so we could all go to church together?" Common sense can not endorse the divided state of religion. But God is not responsible **"for God is not the author of confusion, but of peace."** (1 Cor. 14:33). Christ is not divided!

Christ prayed that all who believe on Him may be one. He said: "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast

(Continued in left column)

# WHAT IS SIN?

There are four passages in the New Testament that state specifically what sin is. Let us Consider them.

1. ROMANS 14:23 says: "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: **for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.**"

2. JAMES 4:17 says: "**Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.**"

3. 1 JOHN 3:4 says: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: **for sin is the transgression of the law.**"

4. 1 JOHN 5:17 says: "**All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.**"

Concerning sin, CRUDEN'S CONCORDANCE says: "**Sin is any thought, word, action, omission, or desire, contrary to the law of God.** Sin is any want of conformity to or transgression of the law, 1 John 3:4"

(CRS)

*(Continued from page 1)*

## SHOULD WE BE CALLED

### "JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES"

NO, the claim that "**Jehovah's Witnesses**" is a proper name that disciples of Christ are to wear" is NOT OF FAITH and CAN NOT BE TAUGHT BY FAITH!

The governing body of the so-called "**Jehovah's Witnesses**" is called the WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY. It is NOT OF JEHOVAH NOR OF HIS SON JESUS CHRIST. It has led and is leading many people astray from what is right. Its members do not teach the truth as it is written in the Scriptures. **Be not deceived by them!**

(CRS)

## SUTTON-SHARP DEBATE

The first of two public debates between **Carrol R. Sutton** and **Tom Sharp** is scheduled to be conducted on **October 24, 25, 27 & 28, 1977.** It will be conducted in **Moulton, Alabama** in the United Pentecostal Church building located 3 miles east of Moulton on Highway 24. The time will be **7:30 each evening.**

For two evenings, **Carrol R. Sutton** will affirm that "**The Scriptures teach that there are three distinct persons in the Godhead, namely, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**" **Tom Sharp** will deny this proposition.

The proposition that **Tom Sharp** will affirm for two evenings reads as follows: "**The Scriptures teach that the Son of God was the only person in the Godhead.**" **Carrol R. Sutton** will deny that proposition.

Please mark your calendar and make plans to be with us. Tell others!

## THE HILL-SUTTON DEBATE

Although we had some reason to believe that by now we would have some further word concerning the HILL-SUTTON DEBATE to pass on to you, we regret that such is not the case. Yes, we are disappointed, but, no, we have not given up. We are still waiting for **Albert Hill** and/or the West Hobbs Street "**elders**" to muster up enough integrity and courage to face up to their "agreement". If you can, help them.

# Sentence Sermons

Seven days without prayer will make one weak.

-----  
The only genius some people possess is the ability to destroy what others have built up.

-----  
It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy that makes happiness.

-----  
Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, and the lesson later.

-----  
What shall it profit a father if he gains the whole world and loses his own son?

---

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1107 Highway 431 South  
Albertville, Alabama 35950