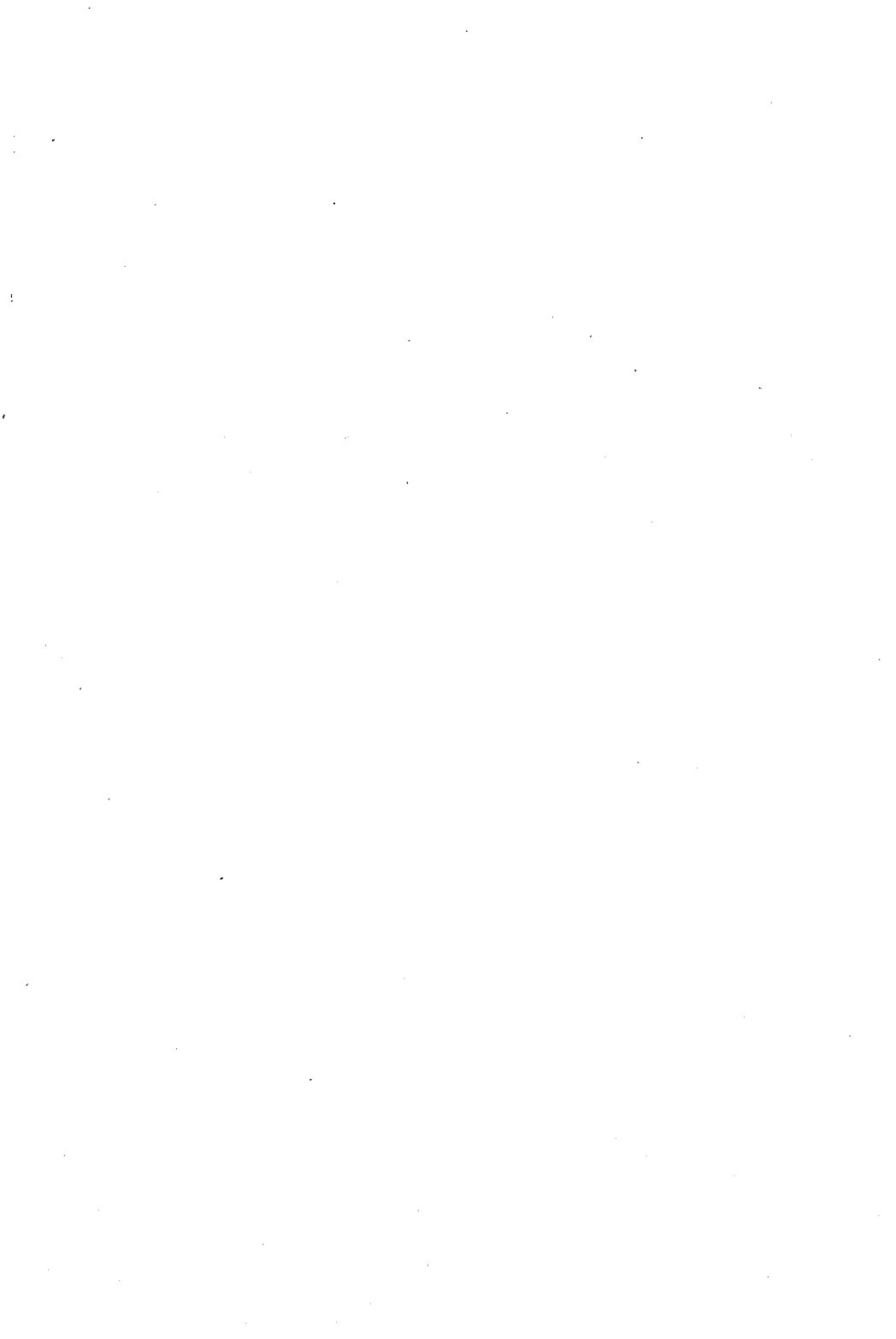


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SERMON OUTLINES

BY F.W. STOVALL



100

SERMON OUTLINES

By E. W. Stovall



Printed by:

PRINT INDIA

A-38/2, Mayapuri Phase I, New Delhi-110064 (India)

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C & D Books and Cards
P.O. Box 362
Piggott, AR 72454

Printed in India.

DEDICATION

To my devoted wife, who has meant more to me in leading me out of the fog of religious error, and has encouraged me in preaching the gospel, and has encouraged our two sons to preach, and who is so earnestly endeavoring to lead our daughters aright, I humbly and lovingly dedicate this work.

- The Author

This book is being reprinted because of the request that I have received to put it into print, and the urgent need for sound, usable outlines. The outlines have not been changed except to correct errors in printing and to substitute the correct scriptural references in a few instances. There are no blank pages in this issue as appeared in the original publication.

Carroll P. Bennett

FOREWORD

For many years this author has purposed the publication of a work of this nature. It has been his desire to give to preachers and teachers, both young and old, a book of sermons that is easy to use, sound in teaching, and arranged so one might add his personal notes on the reverse side.

This plan of outline has been discussed with some of our ablest preachers and it has met with approval from all. Since there is no arrangement on the market just like this, I feel that I am rendering a service needed in bringing out this work.

All of these outlines have been used by your author to great profit, and they have been shared with many preachers through the years, both young and old. I have been asked by many to make my sermon outlines available for others to use. I am glad to reach the publication of this work, and I sincerely hope that it will be of use to all.

I claim no originality in the contents of these outlines, except in the arrangement of thought. I am indebted to all gospel preachers, teachers, and writers whom I have known for their contribution to my information thus arranged. In this work I hope to partially pay my debt of gratitude to all from whom I have received help. If I can be of assistance in helping to convert one soul through this work, I shall be more than repaid for the hours of labor necessary to produce this book.

Although these outlines are brief, they contain suggestions that will lead to broader thinking in sermon delivery. I have tried to make my statements full enough to convey the thought, yet brief enough for the user to develop his personal thought. They are to be used only as an aid to thinking; they are not the finished product.

It is my earnest hope and sincere prayer that these sermons will be as much joy to the user as they have been to the producer, and that they will be as fruitful in your delivery as they have been in his.

THE AUTHOR
E. W. S.

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(Col. 3:1,2)

INTRODUCTION

1. Define: "Warm attachment," "love," "fondness".
2. Cannot divide affections. (Matt. 6:24)
3. Heart is center of affection. (Mar. 7:21)
4. As the heart, so the man. (Prov. 23:7)

I. WHERE PLACE AFFECTIONS

1. On things above. (Col. 3:1,2)
 - a. Upon God. (Psa. 123:1)
 - b. Upon Christ. (Col. 3:1)
 - c. Heavenly home. (2 Cor. 5:1,2)
2. Upon law of Lord. (Psa. 119:97)
 - a. Love the commandment. (Psa. 119:127)
 - b. Delight in the Law of Lord. (Psa. 1:1,2) (Ro. 7:22)
3. Think on these things. (Phil 4:8)
 - a. Things true. (Jno. 8:32)
 - b. Things honest. (Heb. 13:18)
 - c. Things just. (Micah 6:8)
 - d. Things pure. (Matt. 5:8)
 - e. Things lovely.
 - f. Things of good report. (1 Tim. 3:7)

II. WHERE NOT PLACE AFFECTIONS

1. On self.
 - a. "Trusted in themselves". (Lu. 18:9-14)
 - b. Simon claimed greatness. (Acts. 8:9)
 - c. "Lovers of themselves." (2 Tim. 3:2)
2. On Money.
 - a. "Root of all evil." (1 Tim. 6:10)
 - b. "Trust in riches." (Mar. 10:24)
 - c. Killed over money. (Acts 5:1-11)
3. Pleasure
 - a. Lasts only "a season." (Heb. 11:25)
 - b. Causes death. (1 Tim. 5:6)
 - c. Estranges from God. (2 Tim. 3:4)
4. Pre-eminence.
 - a. Christ pre-eminent. (Col. 1:18)
 - b. Diotrophes' downfall. (3 Jno. 9)
5. The world. (1 Jno. 2:15-17)
6. Praise of men. (Jno. 12:42-43)
7. Wages of unrighteousness. (2 Pet. 2:15)

INTRODUCTION

1. Most important question.
 - a. Sun the center of solar system.
 - b. Son the center of Christian thought.
2. Our attitude is determined by Estimate of Christ.
 - a. Toward God, his word, and the church.
 - b. Toward obedience
3. The two questions:
 - a. Whom do men say?
 - b. Whom do ye say?

I. WHOM DO MEN SAY

1. The apostles had heard say:
 - a. John Baptist. (Matt. 16:14)
 1. Jesus' estimate. (Matt. 11:7-11)
 2. John's message. (Jno. 1:29-31)
 - b. Elijah. (Matt. 16:14)
 1. Elijah on Mt. Carmel. (1 Kings 18)
 2. On Mt. Transfiguration. (Matt. 17:5)
 - c. Jeremiah. (Matt. 16:14)
 1. Foretold captivity.
 2. Wept for Israel.
 - d. One of the prophets. (Matt. 16:14)
 1. Indifferent.
 2. Puts on level of least.
2. Pilate's estimate
 - a. A good man (Jno. 19:6) "I find no fault!"
 - b. The man. (Jno. 19:5) "Behold the man!"
 - c. Your king. (Jno. 19:14) "Behold your king!"
3. Modern estimate.
 - a. Best man. H.G. Wells lists 1st of 12.
 1. If not Son as He claims, this is too high.
 - b. Blasphemer. See (Matt. 3:17; 17:5; Acts 7:55)
 - c. Son, but there are others: Buddah
 - d. Son, but don't have to obey him.

II. WHOM DO YE SAY

1. Peter's estimate. (Matt. 16:16)
2. Paul's estimate. (2 Tim. 1:12)
3. Our estimate. See (Matt. 10:32; 33)

(1 Cor. 16:9)

INTRODUCTION

1. Apostles' world-wide task. (Mar. 16:15,16)
2. Church's task today. (Eph. 3:10)
3. Method used (Acts 8:4,5; 20:20,26,27)
4. Our challenge. (2 Tim. 2:2, 4:1-4)

I. A GREAT DOOR OPENED

1. "Door" represents opportunity.
 - a. "Great" and "effectual" describe it.
 - b. "Open" suggests its readiness.
2. Ephesus tired of paganism.
 - a. Believed the gospel. (Eph. 1:13)
 - b. "All Asia heard." (Acts 19:10)
 - c. Burned their books. (Acts 19:19)
3. We have open door today.
 - a. Religious world sick-some seeking.
 - b. Denominationalism does not satisfy.

II. THERE ARE MANY ADVERSARIES

1. Paul's adversaries.
 - a. Heathenism. (Acts 19:35)
 - b. False teachers. (1 Tim. 1:3)
 - c. Weak brethren.(Rev. 2:4,5)
2. Our adversaries.
 - a. Denominationalism first. (1 Cor. 1:10)
 1. Is deceptive (2 Thess. 2:10,11)
 2. Is confusing - a babble of tongues.
 3. Is damnable. (Matt. 7:21; 2 Jno. 9-11)
 4. Makes infidels. (Jno. 17:20,21)
 - b. Indifference - "lukewarm"
 1. Neither cold or hot. (Rev. 3:16)
 2. Like Meroz. (Judge 5:23)
 - c. Laziness. (Heb. 5:12)
 1. Too lazy to study. (2 Tim 2:15)
 2. Poorly prepared. (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - d. Worldliness. (1 Jno. 2:15-17; Gal. 5:19-21)
 - e. Stinginess. (Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:1,2)

III. WHAT DO WITH ADVERSARIES

1. Paul removed them by use of word of God. (Acts 19:10)
2. God's word is the sword. (Eph 6:17)
3. Must fight the good fight. (1 Tim 6:12)

A LION IS IN THE WAY

(Prov. 26:13)

INTRODUCTION

1. Lion is ferocious, dangerous, savage.
2. Slothful sees a lion in street. (Prov. 26:13)
 - a. Slothful: Lazy, sluggish, inactive.
 - b. Can be physically alert, but spiritually lazy.
 - c. Corinth spiritually sick. (1 Cor. 11:30)
3. Sluggard sees the nonexisting. (Pro. 22:13)
 - a. His excuses become real to him.

I. EVIL EFFECTS OF SLOTHFULNESS

1. Cannot reach desire. (Pro. 21:25)
 - a. Desire and work companions in success.
2. Causes dilapidation. (Pro. 24:30,31)
 - a. "idle mind is devil's workshop."
 - b. Christian must be steadfast. (1 Cor. 15:58)
3. Makes one a parasite. (2 Thess. 3:10-12)
 - a. Members ride through on other's work.
 - b. To many it is: "They do," "we enjoy," "their troubles," "our successes".
4. Makes one conceited. (Pro. 26:16; Ro. 12:16)
5. Causes hallucinations. (Pro. 26:13)

II. LIONS SEEN IN STREETS TODAY

1. "Too far to go-too much work," (1 Ki. 12:28)
2. Do not have time. (Acts 24:25)
 - a. Felix never found time!
3. Too hard to do. (Nu. 13:33)
4. One hour per week enough. (Matt. 6:33)
 - a. Such close doors for Bible study.
5. Service too dry.
 - a. May need you to spice it.
 - b. Your talent should not waste.
6. Too expensive. (Matt. 16:26)
7. Too many hypocrites. (Matt. 13:41)
8. Family not agreeable to. (Lu. 14:26)
9. Don't like preacher. (1 Cor. 3:1-4)
10. I've done enough. (Jno. 9:4)

III. WHAT THE SLUGGARD SHOULD DO

1. "Awake thou that sleepest." (Eph. 5:14)
2. "Awake to righteousness." (1 Cor. 15:34)
3. Do His commandments. (Rev. 22:14)

ARGUMENT AT THE JUDGMENT (Matt. 7:22,23)

INTRODUCTION

1. Many oppose an argument but practice it.
 - a. Preachers will not debate publicly.
 - b. They create a "straw man" and debate.
 2. Don't like a "fighter," but do fight.
 - a. Fight against God's word.
 - b. Set aside his commands. (Mar. 7:7,8)
 3. Many will argue at the judgment. (Text.)
 - a. Two classes disappointed at judgment:
 1. Those the Lord "never knew."
 2. Those the Lord "know you not."
 - b. Error of any kind disappoints and damns.
- I. THOSE WHOM THE LORD NEVER KNEW
1. The heathen.
 - a. May plead that he did not know.
 - b. His sentence. (2 Thess. 1:7-9)
 2. The infidel.
 - a. Plead his moral living.
 - b. The sentence. (Jno. 3:16; 8:24; Rev. 21:8)
 3. The universalist.
 - a. Plead that Christ died for all.
 - b. The answer and condemnation. (Heb. 5:9)
 4. The lodge member.
 - a. Faithful to his lodge will he be saved?
 - b. Christ the author of salvation, not a fraternal order. (Heb. 5:8,9)
 5. The denominationalist.
 - a. Argue sinner saved by prayer. (Jno. 9:31)
 - b. Argue saved by faith only. (Jas. 2:24)
 - c. Argue any church all right. (1 Cor. 12:20)
 - d. Argue saved out of church. (Acts 2:47)
 - e. Argue saved before baptism. (Acts 2:38)
 - f. Argue for substitutions in worship.
 1. Mechanical music. (Eph. 5:19)
 2. Irregular communion. (Acts 20:7)
 - g. Good works: schools, hospitals, etc.
- II. THOSE WHOM THE LORD KNOWS NOT
1. Irregular worshippers. (Heb. 10:25,26)
 2. Worldly livers. (1 Tim. 5:6; 1 Jno. 2:15-17)
 3. Ignorant. (2 Tim 2:15; Heb. 5:12-14)

A RULE OF SUCCESS

(Josh. 1:8)

INTRODUCTION

1. Israel about to go into Canaan.
2. Joshua gives rule for success. (Josh. 1:8)
3. God's law is perfect. (Psa. 19:7)
4. Should desire above gold. (Psa. 119:127)
5. God forbids alteration. (Deu. 4:1,2)

I. BOOK OF LAW NOT DEPART FROM MOUTH

1. Must hear God's law. (Matt. 7:21; Pro. 28:9)
 - a. Israel commanded to hear. (Deu. 4:1; Mar. 12:29)
 - b. We must listen. (Acts 3:22,23; Rev. 2:7)
2. Must speak God's law. (Josh. 1:8)
 - a. Speak it faithfully. (Jer. 23:28)
 - b. Speak gospel faithfully. (Acts 20:27; Gal. 1:6-9; 1 Pet. 4:11)

II. MEDITATE THEREON DAY AND NIGHT

1. Our meditation determines our end. (Pro. 23:7)
2. Regularity in meditation. (Josh. 1:8; Ps. 1:2)
3. Christian meditation. (1 Tim. 4:13-16; Phil 4:8)

III. DO THAT WHICH IS WRITTEN

1. God always required obedience. (Matt. 7:21)
 - a. Israel to obey. (Josh. 1:8; Eccl. 12:13)
 - b. We must obey. (1 Jno. 2:4; Acts 11:14)
2. Inactive religion is vain. (Jas. 2:20,26)
 - a. Faith is perfected by works. (Jas. 2:22)
3. We are limited by "all that is written."
 - a. Not go beyond. (1 Cor. 4:6 RV; 2 Jno. 9-11)
 - b. There is one gospel. (Gal. 1:6-9)

IV. THE RESULT OF THIS RULE

1. Makes our way prosper. (Josh. 1:8)
 - a. David's description. (Psa. 1:1-6)
 - b. Christ's statement. (Matt. 6:33)
2. Shall have good success. (Josh. 1:8)
 - a. Promise to Israel. (Josh. 1:8)
 - b. Christian promises:
 1. Know God. (1 Jno. 2:3; Jno 17:3)
 2. Enter Kingdom. (Matt. 7:21)
 3. Freedom from sin. (Ro. 6:17,18)
 4. Right to tree of life. (Rev. 22:14)

(Exo. 8:27.)

INTRODUCTION

1. God's people separated from Satan's.
 - a. God put division between Israel and Egypt. (Exo. 8:23.)
 - b. Commanded to "be ye separate." (2 Cor. 6:17.)
2. Pharaoh tried to substitute God's command.

I. THE LORD'S REQUEST OF PHARAOH

1. "Let my people go. . .serve." (Exo. 8:1.)
2. Go "three days journey in wilderness." (Exo. 8:26.)
3. Young, old, son, daughter, flocks and herds. (Exo. 10:9.)

II. EFFORTS AT SUBSTITUTION

1. "Sacrifice in the land." (Exo. 8:25.)
 - a. "It is not meet to do so." (Exo. 8:26.)
 - b. Sacrifice "as he shall command." (Exo. 8:27.)
 - c. Can't serve God in sin. (Ro. 6:1, 12, 14.)
2. Go, but not "very far away." (Exo. 8:28.)
 - a. Satan wants us on the border line.
 - b. Complete separation is required. (Ro. 6:1,2, 17,18.)
 - c. Dangerous to "look back." (Lu. 9:26; 17:32.)
3. "Go. . .ye that are men." (Exo. 10:11.)
 - a. Few will leave family. (Lu. 14:26.)
 - b. Care for children. (Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4.)
 - c. Farmer knew where his hogs and cattle were, but did not know where children were!
4. "Leave flocks and herds." (Exo. 10:24.)
 - a. Heart and treasure inseparable. (Matt. 6:19-21, 24)
 - b. Early Christians gave selves and possessions. (Acts 2:44,45; 4:32; 2 Cor. 8:5.)

III. REWARD OF FAITHFULNESS

1. Go, with all possessions. (Exo. 12:31,32.)
2. "Resist the devil and he will flee." (Jas. 4:7.)
3. Christians cannot compromise. (Acts 4:20; Gal. 2:5.)
4. God's laws must be obeyed. (1 Jno. 2:3,4.)

(Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:37,38; Ro. 6:1-6)**INTRODUCTION**

1. Baptism a most controverted subject.
2. Human doctrines cause the controversy.
3. The Bible opens our understanding. (Psa. 119:104,130)

I. SCRIPTURAL VIEW NEEDED

1. The subject. (Matt. 28:19)
 - a. Only the teachable included.
 - b. Infants and idiots excluded.
2. The action.
 - a. A burial. (Ro. 6:3,4; Col. 2:12,13)
 - b. A planting (Ro. 6:5)
 - c. Greek words used for washing:
 1. Plunein - always used for inanimate.
 2. Niptein - always used for parts of body.
 3. Lounein - always used for whole body.
3. The design of baptism.
 - a. To save. (Mar. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)
 - b. Forgiveness. (Acts 2:38; Col 2:12, 13)

II. INSPIRED TEACHERS ON BAPTISM

1. Jesus taught on baptism. (Mar. 16:15,16)
 - a. Must be taught before. (Matt. 28:19)
 - b. Must believe. (Mar. 16:16)
 1. Faith gives right to sonship. (Jn. 1:12)
 2. Then faith can't make us a son.
 - c. Must be baptized. (Mar. 16:16; Jno. 3:5)
2. Peter on baptism. (Acts 2:37,38; 1 Pet. 3:21)
 - a. Full assurance first (Acts 2:36)
 - b. Repentance necessary. (Acts 2:38)
 - c. Baptism necessary. (Acts 2:38)
 - d. Baptism saves us now. (1 Pet. 3:21)
3. Paul taught on baptism. (Ro. 6:3,4; Col. 2:12,13)
 - a. Baptized into death of Christ (Ro. 6:3)
 - b. Raised from burial to life. (Ro. 6:4)
 - c. All trespasses forgiven in this operation. (Col. 2:12,13)
 - d. Sins washed away in baptism. (Acts 22:16)
 - e. Become sons of God in. (Gal. 3:26,27)
 - f. Baptized into one body. (1 Cor. 12:13)

(Matt. 28: 19-20)

INTRODUCTION

1. Baptism is a "troubler of Israel."
 - a. Many conceptions - many theories.
 - b. Baptism is most hated command.
2. Baptism is commanded. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 10:48)
 - a. Commands must be obeyed. (1 Jno. 2:3,4;
2 Jno. 9-11)

I. HOW IS ONE TO BE BAPTIZED

1. Religious world in general says: Sprinkle, pour, or immerse (Sec. 11, Pg. 470, Meth. Disc. 1948 Edi.)
2. No Bible example of sprinkling or pouring water for baptism, much less a command.
3. Bible expressions allow only immersion.
 - a. "Much water." (Jno. 3:23)
 - b. "Came unto a certain water." (Acts 8:36)
 - c. "Went down into the water." (Acts 8:39)
 - d. "Come up out of the water." (Acts 8:39)
4. God declares baptism a burial. (Ro. 6:4; Col. 2:12)

II. WHO IS TO BE BAPTIZED

1. The taught. (Matt. 28:19,20)
 - a. Infants not subject to teaching.
 - b. Feature a sectarian teaching a baby!
2. The believer. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 8:36)
 - a. Faith comes from hearing. (Ro. 10:17)
 - b. Infants left out here.
3. The penitent - babies excluded. (Acts 2:38)
4. Those who confess Christ. (Acts 8:37)
5. The unsaved. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 22:16; Col. 2:12,13)
 - a. Infants are safe, not lost

III. WHY BE BAPTIZED

1. To be saved. (Mar 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)
2. To put on Christ. (Gal. 3:26,27)
3. To enter God's Kingdom, (Jno. 3:5)
4. To enter Christ's body. (1 Cor. 12:13)
5. To reach the death of Christ. (Ro. 6:3,4)
6. To wear Christ's name. (1 Cor. 1:12,13)

INTRODUCTION

1. Define lie: Telling something untrue.
 - a. May be implied, even by silence.
 - b. May be told in question.
2. Deception foretold. (2 Thess. 2:10-12)
Greek: "Power," "signs," "falsehood."
3. "Receive not love of the truth."
 - a. "Corrupted minds." (1 Tim. 6:5)
 - b. "Resist the truth." (2 Tim. 3:8)
4. Lie can be believed or told unconsciously.
 - a. By repeating falsehood of another.
 - b. By believing a falsehood.

I. LYING OR BELIEVING ONE IS CONDEMNED

1. Put away lying. (Eph. 4:25)
2. Buy the truth, sell not. (Prov. 23:23)
3. Damned in believing lie. (2 Thess. 2:11,12)
4. Liars go to Hell. (Rev. 21:8)
5. Religious error is false. (Matt. 15:9)

II. POPULAR VIEWS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

1. If honestly believe, God accepts.
 - a. Hindu honestly believes his god.
 - b. Some honestly believe they will be saved.
(iMatt. 7:22)
 - c. Cornelius was honest. (Acts 10:1,2)
2. Religious liberty is not a license. (Gal. 5:13)

III. LIE HAS SAME EFFECT AS TRUTH

1. Truth heard, believed, obeyed, feel secure.
2. Lie heard, believed, obeyed, feel secure.
 - a. Eve heard, believed, obeyed. (Gen. 3:6)
 - b. Jacob heard, believed, wept. (Gen. 37:34)
3. Religionists hear, believe, obey false doctrine and rejoice, though deceived.

IV. SOME PRESENT - DAY LIES BELIEVED

1. Preach and leave others alone. (2 Jno. 9-11)
2. Saved in any denomination. (Matt. 15:13)
3. One church good as another. (1 Cor. 12:20)
4. Saved outside the church. (Eph. 5:23; Acts 2:47)
5. Saved without baptism. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 22:16; Ro. 6:3; 1 Pet. 3:21)

INTRODUCTION

1. God's way is the way of blood. (Heb. 9:22)
 - a. Altars from Abel to Golgotha. (Heb. 9:13,22-28)
 - b. Christ died for all. (Heb. 9:28; 1 Jno. 1:7)

I. THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANTS

1. The first covenant
 - a. Dedicated by blood. (Heb. 9:18)
 - b. Sacrifices temporary. (Heb. 10:3,4)
 - c. This arrangement removed. (Heb. 10:9)
2. The second covenant.
 - a. Dedicated by Christ's blood. (Heb. 9:18-25)
 - b. Christ's blood is effective:
 1. For sins before the cross. (Heb. 9:15)
 2. For all sin. (Heb. 10:10; 1 Jno. 1:7)
 - c. This covenant is eternal. (Heb. 13:20)

II. FACTS TO BE FACED

1. Sin exists. (Eccl. 7:20; Ro. 3:12,23; 1 Jno. 1:8-10)
2. Sin does not cure itself. (Ezek. 18:20)
3. Only blood of Christ avails. (Matt. 26:28)

III. WHAT SIN DOES FOR MAN

1. Estranges from God. (Isa. 59:1,2)
 - a. God forsakes us if we forsake him. (2 Chr. 15:2; 24:20)
 - b. Estranged by what we do. (Psa. 58:3-7)
2. Enslaves man. (Rom. 6:16)
 - a. Enslaves his thoughts. (Isa. 55:7, Ro. 1:28)
 - b. Enslaves his passions. (Ro. 1:24-27)
 - c. Enslaves his will. (Rom. 1:28-32)
3. It entails death. (Rom. 6:16,23)

IV. WHAT BLOOD OF CHRIST DOES

1. Reconciles the estranged. (Ro. 5:10; Eph. 2:16, Col. 1:20)
2. Redeems the enslaved. (Eph. 1:7, 1 Pet. 1:18)
3. Makes alive the dead. (Eph. 2:1, Heb. 9:24-26)

V. WHAT MUST DO TO REACH THE BLOOD

1. Believe in Christ. (Jno. 8:24; Ro. 3:25)
2. Repent of sins. (Acts 2:38; 17:30)
3. Be baptized. (Ro. 6:3,4; 17,18; Col. 2:12,13)

BREAD ALONE, NOT BY

(Matt. 4:4)

INTRODUCTION

1. "Eat, drink and be merry," some say.
2. Christ gives life's secret. (Matt. 4:4)
3. Kingdom of God is not meat. (Ro. 14:17)

I. GOD TEACHES ISRAEL A LESSON

1. Fed them manna. (Exo. 16:1-5,16,19)
2. To teach them to trust. (Deu. 8:3)
3. Some disregarded instructions.
 - a. Gathered too much. (Exo. 16:20)
 - b. Some tried Sabbath gathering. (Exo. 16:27)
4. God rebukes Israel. (Exo. 16:28)

II. JESUS IS THE BREAD FROM HEAVEN (John 6:51)

1. Jesus is the bread of life. (Jno. 6:48)
2. Christ the antitype of manna. (Jno. 6:49,50)
3. Must eat this bread to live. (Jno. 6:53,54)
4. Those who eat abide in Him. (Jno. 6:56)
 - a. Obedient abide in Him. (1 Jno. 3:24; 2 Jno. 9)
 - b. Christ's meat to do God's will, (Jno. 4:32,34)

III. MAN TO LIVE BY EVERY WORD OF GOD

(Matt. 4:4)

1. Nadab and Abihu. (Lev. 10:1,2)
 - a. Right person - priests.
 - b. Right place - altar.
 - c. Right time-time for sacrifice.
 - d. Strange fire - "that he commanded not."
2. King Saul. (1 Sam. 15:3-31)
 - a. Utterly destroy, the command. (1 Sam. 15:3)
 - b. His partial obedience. (1 Sam. 15:9,20-23)
 - c. Hath not performed my command. (1 Sam. 15:11)
3. Conditions of salvation.
 - a. Alien sinner.
 1. Believe in Christ. (Jno. 8:24)
 2. Repent of sins. (Lu. 13:3; Acts 2:38)
 3. Be baptized. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38)
 - b. Erring child of God.
 1. Repent of sins. (Acts 8:22)
 2. Pray for forgiveness. (Acts 8:22)
4. God requires faithfulness today. (Heb. 10:25; 1 Cor. 15:58; Rev. 22:14)

(Jude 20)

INTRODUCTION

1. Word church has two uses:
 - a. The universal sense. (Matt. 16:18)
 - b. The local sense. (1 Cor. 1:1,2)
2. Church grows universally as it grows locally.
3. There are certain necessary elements of growth. (1 Pet. 2:1,2)

I. PERSONAL CONSECRATION ESSENTIAL

1. Genuine conversion. (Jno. 3:3-7; 1 Pet. 1:22,23)
2. Put God first. (Matt. 6:24,33)
3. Desire growth. (1 Pet. 2:1, 2; Eph. 4:14,15)
4. Desire to save others. (1 Tim. 4:16)

II. NEW TESTAMENT KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED

1. Knowledge essential. (Jno. 8:32; 2 Tim. 2:15)
 - a. No fountain rises higher than its head.
 - b. No church rises higher than its teachers
2. Bible study divides into three classes:
 - a. Private study.
 1. Required of all. (2 Tim 2:15; Acts 8:31)
 2. Encourage home study. (1 Tim. 4:13,15)
 3. Memory work profitable. (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - b.. Class study
 1. Affords opportunity for growth.
 2. The teacher must be:
 - a. Clean in life. (1 Tim. 4:12)
 - b. Sound in faith. (2 Tim. 2:2)
 - c. Good disciplinarian. (1 Cor. 14:40)
 - d. Active church worker. (1 Cor. 15:58)
 - e. Provided with ample material.
 - c. Public teaching.
 1. Done by faithful men. (2 Tim. 2:2)
 - a. Must be "apt to teach." (2 Tim. 2:24)
 - b. Speech become sound doctrine. (Tit. 2:1)
 2. Done by elders (Acts 20:28; Tit. 1:9)
 - a. Must be "apt to teach." (1 Tim. 3:2)
 - b. To "feed the flock." (Acts 20:28)
 3. Done by preachers - evangelists.
 - a. The charge. (2 Tim. 4:1; Matt. 28:19,20)
 - b. Preach whole truth. (Acts 20:26,27)
 - c. Without favor. (Gal. 1:10)

14 BUILDING UP THE CHURCH, NO. II

(Jude 20)

INTRODUCTION

1. Church to make known God's wisdom. (Eph. 3:10)
2. Members to be well taught. (1 Pet. 3:15)
3. Need constant reminding. (2 Pet. 1:12-15)
4. Preaching deadly foe to error. (2 Tim. 4:1-4)
5. Preaching builds up. (Acts 11:26; 20:32)

I. PUBLIC PREACHING DONE BY MEN

1. Commit to faithful men. (2 Tim. 2:2)
2. Women forbidden. (1 Cor. 14:23,34; 1 Tim. 2:12)
 - a. They are to teach. (Titus 2:3-6)
 - b. Limited in (1 Cor. 14:23,34,35; 1 Tim. 2:12)

II. PREACHING MUST BE MILITANT

1. Enemy to be defeated. (Eph. 6:12,13)
2. Unyielding before foe. (Gal. 2:4,5)
3. Uncompromising. (Gal. 1:6-9; 2 Jno. 9-11)

III. CHARACTERISTICS OF PREACHING

1. Spoken in love. (Eph. 4:15)
 - a. Love does not exclude rod. (Heb. 12:6)
2. Done in spirit of Christ. (Ro. 8:9)
 - a. A lamb in submission to God. (Jno. 6:38)
 - b. A lion in condemnation of sin. (Matt. 23)
3. Fearlessly proclaimed.
 - a. Apostles - "Whom ye crucified." (Acts 2:36)
 - b. Peter and John - "Ye crucified." (Acts 4:10)
 - c. Stephen - "Stiffnecked." (Acts 7:51)
 - d. Paul. (Acts 20:24; 21:13)
4. Boldly declared
 - a. Not to be mistaken for "brass."
 - b. Peter and John bold. (Acts 4:13)
 - c. Paul's boldness. (Acts 9:27-29; 14:3, 19:8)
5. As oracles of God.
 - a. Speak not presumptuous. (Deut. 18:20)
 - b. Speak whole counsel. (Acts 20:27)

IV. EFFECTS OF PREACHING

1. Accomplishes God's purpose. (Isa. 55:11)
2. Has one of two effects:
 - a. "Savour of death unto death." (2 Cor. 2:16)
 - b. "Savour of life unto life." (2 Cor. 2:16)
3. No hearer is the same after hearing: he is either made better or worse. (Jas. 4:17)

(1 Pet. 2:1,2)

INTRODUCTION

1. Most pitiful sight is the undeveloped.
 - a. Dwarfed plants.
 - b. Dwarfed men and women
 - c. Dwarfed child of God. (Heb. 5:12)
2. We lament the physical undevelopment, but we lightly excuse and overlook spiritual.

I. SOME DESIRE TO GROW BEFORE BIRTH

1. Test and see if I can live Christian before I obey the gospel.
2. All Christian living is in Christ. (Acts 17:28)
3. We enter Christ through obedience. (1 Pet. 1:22, 23; Ro. 6:3, 4; 17,18; Gal. 3:26,27)

II. ESSENTIALS TO GROWTH

1. Food.
 - a. Jesus has spiritual food. (Jno. 4:32,34)
 - b. We must have spiritual food. (Jno. 6:53,54)
 1. Jesus is the heavenly bread. (Jno. 6:51)
 2. Dwell in God if eat his flesh. (Jno. 6:55,56; See. 1 Jno. 3:24)
 - c. Growth depends on food. (1 Pet. 2:2)
 - d. Enables us to discern. (Heb. 5:12-14)
 - e. Word of God supplies food. (Jas. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Pet. 1:3)
2. Care
 - a. All members should have same care. (1 Cor. 12:25,26)
 - b. Christian influence by care. (Matt. 5:13-16)
 - c. Care of the Church. (Acts 20:28-32; 1 Pet. 5:1,2; Heb. 10.25,26)
3. Exercise
 - a. Godliness is profitable. (1 Tim. 4:8)
 - b. Paul's admonitions. (1 Cor. 9:24-26; Col. 3:23; 1 Cor. 15:58)
 - c. Exercise senses. (Heb. 5:14)

III. THE RESULT OF GROWTH

1. Happiness (Ro. 14:22,23)
2. Save self and others. (1 Tim. 4:16)

INTRODUCTION

1. Christian - "Christ-like." (Phil. 1:21)
2. Christ lives in Christian. (Gal. 2:20)
3. Lives in the obedient. (1 Jno. 3:24)

I. CHRISTIAN LIVING IS IN THE CHURCH

1. Morality will not save. (Acts 10:1,2; 11:14)
2. Glorify God in the church. (Eph. 3:21)
3. Glorify God in name Christian. (1 Pet. 4:16)

II. WORLD EXPECTS CHURCH TO DEMONSTRATE

1. Christianity expressed in action. (Jas. 1:22,27)
2. Christians cannot love the world. (1 Jno. 2:15-17)
 - a. They are in, but not of the world. (Jno. 17:11; 15:19; Gal. 5:19-21)
 - b. If we love the world, we may practice the life of the world. (2 Tim 4:10)
 - c. God and world estranged. (Jas. 4:4)
3. Christians are an open book.
 - a. Shining lights. (Matt. 15:16; Phil 2:14,15)
 - b. Are living epistles. (2 Cor. 3:2)
4. Life is our greatest contribution.
 - a. To be great we must serve. (Matt. 20:26,27)
 - b. The way up is down. (Lu. 14:11)

III. THERE MUST BE A STANDARD TO GO BY

1. Christ is that standard. (1 Jno. 2:6)
 - a. His greatest miracle is his life.
 - b. He went about doing good. (Acts 10:38)
2. We are to conform to his image. (Ro. 8:29)

IV. LIFE IS EXPRESSION OF THE HEART. (Mar. 7:21)

1. The heart is life's laboratory. (Mar. 7:20-23)
2. What is attitude toward God and his word?
3. What is attitude toward brethren? (Phil. 1:3)
Goodspeed: "Every time I think of you ! thank God."
4. What is your attitude toward religious error?
(2 Jno. 9-11; Ro. 16:17)
5. What is your attitude toward sin? (Gal. 5:19-21;
1 Thess. 5:22; Ro. 12:9)
6. What is attitude toward work? (1 Cor. 15:58)

INTRODUCTION

1. The church is wide in scope
 - a. It is not "narrow" as charged.
 - b. Widest religious institution in world.
 1. Denominations are creed bound.
 2. Denominations could not contain ALL the saved as they agree.
 3. The church of Christ contains ALL the saved.
(Acts 2:47; Eph. 2:16; 5:23)
2. All Should know Bible description of the church.
 - a. Know it for own salvation. (Acts 2:47)
 - b. Know it for other's salvation. (Eph. 2:16)

I. MEANING OF THE WORD

1. Collective body of Christians - Webster.
2. "Ekklesia" (Matt. 16:18)
 - a. Called out body of people.
 - b. Called out of darkness into light. (1 Pet. 2:9)

II. USES OF THE TERM CHURCH

1. It is used universally - including all saved.
(Matt. 16:18; Eph. 1:22,23; Col. 1:18)
2. It is used locally. (Acts 13:1, Ro. 16:16; I Cor. 1:1,2; Titus 1:5)

III. FIGURES DESCRIBING THE CHURCH

1. It is a kingdom.
 - a. Christ is the king. (1 Cor. 15:25)
 - b. Christians translated into His kingdom. (Col. 1:13)
2. It is Christ's Body.
 - a. The body is the church. (Col 1:18,24)
 - b. There is one body. (1 Cor. 12:20; Eph. 4:40)
 - c. Christ is savior of the body. (Eph. 5:23)
3. It is the house of God.
 - a. The church is the house of God. (1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 3:6)
 - b. God dwells in his house. (Eph 2:19-22)
4. It is the temple of God, spiritual house.
 - a. Built up a spiritual house. (1 Pet. 2:5)
 - b. The church is that temple. (1 Cor. 3:16)
 - c. Must not defile temple. (1 Cor. 3:17)

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

(2 Thess. 3:6,14,15)

INTRODUCTION

1. Disorderly need to be taught to walk in decency. (1 Cor. 14:40)
2. Elders lead in church discipline. (1 Thess. 5:12; Tit. 1:9-11)
3. Discipline is to correct error. (1 Cor. 5:13; 2 Cor. 2:5-9)

I. FALSE TEACHERS TO BE DISCIPLINED

1. Church must have harmony. (1 Cor. 1:10)
 - a. Division is carnal. (1 Cor. 3:1-3)
 - b. To be carnal is death. (Ro. 8:6)
2. False teachers to be silenced. Titus. 1:9-11)
 - a. They are perverters. (Gal. 1:6,7)
 - b. Not to be allowed power. (Gal. 2:5)
3. New Testament doctrine must be respected. (Ro. 16:17; Gal. 2:5,14)

II. IMMORAL CONDUCT TO BE DISCIPLINED

1. Fornication not to be tolerated. (1 Cor. 5:13)
 - a. Deliver to Satan to save. (1 Cor. 5:5)
 - b. A little leaven leavens whole lump. (1 Cor. 5:6)
2. Sin cannot be tolerated in the church. (1 Cor. 5:9-11)
3. Discipline has threefold design:
 - a. Good of the wrong doer. (Matt. 18:15)
 - b. Welfare of the church. (Eph. 5:27)
 - c. Good of the world. (1 Cor. 9:27)

III. DEALING WITH THE PENITENT

1. When repentance is worked, discipline is ended. (2 Cor. 2:6)
2. All are to forgive the penitent. (2 Cor. 2:7)
 - a. Confirm your love toward him. (2 Cor. 2:8)
 - b. Prove your obedience this way. (2 Cor. 2:9)

IV. WITHDRAW FROM DISORDERLY

1. Commanded to withdraw. (2 Thess. 3:6)
2. Note or mark the rebellious. (Ro. 16:17, 1 Thess. 3:14)
3. Refuse company to them. (2 Thess. 3:14)

INTRODUCTION

1. Church is body of Christ. (Col. 1:18)
2. Members make up the body. (1 Cor. 12:20,27)
3. Every member must work. (Eph. 4:16)

I. THE MEMBERS ARE CALLED

1. Saints
 - a. Called to be saints. (1 Cor. 1:2)
 - b. Addressed as saints. (Phil. 1:1; Col 1:2)
 - c. Sanctified by word. (Eph. 5:26; Acts 20:32)
2. Brethren
 - a. Attitude of brethren. (Rom. 12:10)
 - b. Use of term. (Ro. 10:1; 12:1, 2 Pet. 1:10)
3. Christians
 - a. First called at Antioch. (Acts 11:26)
 - b. Greek means "divinely called."
 - c. Agrippa almost persuaded. (Acts 26:28)
 - d. Glorify in this name. (1 Pet. 4:16, R.V.)

II. PROVISION FOR PROTECTION (Eph. 4:11-14)

1. False teachers predicted. (Acts 20:29,30)
 - a. Precautions against. (1 Tim. 1:3)
 - b. How dealt with. (Rev. 2:2)
2. God's plan to avoid deception. (Eph. 4:11-14)
 - a. Men with special gifts. (Eph. 4:8,11)
 1. Apostles first in authority. (1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11)
 2. Prophets second in authority.
 3. Teachers third in authority.
 - b. Purpose of arrangement:
 1. Perfecting and edification of body. (Eph. 4:12,13)
 2. Save from error. (Eph. 4:14)

III. MEANS OF ATTAINING PROPER GROWTH

1. Every one a worker. (Eph. 4:16)
2. Steadfast in work. (1 Cor. 15:58)
 - a. Unmovable in doctrine.
 - b. Abounding in active service.
3. Grow up in all things. (Eph. 4:15)

IV. THE END TO BE ATTAINED

1. Unity of the faith. (Eph. 4:13)
2. Fullness of stature of Christ. (Eph. 4:13)

INTRODUCTION

1. First tendency toward apostasy was here.
2. Proper elders the greatest asset.
3. Improper elders the greatest curse.

I. SCRIPTURAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Desire the office. (1 Tim. 3:1)
 - a. Definition literally, "stretch forward to."
 - b. No desire, no stretching forward to.
 - c. Desire must be unselfish.
2. The must qualifications. (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-11)
3. Deacons must also qualify. (1 Tim. 3:8-13)
 - a. Deacons are servants, not elders.
 - b. Many want their "vote" to count.

II. PRESENT UNFAVORABLE TREND

1. Claim we cannot have qualified men.
 - a. No incentive to prepare then.
 - b. Did God command the impossible?
2. Use the best you have, qualified or not.
 - a. Why qualify then?
 - b. This is rebellion against God.
3. Make two sets of rulers:
 - a. Elders over the spiritual.
 - b. Deacons over the temporal.
 - c. God made elders over the whole church, (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7,17)

III. SOME DANGERS TO AVOID

1. Improper desire to be elder or deacon.
 - a. Some want to be the boss. (1 Pet. 5:3)
 - b. Some love pre-eminence. (3 Jno. 9,10)
 - c. Some try to appoint themselves.
2. Men without vision - foresight. (Prov. 29:18)
 - a. Elders are eyes to the congregation.
 - b. Need to see ahead, and remember behind.
 - c. Elders should plan ahead of congregation.
3. Poor preparation. Elders must be "apt to teach" studious. (1 Tim. 3:2, Titus 1:9)
 - a. Elders should have a working library.
 - b. They should stay ahead of the congregation.
 - c. Few elders are prepared for work.

(1 Cor. 12:25,26)

INTRODUCTION

1. Church composed of all members. (1 Cor. 12:27)
2. All members are to work together. (Eph. 4:16)
3. Church members present many problems.

DISCUSSION - SOME PROBLEMS CONSIDERED

1. The problem of indifference. (Rev. 3:16)
 - a. Neither cold nor hot.
 - b. Such would close church doors.
 - c. These allow doctrinal corruption.
2. The problem of unconverted members. (Jno. 6:66; 2 Tim. 4:16)
 - a. Some merely "join the church," not real.
 - b. These object to denominational exposure.
3. The problem of worldliness (1 Tim. 5:6; 2 Tim. 4:10)
 - a. Warnings given. (1 Jno. 2:15-17; 1 Thess 5:22)
 - b. Some worldly attractions.
 1. The dance craze.
 2. Drink and roadhouses.
 3. Rolling house of prostitution - the car.
 4. Marriage and divorce - a modern curse.
4. The hobbyist problem.
 - a. Anti-Sunday School. (Acts 19:9)
 - b. Anti-college (Acts 19:9)
 - c. Anti-cup (Matt. 26:26-49)
4. The compromise problem. (2 Jno. 9-11)
 - a. Paul did not compromise. (Gal. 2:5,14)
 - b. Compromise damns. (2 Jno. 9,11; Gal. 1:6-9)
6. The gossip problems. (1 Tim. 5:11-13)
 - a. Not suffer as a busy - body. (1 Pet. 4:16)
 - b. Diotrefes guilty of this. (3 Jno. 10)
 - c. Be careful about this. (Gal. 5:15)
7. Problem of laziness. (Heb. 5:12)
 - a. All should study. (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 3:15)
 - b. A servant must be "apt to teach". (2 Tim. 2:24)
 - c. Irregular in attendance, poor givers, careless livers, etc., etc.

(2 Tim. 4:5)

INTRODUCTION

1. Preaching is indispensable. (1 Cor. 1:21)
2. The preacher is not indispensable. (2 Jno. 10,11)
3. As is the preacher, so is the congregation
 - a. Some please the people. (Lu. 6:26)
 - b. Some please God. (Gal. 1:10)

I. SOME CHURCH PROBLEMS CAUSED BY PREACHERS

1. The attitude problem.
 - a. Seek to please men.
 1. Find where the congregation stands and thus take his with them. Shame!
 2. Some are job - seekers, men - pleasers.
 - b. Paul's attitude an example to us.
 1. His determination. (1 Cor. 2:2)
 2. Held back nothing profitable. (Acts 20:20)
 3. Unmoved by threats. (Acts 20:24)
 4. Delivered his soul. (Acts 20:26,27)
 5. Pleased God, not man. (Gal. 1:10)
2. The courage problem.
 - a. God instructs Joshua. (Josh. 1:1-9)
 - b. Are you a Balaam or an Elijah?
 1. Balaam loved wages of wrong doing. (2 Pet. 2:15)
 2. Elijah stood for God. (1 Kings 18:36)
 - c. Examples of courage:
 1. Elijah at Mt. Carmel. (1 Kings 18:20-40)
 2. Paul in Athens. (Acts 17:16-34)
 3. Stephen in Jerusalem. (Acts 6:9-7:60)
3. The spirit of Christ problem.
 - a. Misconception of his spirit.
 1. He was not a "softie" nor compromiser.
 - b. Meek under persecution. (Acts 8:32)
 - c. A lion before the wicked. (Matt. 23)
4. Neutrality problem.
 - a. Neither for nor against. (Rev. 3:16)
 - b. Preachers with distinctiveness, sermons fit in anybody's pulpit.
5. The boss problem.
 - a. Some think themselves "in charge."

(1 Cor. 15:24-26)

INTRODUCTION

1. Subject sounds prophetic.
 - a. Cannot give exact destiny.
 - b. Bible offers suggestions for study.
2. Dangerous to prophesy today. (Ezek. 13:1-5)

I. FAVORABLE PREDICTIONS OF CHURCH

1. Shall never be destroyed. (Dan. 2:44)
 - a. Establishment assured.
 - b. Everlasting, stand forever.
2. Break in pieces and consume other kingdoms.
 - a. Not by carnal warfare. (Jno. 18:36)
 - b. Our warfare is spiritual. (Eph. 6:12; 2 Cor. 10:3,4)
3. Cannot be shaken. (Heb. 12:28)
 - a. Sinai shook and quaked.
 - b. Mt. Sion - the church- cannot be. (Heb. 12:28)
- a 4. Grow into great kingdom. (Matt. 13:31,32)
 - a. Expansive growth predicted.
 - b. Men seek its protection.
5. Subdue all power and authority. (1 Cor. 15:24)
 - a. Christ, the king a conquerer.
 - b. Deliver kingdom to God. (1 Cor. 15:24)

II. UNFAVORABLE PREDICTIONS

1. Will Christ find faith? (Lu. 18:8)
 - a. Some deny the faith. (1 Tim. 5:8)
2. Some depart from the faith. (1 Tim. 4:1)
 - a. Apostasy predicted. (2 Thess. 2:7)
3. Some not endure sound doctrine. (2 Tim. 4:3)
 - a. Turn to human doctrines. (Mar. 7:7,8)
4. Some speak perversly. (Acts 20:30)
 - a. Both internal and external corruption.
5. False prophets arise. (2 Pet. 2:1-3)
 - a. Mercenary teachers - Beware of such!

III. ELEMENTS THAT THREATEN DESTINY

1. Conflicting views of preachers.
2. Modernism.
3. Spirit of compromise. (See. Gal. 2:5)
Failure to preach distinctively.
4. Worldliness. (See. 1 Jno. 2:15-17; 1 Tim. 5:6)
5. Indifference. (Rev. 3:16)

(Matt. 28:19,20)

INTRODUCTION

1. The task left the apostles. (Matt. 28:18-20)
2. Unerringly guided. (Jno. 14:26; 16:13)
3. Task committed to us. (Matt. 28:20; 2 Tim. 2:2)
4. We are guided by word of God. (Matt. 28:20; 2 Tim. 2:2; 2 Jno. 9-11)

I. WHAT OBSERVE ABOUT LOVE

1. Toward God:
 - a. Love with whole heart. (Matt. 22:37)
 - b. This the whole duty. (Eccl. 12:13; 1 Jno. 5:3)
2. Toward man:
 - a. Love as self. (Matt. 22:39)
 - b. Evidence of this love. (1 Jno. 5:2)

II. WHAT OBSERVE ABOUT FAITH.

1. Have faith in God. (Mar. 11:22)
2. Have faith in Christ. (Jno. 8:24)
3. Have faith in the word. (Jno. 17:20)

III. WHAT OBSERVE ABOUT REPENTANCE

1. Repent toward God. (Acts 20:21)
2. How produced? (Ro. 2:4, 2 Cor. 7:10)
3. Its importance. (Lu. 13:3; Acts 17:30)

IV. WHAT OBSERVE ABOUT CONFESSION

1. Confess faith in Christ. (Acts 8:37)
2. Not confess "God for Christ's sake saved us."

V. WHAT OBSERVE ABOUT BAPTISM

1. Command to be. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 10:48)
2. Saved by baptism. (1 Pet. 3:21)
3. Puts us into Christ. (Gal. 3:26,27)

VI. WHAT OBSERVE ABOUT SELF-EDIFICATION

1. Meditate daily. (1 Tim. 4:13-16; Psa. 1:2)
2. Exercise self. (1 Tim. 4:7,8; Acts 24:16)
3. Abound in work. (1 Cor. 15:58)

VII. WHAT OBSERVE ABOUT SELF-PROTECTION

1. Abstain from fleshly lusts. (1 Pet. 2:11)
2. Abhor evil. (Ro. 12:9)
3. Put to death evil. (Col. 3:5,8)

VIII. OBSERVE ABOUT PREACHING GOSPEL

1. Prepare self to teach. (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 3:15)
2. Support truth. (1 Tim. 3:15; Gal. 6:6; Heb. 13:16)

(Acts 8:26-40)

INTRODUCTION

1. Greek: Strepho, "To turn one's self." (Thayer.)
2. Man is active in conversion, not passive. (Acts 3:19RV)
 - a. "Turn again" is a command.
 - b. Baptism is the turning point. (Acts 2:38; 3:19- compare these scriptures.)

I. THINGS ESSENTIAL TO CONVERSION

1. Separation from God by sin. (Acts 3:19)
 - a. No sins to blot out, no conversion.
 - b. Saved nor safe can be converted.
2. Conviction of sins.
 - a. Holy Spirit to convict. (Jno. 16:8 RV)
 - b. Convicts through preaching. (Acts 2:37; 24:24,25)
3. All must be taught. (Jno 6:44,45; Ro. 10:13-17)
 - a. Must hear the gospel. (Acts 2:22; Ro. 10:14)
 - b. Must believe. (Jno. 8:24; Acts 16:31)
 - c. Must repent. (Acts 2:38; 17:30)
 - d. Must confess Christ. (Acts 8:37)
 - e. Must be baptized. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38)

II. AN EXAMPLE OF CONVERSION

1. Philip one of dispersed. (Acts 8:1-5)
2. Philip told to go toward Gaza. (Acts 8:26)
3. Spirit instructs preacher, not sinner. (Acts 8:29)
4. Eunuch religious but wrong. (Acts 8:27)
 - a. Greatest need is converting the religious.
5. Philip "opened his mouth and preached."
 - a. Preached from the scriptures. (Acts 8:35)
 - b. Preached Jesus - explained what eunuch did not understand.
 - c. The eunuch's question. (Acts 8:36)
 1. How learn of baptism, if preach Jesus?
 2. Can't preach Jesus without baptism too.
 - d. Philip's answer. (Acts 8:37)
6. The baptism of the eunuch. (Acts 8:38,39)
 - a. Went down into.
 - b. Baptized.
 - c. Came up out of rejoicing.

(Lu. 14:26-33)

INTRODUCTION

1. Disciple is a learner, a follower. (Jno. 8:31)
2. To be a disciple we must deny self. (Matt. 16:24)
3. Must be submissive. (Matt. 7:21; Lu. 6:46)

I. MOTIVES FOR BECOMING A DISCIPLE

1. Improper motives
 - a. Family ties. (Lu. 14:26; Matt. 10:37)
 - b. Please self. (Jno. 5:30)
 - c. To please men. (Gal. 1:10; Jas. 4:4)
 - d. Praise of men. (Lu. 6:26)
 - e. Financial reasons. (Mar. 8:36)
 - f. Political reason. (Jno. 18:36)
2. Proper motives.
 - a. Sense of need. (Jno. 6:68)
 - b. Faith in Christ. (Jno. 6:69)
 - c. Love of Christ. (2 Cor. 5:14)
 - d. Deep conviction based on:
 1. Expect passages. (Jno. 3:5; 8:24)
 2. "None other." (Acts 4:12)
 3. "I know. . . am persuaded." (2 Tim. 1:12)

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCIPLESHIP

1. Keep his word.
 - a. The commission. (Matt. 28:19,20; Mar. 16:15,16; Lu. 24:46,47)
 - b. Attend services. (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:33; Heb. 10:25)
 - c. Abstain from fleshly lust. (1 Pet. 2:11)
 - a. Appetite. (Ro. 14:17)
 2. Passion. (2 Tim. 2:22; 1 Cor. 6:9,19)
 - d. Abstain from all evil. (1 Thess. 5:22)
 - e. Put away. (Eph. 4:25,29; Col. 3:8)
2. Bear much fruit. (Jno. 15:8; Matt. 7:20)
3. Love one another. (Jno. 13:35; 1 Jno. 5:2,3)

III. SOME WHO WOULD NOT PAY THE COST

1. Many of His disciples. (Jno. 6:60,66)
2. Felix did not. (Acts 24:25)
3. Agrippa "almost," but not. (Acts 26:28)

IV. SOME WHO DID PAY THE PRICE

1. The twelve. (Mar. 10:28)
2. Paul. (Phil. 3:7-14; 2 Cor. 11:23-28)

(Lu. 22:54)

INTRODUCTION

1. Effectiveness proportionate to distance.
2. Some want distance between them and God.
3. God with those who are with him. (2 Jno. 9)
4. Peter demonstrates danger of distance.

I. PETER'S CONFESSION TO CHRIST

1. At Caesarea Philippi. (Matt. 16:13-16)
2. At last supper.
 - a. "Though all . . . offended, not I." (Mar. 14:29)
 - b. "Never be offended." (Matt. 26:33)
 - c. Ready for prison, death. (Lu. 22:33)
 - d. Lay down life for Christ. (Jno. 13:27)
3. Seriousness of confession (Matt. 7:21; Lu. 6:46)

II. JESUS PREDICTS PETER'S FALL

1. All be offended. (Mar. 14:27; Matt. 26:31)
2. "Satan hath desired thee." (Lu. 22:31)
3. "I have prayed for thee." (Lu. 22:32)

III. PETER'S DILEMMA

1. Between two forces - Christ and Satan
 - a. Conscience says Christ.
 - b. Fear says Satan - deny Christ.
2. The decision - follow , but afar.
 - a. Partial service is no service.
 - b. All or nothing. (Matt. 22:37)

IV. RESULT OF PETER'S DECISION

1. Followed afar off - how far, God knows.
 - a. Measured by attitude - not feet.
2. Lost zeal of confession
 - a. Where is that confession? (Matt. 16:16)
 - b. Where is vow of loyalty? (Jno. 13:27)
3. With wrong crowd. (Mar. 14:54; Lu. 22:55)
 - a. With enemy. (Mar. 14:54)
 - b. Effect of companionship. (1 Cor. 15:33)
4. Cold and indifferent. (Jno. 18:17)
5. Lies, swears, curses. (Jno. 18:25; Mar. 14:71)

V. PETER'S REDEMPTION

1. "When thou are converted." (Lu. 22:32)
2. "Wept bitterly." (Matt. 26:75; Lu. 22:62)
3. What a contrast with Judas!
4. First to the tomb. (Jno. 20:4)

INTRODUCTION

1. Define: Accept defeat as inevitable.
 - a. Whipped before you start.
 - b. As you think, so are you. (Prov. 23:7)
 - c. Preachers afraid of power of gospel.
2. Idea expressed in text. (Nu. 13:30,31)

I. BIBLE EXAMPLES OF DEFEATISM

1. The ten spies. (Nu. 13:26-31)
2. The one-talent man. (Matt. 25:18,24-30)
3. John Mark. (Acts 13:5,13; 15:37-38)

II. EXAMPLES OF OPPOSITE SPIRIT

1. Caleb and Joshua. (Nu. 13:30; 14:6-10,24)
2. Abraham. (Ro. 4:19-22)
3. The apostles.
 - a. Their charge, how great! (Acts 1:8)
 - b. Their determination. (Acts 4:19,20; 5:29)
4. Paul
 - a. Sense of responsibility. (1 Cor. 9:16)
 - b. His persuasion. (2 Tim. 1:12)
 - c. His confidence. (Phil. 4:13)
5. Antioch
 - a. According to ability. (Acts 11:29)
 - b. "Which thing they did." (Acts 11:30)

III. EVIL EFFECTS OF DEFEATISM

1. Israel.
 - a. Forty years wandering. (Nu. 14:34)
 - b. Defeatist did not see Canaan. (Nu. 14:32)
2. One talent man.
 - a. Lost what he had. (Matt. 25:28)
 - b. Cast into outer darkness. (Matt. 25:30)
3. Mark
 - a. Paul refused to take him. (Acts 15:37,38)
 - b. Somehow redeemed himself. (2 Tim. 4:11)

IV. MANIFESTATION OF SAME SPIRIT TODAY

1. Lack of missionary spirit-selfish.
2. Failure to plan consistently, forward.
3. Congregations fail to develop fully.
4. Retards the general spread of truth.
5. Should fear lest we fail to enter into rest. (Heb. 4:1)

(1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-14)

INTRODUCTION

1. No apology for study.
2. Success of church depends upon it.

I. THE COMMAND FOR ELDERS

1. In every church. (Acts 14:23)
2. In every city. (Titus 1:5)

II. DUTY AND WORK IMPLIED IN WORDS

1. EPISKOPOS - Bishop, overseer, (Acts 20:28; Titus 1:7; 1 Tim. 3:1; Phil. 1:1)
2. PRESBUTEROS - Presbyter, elder, of age. (Acts 14:23; 1 Tim. 5:1,17; Titus 1:5; 1 Pet. 5:1)
3. POIMAN - Pastor, shepherds, herdsman. (1 Pet. 5:2,5; Eph. 4:11)
4. PROISTAMENOS - To rule, to be over. (Ro. 12:8; 1 Thess. 5:12; 1 Tim. 5:17; 3:4)
5. HAGUMENOI - To lead, as in faith. (Heb. 13:7,17,24)

III. THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELDERS

1. As Timothy relates. (1 Tim. 3:1-7)
2. As Titus relates. (Titus 1:5-14)
3. Dangerous ideas about eldership:
 - a. Do not need elders today.
 - b. Requirements to be in eldership, not necessarily in one man.
 - c. Solve problems by majority vote.

IV. DUTIES OF ELDERS

1. Attitudes toward office.
 - a. Holy Spirit made. (Acts 20:28)
 - b. Not by constraint. (1 Pet. 5:1-3)
 - c. Not lord over God's heritage. (1 Pet. 5:3)
 - d. Not for filthy lucre. (1 Pet. 5:2)
2. Their duties.
 - a. Take heed to self. (Acts 20:28)
 - b. Feed the church. (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7)
 - c. Tend the flock. (1 Pet. 5:2 RV)
 - d. Take oversight, direct all activities. (1 Pet. 5:2)
 - e. Rule well. (1 Tim. 5:17; Heb. 13:7)
 - f. Watch for souls. (Heb. 13:17)
3. Elders are the eyes of the congregation.

They should see the work to be done.

(Gal. 6:7)

INTRODUCTION

1. Life is a vapor. (Jas. 4:14)
2. Death is certain. (Heb. 9:27)
3. "By and by" depends on the "now and now".

I. OLD CUSTOMS OF EPITAPHS

1. Tombstone contained some verse of hope.
2. Present day only the name and dates.

II. GOOD EPITAPHS GOD WROTE

1. "Went about doing good." (Acts 10:38)
2. "Full of Good works." (Acts 9:36)
3. "Good man and full of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 11:24)
4. "Walked with God." (Gen. 5:24)
5. "He being dead yet speaketh." (Heb. 11:4)
6. "Asleep in Jesus." (1 Cor. 15:17,18)
7. "Well done." (Matt. 25:21)
8. "At rest." (Rev. 14:13)
9. "Kept the faith." (2 Tim. 4:6-8)
10. "Kept my word." (Rev. 3:8)

III. BAD EPITAPHS GOD WROTE

1. "Betrayed him." (Matt. 26:25)
2. "Sinned willfully." (Heb. 10:26)
3. "Forsaken the right way." (2 Pet. 2:15)
4. "Left thy first love." (Rev. 2:4)
5. "Made shipwreck of faith." (1 Tim. 1:19)
6. "Loved the present world." (2 Tim. 4:10)
7. "In hell he lifted up his eyes." (Lu. 16:23)
8. "Obeyed not the gospel of God." (2 Thess. 1:7-9)
9. "She repented not." (Rev. 2:21)

IV. WHAT WILL YOUR EPITAPH BE

1. God wants you to have a good one. (Rev. 2:10)
2. The goodness of God leads you to a good end.
(Ro. 2:4)
3. The longsuffering of God allows you to make preparation.
(2 Pet. 3:9)
4. You will reap as you sow. (Gal. 6:7)

NOTE:

(A tombstone on board with John Doe helps.)

(Psa. 19:7; 2 Tim. 3:14-17)

INTRODUCTION

1. Man is a creation of God.
2. Man depends on God for guidance. (Jer. 10:23)
3. Man to live by word of God. (Matt. 4:4)
4. Word to be taught diligently. (Neh. 8:8)

I. DAVID EVALUATES THE WORD OF GOD

(Psa. 19:7-11)

1. The law of Lord is perfect. (V. 7)
 - a. Precepts right. (Psa. 119:128)
 - b. Obedience saves soul. (Jas. 1:21)
2. Testimony is sure. (v. 7)
 - a. Word is understandable. (Psa. 119:130)
 - b. Fools may know. (Isa. 35:8)
3. Precepts are right. (v. 8)
 - a. They are equal, just, and proper.
 - b. "Are right" is sufficient. (Eph. 6:1; Psa. 119:26-28)
4. Commandment is pure. (v. 8)
 - a. Pure in source. (Gal. 1:11,12)
 - b. Pure in its end. (Eph. 5:26,27)
5. Ordinance true and righteous. (v. 9)
 - a. Meets every need. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
 - b. Satisfies the soul. (Psa. 107:7)
6. More to be desired than gold and honey. (v. 10; 119:127,128)
7. Purpose of commandment. (v. 11)
 - a. Warn the wicked.
 - b. Reward obedient.

II. PAUL'S ESTIMATE OF WORD OF GOD

(2 Tim. 3:14-17)

1. Abide in them. (v. 14)
 - a. Other evidence. (1 Jno. 3:24; 2 Jno 9)
2. Make you wise to salvation. (v. 15)
 - a. Some refuse this wisdom. (Matt. 7:26; 13:15)
3. Scripture is inspired. (v. 16)
 - a. Peter agrees (2 Pet. 1:20,21)
4. Furnishes man completely. (v. 17)
 - a. Cardinal Gibbons denies. (F. or F. page 111)
5. Man of God may be complete. (v. 17)
 - a. No direct aids necessary to saving.

(Judges 7:21)

INTRODUCTION

1. All should be concerned with success.
2. Success depends on:
 - a. Organization. (Judges 7:21)
 - b. Everyone doing his part. (Eph. 4:16)
 - c. Steadfastness. (1 Cor. 15:58)

I. GIDEON AND THE MIDIANITES

1. Midianites impoverished Israel. (Jud. 6:6)
 - a. Wasted their substance.
 - b. Gideon selected to deliver Israel.
2. His success depended on:
 - a. His organization. (Judg. 7:21)
 - b. Every man in his place-where he belongs.

II. MEN WHO STOOD IN THEIR PLACE

1. Moses. (Heb. 3:2, Nu. 12:7)
2. Stephen. (Acts 6:9-7:40)
3. Paul. (Gal. 2:5; Phil. 1:17; 2 Tim. 4:6-8)

III. MEN WHO DID NOT STAND IN PLACE

1. King Saul. (1 Sam. 15:22,23)
2. Judas. (Acts 1:25)
3. Demas. (2 Tim. 4:10)

IV. THOSE WHO NEED TO STAND

1. Elders.
 - a. Take heed to self. (Acts 20:28)
 - b. Feed the flock. (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2)
 - c. Rule the church. (Heb. 13:7,17)
2. Deacons
 - a. They are to serve. (1 Tim. 3:10,13)
 - b. They are not rulers, or overseers.
3. Preachers
 - a. Preach the word. (2 Tim. 4:1-4; Mar. 16:15)
 - b. Subject to the elders, not every church.
4. Members
 - a. Every one a worker. (Eph. 4:16)
 - b. Submissive to elders. (Heb. 13:17)
 - c. Steadfast in life. (1 Cor. 15:58)

CONCLUSION

1. Everyone needs to know his place and stay in it.
2. Success is assured if we stay in our place.

(Heb. 5:8,9)

INTRODUCTION

1. Salvation is a most important subject.
2. It means pardon, forgiveness, redemption.
3. Several contributing factors in salvation.

I. GOD IS THE ORIGINAL FACTOR

1. Man cannot save self. (Jer. 10:23)
2. All good gifts from God. (Jas. 1:17)

II. CHRIST THE SACRIFICIAL FACTOR

1. Shedding of blood necessary. (Heb. 9:22)
2. Christ died for sinners. (Heb. 9:15)
3. Christ is our sacrifice. (Eph. 5:2; Heb. 9:26)

III. CHRIST'S BLOOD THE PROCURING FACTOR

1. Shed for all sinners. (Heb. 9:15)
2. Cleanses from all sins. (1 Jno. 1:7)
3. Redemption and forgiveness in. (Eph. 1:7)

IV. HOLY SPIRIT REVEALING FACTOR

1. Apostles guided by. (Jno. 14:26; 16:13)
2. Mystery revealed by Spirit. (Eph. 3:1-5; 1 Cor. 2:10)
3. Lord revealed to Paul. (Gal. 1:11,12)

V. WORD OF GOD THE INSTRUMENTAL FACTOR

1. Must hear and learn word. (Jno. 6:44,45)
2. Saved by preaching. (1 Cor. 1:21; Jas. 1:21)
3. Converted by the word. (Psa. 19:7; Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12)

VI. FAITH THE APPROPRIATING FACTOR

1. Come to God by faith. (Heb. 11:6; Jno. 8:24)
2. Believer is saved. (Mar. 16:16; Ro. 1:16)
3. Faith without works is dead. (Jas. 2:24)

VII. OBEDIENCE THE CONSUMMATING FACTOR

1. How we know God. (1 Jno. 2:3,4)
2. God saves the obedient. (Heb. 5:8,9; Ro. 6:17,18)

VIII. HOPE THE SUSTAINING FACTOR

1. Saved by hope. (Ro. 8:24)
2. Christ is our hope. (1 Cor. 15:19)
3. Hope is anchor to soul. (Heb. 6:19)

IX. CHRIST'S NAME AUTHORITATIVE FACTOR

1. Do all in his name. (Col. 3:17)
2. Salvation in his name. (Acts 4:12; Lu. 24:47)

FAITH

(Heb. 11:1-10)

INTRODUCTION

1. The importance of faith. (Heb. 11:6)
2. The basis of faith. (Ro. 10:17; Jno. 17:20)
3. Anything without faith is sin. (Ro. 14:23)

I. FAITH DEFINED AND ILLUSTRATED

1. Defined
 - a. It is the assurance, the substance of things hoped for. (Heb. 11:1)
 - b. The conviction, the evidence of unseen.
2. Faith Illustrated.
 - a. "By faith Abel offered." (Heb. 11:4)
 - b. "By faith Noah moved . . . prepared." (Heb. 11:7)
 - c. "By faith Abraham - obeyed." (Heb. 11:8)

II. RELATION OF FAITH AND WORKS

1. Faith apart from works is dead. (Jas. 2:20)
 - a. Devils have faith only. (Jas. 2:19)
 - b. Methodist Discipline says justified by faith only. (M.E. Disc. Art. IX)
2. Abraham was justified by works. (Jas. 2:21)
 - a. Not justified by works of the law. (Ro. 3:20; Gal. 3:11; Ro. 4:4,5)
 - b. Abraham was justified in obedience. (Jas. 2:21)
3. God accepts those who obey. (1 Jno. 2:3,4)
 - a. Fear God, keep command. (Eccl. 12:13)
 - b. Fear God, work righteousness. (Acts 10:34,35)
 - c. Hence keeping the command is working righteousness.

III. ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF FAITH

1. Justified by faith in his blood. (Ro. 3:25)
2. Hearts purified by faith. (Acts 15:7-9)
 - a. Done by working righteousness. (Acts 10:34,35)
 - b. In obeying the truth. (1Pet. 1:22,23)
3. Children of God by faith. (Gal. 3:26,27)
 - a. Act completed in baptism. (Gal. 3:27)
 - b. Through faith in operation of God. (Col. 2;12;13)
 - c. In obeying the truth. (1 Pet. 1:22,23)

(2 Tim. 1:12)

INTRODUCTION

1. Paul is an example to the faithful. (1 Cor. 11:1)
2. He never wavered in faith. (2 Tim. 1:12)

I. PAUL'S ATTITUDE TOWARD FAITH

1. It is substance of all hoped for. (Heb. 11:1)
2. It is necessity in life. (Heb. 11:6)
3. It is to be kept to the end. (2 Tim. 4:6-8)

II. PAUL EXPRESSES HIS FAITH

1. A definite experience - "I know." (2 Tim. 1:12)
2. Personal faith - "I have believed."
3. Convincing power - "I am persuaded."

III. CHRIST WAS HIS CREED

1. "I know whom" - not "what."
2. His faith was in a character, not a system.
3. Faith in Him prompts obedience. (Jno. 3:16,36)

IV. WHAT IT MEANS TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST

1. Accept him as author and finisher. (Heb. 12:1,2)
2. Not mere historicity of Christ.
3. Faith is "in him," not "about him."
4. "He is," and is a "rewarder," (Heb. 11:6)

V. FAITH ACCEPTS ALL CHRIST'S CLAIMS

1. He claimed to be divine.
 - a. Claimed equality with God. (Jno. 5:18)
 - b. Judgement committed to him. (Jno. 5:22)
 - c. Power to give life. (Jno. 5:21)
 - d. Entitled to divine honors. (Jno. 5:23)
 - e. Give life to the dead. (Jno. 5:25)
 - f. He possessed eternal life. (Jno. 5:26)
 - g. Will judge the world. (Jno. 5:30; 12:48)
2. He claimed to be the savior.
 - a. Came to seek and save. (Lu. 19:10)
 - b. Came to give life. (Jno. 5:40)
3. He claimed to be a perfect man.
 - a. Was without sin. (Jno. 8:46)
 - b. Pleas'd always his father. (Jno. 8:29)
4. Claimed to be indispensable.
 - a. Abide in me. (Jno. 15:4)
 - b. "Without me, ye can do nothing," (Jno. 15:5)

INTRODUCTION

1. This is a great lesson given by Christ.
2. Relation of Christian to Christ seen.
3. Christian fruit is borne in Christ.

I. THE PRINCIPLE OF PLANT LIFE

1. God created plant life. (Gen. 1:11)
2. God made law of reproduction. (Gen. 1:11)
3. Seed bears germ of life.
4. Every plant reproduces after its kind.

II. THE PRINCIPLE AT WORK

1. Select seed according to crop wanted.
2. Principle never varies in production.
 - a. Bean seed produces beans.
 - b. Watermelon produces watermelon.
3. Picture vine with various fruits on it.
4. Picture the natural, all fruit alike.

III. DENOMINATIONAL MISREPRESENTATION

1. Claim denominations are the branches.
2. Say true vine composed of all denominations.
3. Objections to this interpretation:
 - a. There were no denominations then!
 - b. Jesus condemns division. (Jno. 17:20,21)
 - c. Contrary to divine law of nature of Spirit.
 1. Plants produce after their kind.
 2. Law of Spirit makes sons. (Ro. 8:14)
 - d. Require to belong to some denomination.
 - e. Would require different kinds of seed.
 1. Word of God makes disciples. (Jno. 8:31)
 2. Will not make a denominationalist.
4. Picture vine with various sects on it.

IV. THE LESSON TAUGHT

1. Seed of kingdom is word of God. (Lu. 8:11)
2. Heart is the soil. (Lu. 8:15)
3. Word obeyed makes Christians. (Ro. 6:3,4,17,18; 1 Pet. 1:22,23)
4. Abide in Christ by abiding in his word. (1 Jno. 3:24; 2 Jno. 9; Jno. 15:7,10)
5. Picture vine with Christians as branches.
 - a. What a simple lesson!

INTRODUCTION

1. Every institution rests on a foundation.
2. Life built upon one of two foundations. (Matt. 7:24-27)
3. We need to evaluate these foundations.

I. THE LORD LAID ONE FOUNDATION

1. Church is on the rock. (Matt. 16:18)
2. There is no other real foundation. (1 Cor. 3:11)
3. Wise builders build on Christ. (1 Cor. 3:10)

II. THE TWO FOUNDATIONS CONTRASTED

1. Those on the rock believe:
 - a. Scripture inspired. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
 - b. Gospel is God's saving power. (Ro. 1:16)
 - c. Salvation is conditional. (Heb. 5:9, 11:6)
 - d. Lord adds saved to church. (Acts 2:47)
 - e. Saved in the church. (Eph. 2:16)
 - f. There is one church. (1 Cor. 12:20)
 - g. Unity is commanded. (Jno. 17:20,21; 1 Cor. 1:10)
 - h. Wear God - given name. (Acts 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:16)
 - i. Must live right. (Titus 2:11,12)
 - j. Must meet on first day of week. (Acst 20:7; Heb. 10:25)
 - k. Maintain true worship. (Acts 2:42; Eph. 5:19)
2. Those on the sand believe.
 - a. Scripture is part human.
 - b. Saved by direct operation of Holy Ghost.
 - c. Salvation not conditioned on obedience.
 - d. Join the church of choice.
 - e. Saved outside the church of Christ
 - f. There are many churches.
 - g. Religious division is best.
 - h. You can wear any name.
 - i. Can't fall from grace.
 - j. Meet when you want to worship.
 - k. Any worship honestly done is all right.

CONCLUSION

1. What foundation are you on?

INTRODUCTION

1. This question applicable today.
2. If from men, it is vain. (Matt. 15:9)
3. If from God, accept. (Matt. 7:21)

DISCUSSION - QUESTION PRESENT - DAY ACTION

1. Is your method of salvation from God?
(Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)
2. Is your church from heaven?
(Matt. 16:18; Ro. 16:16; 1 Tim. 3:15)
3. Is your creed of God or man?
(Jno. 8:24; Acts 8:37; 2 Jno. 9-11)
4. Is your idea of many ways from heaven?
(Matt. 7:13,14; Jno. 14:6, 2 Jno. 9-11)
5. Saved by faith only from heaven?
(Jas. 1:21-26; 2:24)
6. Your confession, "I believe that Christ has saved my soul," Is it from heaven? (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16)
7. Is your baptism from heaven?
 - a. The subject? Neither infant nor saved.
(Matt. 28:19,20; Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38)
 - b. The action? No such thing as modes.
(Ro. 6:3,4; Col. 2:12; Acts 8:37-39)
 - c. Design? Not "outward sign of inward operation."
(Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:27)
8. Is idea of many churches from heaven?
(1 Cor. 12:20; Eph. 4:4,5; Col. 3:15)
9. Idea of impossibility of apostasy from heaven?
(Jno. 15:1-7; 1 Cor. 9:27; 2 Tim. 4:1-4; Gal. 5:4)
10. Is your method of raising money from heaven?
(1 Cor. 16:1,2; 2 Cor. 9:7)
11. Is your form of church government from heaven?
(Eph. 4:11; Phil 1:1; Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5)
12. Is instrumental music in worship from heaven?
(Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Heb. 13:15)

CONCLUSION

1. Every man should be sure of the answer.
2. Most religious practice is of men.

(Gal. 1:6-9)

INTRODUCTION

1. Many ideas of the gospel. (Gal. 1:6,7)

I. THERE IS BUT ONE GOSPEL

1. Perversion of Gospel is no gospel. (Gal. 1:7)
2. Apostles' word is only gospel. (Gal. 1:8,9)
3. Thoroughly furnishes. (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Pet. 1:3)
4. Must abide their teaching. (2 Jno. 9-11)

II. THERE ARE MANY GOSPEL PERVERTERS

1. Turn away ear from truth. (2 Tim. 4:1-4)
2. Teach human doctrine. (Mar. 7:7,8; 2 Jno. 10)

III. GOSPEL OF GOD ANALYZED**1. Facts:**

1. Death
2. Burial (1 Cor. 15:1-4)
3. Resurrection

2. Commands:

1. Faith in Christ. (Acts 8:37)
2. Repentance. (Acts 2:38)
3. Confession. (Acts 8:37; Ro. 10:10)
4. Baptism. (Acts 2:38); 22:16; 10:48)
5. Faithfulness. (Rev. 22:14)

3. Promises:

1. Remission of sin. (Acts 2:38,39)
2. Gift of Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38)
3. Promised inheritance. (Eph. 1:11)

IV. THE PERVERTER'S GOSPEL

1. Election saved by eternal decree.
2. Sincere saved regardless of faith.
3. Saved by grace only, plus nothing.
 - a. Baptist believe and teach this.
 - b. See Hiscox's Manual, page 62-64
4. Saved by faith only. Methodist Discipline, IX Article of Faith.
5. Saved in answer to prayer. (See Jno. 9:31; Acts 22:16; Acts 10:1-48)
6. Saved by direct operation of Holy Spirit
 - a. If this were true, Peter would not have gone to Cornelius.
 - b. If this were true, obedience would not save. (Heb. 5:8,9; Matt. 7:21)

V. THE DESTINY OF PERVERTERS. (Gal. 1:8,9)

40 GOSPEL, UNCHANGING, - CHANGING WORLD

(Gal. 1:6-9)

INTRODUCTION

1. We live in age of change.
2. Some would change the gospel also.
3. Human nature does not change.
 - a. Religionists have changed it. (Mar. 7:7,8)
 - b. Some pervert the gospel, (Gal. 1:6,7)
4. Human needs do not change.

I. REASONS GOSPEL IS UNCHANGEABLE

1. Change forbidden. (Gal. 1:6-9; Rom. 1:16,17)
2. It is thoroughly adequate. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
 - a. Saved the Pentecostians. (Acts 2:37-41)
 - b. Saved the Corinthians. (Acts 18:8; 1 Cor. 6:11; 15:2)
 - c. Save every believer. (Mar. 16:15,16)
3. Transforms the vilest into purest.
 - a. Sons of thunder transformed. (Mar. 3:17)
 - b. Transformed chief sinner. (1 Tim. 1:15)
 - c. Power to save vilest. (Ro. 1:16)
4. Sin does not change. (Gal. 5:19-21; Jas. 1:13-15)
5. Once for all delivered. (Jude 3; Gal. 1:6-9)

II. HOW TO PREACH AN UNCHANGING GOSPEL

1. Preach Christ's authority. (Matt. 17:5; 28:18-20; Acts 3:22,23; Col. 1:18)
2. Preach his church. (Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 12:20, Eph. 4:4; Col. 3:15)
3. Preach gospel terms of pardon:
 - a. Faith in Christ. (Jno. 8:24; Acts 8:37)
 - b. Repentance. (Lu. 24:47; Acts 17:30)
 - c. Confession. (Matt. 10:32,33; Ro. 10:9,10)
 - d. Baptism. (Mar. 16:26; Acts 2:38; 22:26)
4. Preach Christian unity.
 - a. Christ prayed for it. (Jno. 17:20,21)
 - b. Paul charged it. (1 Cor. 1:10)
 - c. Paul gave plan of unity. (Eph. 4:1-6)
5. Preach holy living. (Ro. 12:1,2; Titus 2:11,12; 1 Pet. 3:10-12; Jas. 1:27)

III. THE CURSE FOR CHANGING

1. Anathema for changing. (Gal. 1:6-9)
2. Sever self from God. (2 Jno. 9-11)

INTRODUCTION

1. Simplicity of message prophesied. (Isa. 35:8)
2. Required to be one. (Jno. 17:20,21; 1 Cor. 1:10)
3. Early disciples were of "one accord." (Acts 2:44-46)

I. IDEA OF WORLD ABOUT GOSPEL SIMPLICITY

1. Say we cannot understand the Bible
 - a. Paul says we can. (Eph. 3:1-4)
 - b. Bible is understandable. (Psa. 119:130)
2. Say God intended that we be different.
 - a. Christ prayed we be alike. (Jno. 17:21)
 - b. To speak same thing. (1 Cor. 1:10)

II. REASONS WHY GOSPEL MUST BE SIMPLE

1. To be preached to every creature. (Mar. 16:15; Matt. 28:19)
 - a. If for every creature, must be simple
 - b. If unable to understand would do no good to preach it.
2. Every creature is to believe. (Mar. 16:15,16)
 - a. Those that believe not are damned.
 - b. Not right to damn a man for what he cannot understand.

III. EVIDENCES OF ITS SIMPLICITY

1. What is said about the church is simple
 - a. "Will build my church." (Matt. 16:18)
 1. Whose church is this?
 2. Is it Wesley's, Luther's, John's?
 - b. There is one body - church, (Eph. 4:4)
 1. Can you get many out of one?
 2. "There is YET BUT ONE BODY - Church."
(1 Cor. 12:13)
 - c. We are baptized into that one body. (1 Cor. 12:13)
2. What is said about baptism is simple.
 - a. It is a burial. (Ro. 6:3,4; Col. 2:12,13)
 - b. It is for believing penitents, not babies.
 - c. It is to save. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)

INTRODUCTION

1. There is one gospel. (Gal. 1:6-9)
2. There are many perversions. (Gal. 1:7)
3. Denominational theories not the gospel. (Matt. 15:9; Mar. 7:7-8)

I. WHAT IS THE GOSPEL

1. It is good tiding. (Ro. 10:15; Gal. 3:8)
2. Is New Testament message of salvation. (Mar. 16:15,16; Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 8:5)

II. THE SOURCE OF THE GOSPEL

1. Given by God. (Ro. 1:1)
2. Given by Christ. (Ro. 1:16)
3. Given by apostles. (Ro. 2:16; 2 Thess. 2:14; 1 Pet. 2:12)

III. FOR WHOM THE GOSPEL GIVEN

1. For all nations. (Matt. 28:18-20)
2. For every creature. (Mar. 16:15,16)
3. The saints. (Jude 3; Gal. 3:26-29)

IV. WHAT THE GOSPEL DOES

1. Calls. (2 Thess. 2:14)
2. Begets. (1 Cor. 4:15; 1 Pet. 1:23)
3. Saves. (Ro. 1:16; 1 Cor. 1:21; Jas. 1:21)

V. THE GOSPEL ANALIZED

1. Facts to be believed. (1 Cor. 15:1-3)
 - a. Death
 - b. Burial.
 - c. Ressurrection.
2. Commands to be obeyed. (1 Jno. 2:3,4)
 - a. Believe. (Jno. 8:24; Mar. 16:16; Heb. 11:6)
 - b. Repent. (Lu. 24:47; Acts 17:30)
 - c. Confess. (Ro. 10:9,10; Acts 8:37)
 - d. Baptism. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 10:48)
 - e. Faithfulness. (Rev. 2:10; 22:14)
3. Promises to be received.
 - a. Remission of sins. (Acts 2:38,39)
 - b. Gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38,39)
 - c. Eternal life. (1 Jno. 2:25; Rev. 22:14)

VI. WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE GOSPEL

1. Believe it. (Mar. 16:16; Eph. 1:13)
2. Obey it. (Ro. 6:3,4,17,18; 1 Pet. 4:17)
3. Live by it. (Gal. 2:14)

INTRODUCTION

1. Greatest thought known is "He is risen."
2. Greatest attraction to man. (Phil 3:10)
3. Basis of Christian faith and hope. (1 Cor. 15:14,17,19)

I. HIS RESURRECTION PREDICTED

1. David predicts. (Psa. 16:10)
 - a. Fulfilled. (Acts 2:23-28)
2. Christ predicts. (Jno. 2:19)
 - a. Fulfilled. (Lu. 24:1-7)

II. PRECAUTION OF THE JEWS

1. Buried in Joseph's tomb. (Matt. 27:57-60)
 - a. Joseph furnished the tomb.
 - b. Nicodemus furnished spice. (Jno. 19:39)
2. Tomb was sealed. (Matt. 27:60-66)
3. Tomb was guarded. (Matt. 27:66)

III. TIME OF THE RESURRECTION

1. As dawned toward first day. (Matt. 28:1)
2. When sabbath was past. (Mar. 16:1,2)
3. Upon first day of week. (Lu. 24:1)
4. The first day of the week. (Jno. 20:1)

IV. EFFORTS TO DISPROVE RESURRECTION

1. Guards the only witnesses. (Matt. 27:66)
2. As dead men at resurrection. (Matt. 28:4)
3. Soldiers bribed to testify. (Matt. 28:11-15)

V. WITNESSES OF RESURRECTED LORD

1. The women. (Lu. 24:10)
2. The eleven. (Mar. 16:14)
3. "Above five hundred." (1 Cor. 15:6)

VI. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESURRECTION

1. Fulfill promise to fathers. (Acts 13:33)
2. Prove his sonship. (Ro. 1:4)
3. Pledge our resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:20)
4. Give basis of faith. (1 Cor. 15:13-19)
5. Beget to lively hope. (1 Pet. 1:3,4)

VII. DIVINE MONUMENT OF RESURRECTION

1. Meet upon first day. (Acts 20:7)
 - a. Day the Lord made. (Psa. 118:24)
 - b. Whole church meet. (1 Cor. 11:18,20,23)
2. Do in remembrance. (1 Cor. 11:25; Lu. 22:19)
3. "Till I come." (1 Cor. 11:25; Heb. 10:25)

44 HELL, ITS REPULSIVE POPULATION

(Rev. 21:8; Ro. 1:29-32)

INTRODUCTION

1. Too little concern about hell. (Matt. 10:28)
2. Paul warned of judgement. (Heb. 9:27)
3. The rich man tried to warn others. (Lu. 16:27,28)
4. A most repulsive thought of hell is the associates.
(Ro. 1:28-32; Gal. 5:19-21)
5. A view of hell's inhabitants should change the sinners mind.

I. HELL IS A REAL PLACE

1. Place of everlasting fire. (Matt. 25:41)
2. It is a place of torment. (Lu. 16:19-31)
3. Both soul and body cast into. (Matt. 10:28)
4. Torment forever in hell. (Rev. 14:10,11)

II. FILLED WITH HORRIBLE SOULS

1. Those who satisfy lust of flesh. (Gal. 5:19-21;
Rev. 21:8; Rom. 1:28-32)
 - a. The drunkards - picture a drunk.
 - b. The prostitutes - diseased in body and soul.
2. Along with those the dignified unbeliever.
(Rev. 21:8; Jno. 12:42,43)

III. MOST UNCHARITABLE PEOPLE (Matt. 25:42-44)

1. Selfishness personified!
 - a. Nothing to give out regardless the need.
2. Skinflints and misers. (Lu. 16:19-31)

IV DEVOUTLY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE (Matt. 7:21-23)

1. Followed their own ways in preference to God's commandments. (Mar. 7:7,8)
2. Perishing in own corruption (2 Pet. 2:12)

V. GOOD MORAL PEOPLE

1. Cornelius not good enough. (Acts 10:1,2; 11:14)
2. Jews were not good enough. (Jno. 8:21,24)

VI. LUKEWARM CHURCH MEMBERS

1. Must be active. (1 Cor. 15:58; Rev. 3:16)
2. Backsliders damned. (2 Pet. 2:20-22)
3. Disobedient will burn. (2 Thess. 1:7-9; 1 Pet. 4:17,18)
4. Hypocrites are sons of hell. (Matt. 23:15)

(Lu. 10:30-37; Gal. 6:1,2,9,10)

INTRODUCTION

1. None of us lives unto himself. (Ro. 14:7)
2. Salvation involves social relationship. (Acts 2:37-47)
3. Personal religion demands social services. (Jas. 1:19-27)

I. EXAMPLES TO OBSERVE (Lu. 10:30-37)

1. Those who did not help others:
 - a. The priest.
 1. David divided them into 24 courses (1 Chron. 24)
 2. Might have been tired or going to duty.
 3. Passed on the other side.
 - b. The Levite.
 1. All priests are Levites, but not all Levites are priests.
 2. Priests and Levites lived off tithes.
 3. Passed by on the others side.
2. One who served.
 - a. The Samaritan came where he was (v. 33)
 - b. Samaritan a mixture of Assyrian and Jew.
 - c. He was moved with compassion.
 1. Service is rendered out of compassion.
 2. Love divides with needy. (1 Jno. 3:17)
 - d. His character seen in.
 1. His personal service rendered.
 2. His liberality. Spends own money.
 3. His trustworthiness. "I will repay."

II. EXHORTATION TO HELPFULNESS (Gal. 6:1,2,9,10)

1. Overtaken in trespass.
 - a. Some overtake the trespass. (Heb. 10:26)
 - b. Some overtaken by trespass.
2. Restore such on one.
 - a. You that are spiritual
 - b. Considering thyself, lest you be tempted.
3. Don't be weary in well - doing.
4. As you have opportunity, work for all men.
 - a. Sin not to do what you know. (Jas. 4:17)
 - b. Always abound in work. (1 Cor. 15:58)

INTRODUCTION

1. Christianity is a religion of hope. (1 Cor. 15:19)
2. Hope has elements of desire and expectation. (Ro. 8:24; 1 Cor. 15:19)
 - a. Hope for eternal life. (Titus 1:2; 3:7)
 - b. Hope of resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:17-19)
 - c. Hope to avoid destruction. (2 Thess. 1:7-9)
3. Reasons for expectation in our hope:
 - a. God has promised. (1 Jno 2:25)
 - b. God's oath to us. (Heb. 6:13-18)
 - c. Christ is our hope. (1 Tim. 1:1; Col. 1:27)
 - d. Eternal interest in us. (Eph. 1:4; 3:11; 2 Tim. 1:9)

I. THE PROMISE OF ETERNAL LIFE. (1 Jno. 2:25)

1. What is life eternal?
 - a. Knowledge of God and Christ. (Jno. 17:3)
 - b. Life in world to come. (Mar. 10:30)
 - c. Life after judgment. (Matt. 25:46)
2. Source of eternal life.
 - a. Given by Christ to followers. (Jno. 17:2)
 - b. Prepared by Christ. (Jno. 14:1-3)
3. Eternal life is conditional.
 - a. Christian graces to be added. (2 Pet. 1:5-11)
 - b. Must seek for glory and honor. (Ro. 2:7)
 - c. Must obey Christ. (Heb. 5:8,9)

II. ENCOURAGEMENT OF HOPE (2 Cor. 5:1-10)

1. We have a building from God. (2 Cor. 5:1)
 - a. Present tabernacle is burdensome. (2 Cor. 5:4)
 - b. Present is mortal. (2 Cor. 5:4)
2. We desire the better home. (2 Cor. 5:2,4)
 - a. Absent from Lord in body. (2 Cor. 5:6,8)
 - b. Our aim for better. (2 Cor. 5:9,10)

III. THAT WE HOPE FOR

1. The New Jerusalem, holy city. (Rev. 21:2)
2. The mother of us all. (Gal. 4:26)
3. Enjoyed by obedient. (Rev. 22:14)
4. Inhabitants of that city. (Rev. 21:22-27)

INTRODUCTION

1. Bible is God's word. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
2. Contains some Satanic words. (Gen. 3:1-5)
3. Only revelation reveals the divine. (Deu. 29:29)

I. HOW THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS WRITTEN

1. Prophets moved by Spirit. (2 Pet. 1:21)
 - a. Jehovah hath spoken. (Isa. 1:2)
 - b. Word of Jehovah came. (Jer. 1:1,2)
 - c. Word of Jehovah came expressly. (Ezek. 1:3)
2. God's Spirit to instruct them. (Neh. 9:20)
3. Old Testament ascribed to Moses.
 - a. Law came by Moses. (Jno. 1:17; Lu. 2:22)
 - b. Moses possessed Spirit as none other. (Nu. 11:17,25)
4. David wrote by inspiration.
 - a. Spirit spake by me. (2 Sam. 23:2)
 - b. As Holy Ghost saith. (Heb. 3:7-11; Psa. 95:7)
5. Old testament prophecies are New Testament witnesses.
 - a. Holy Ghost is a witness. (Heb. 10:15-17; Jer. 31:31)
 - b. Three divisions of prophecy. (Lu. 24:44)

II. HOW THE NEW TESTAMENT WAS GIVEN

1. God speaks in last days. (Heb. 1:1,2)
2. Christ speaks through apostles.
 - a. To hear apostles. (Jno. 13:20)
 - b. Believe through their words. (Jno. 17:20)
 - c. Were given God's word. (Jno. 17:8)
3. Holy Spirit to guide apostles. (Jno. 14:26; 16:13)
4. Spake by Spirit. (Acts 2:1-4; 2 Pet. 1:3)
5. They are ambassadors. (2 Cor. 5:18-20)
6. Apostles to teach all things. (Matt. 28:20)
 - a. Their word confirmed. (Heb. 2:3,4)
 - b. Signs followed. (Mar. 16:20; 2 Cor. 12:12)
7. Apostles' words final.
 - a. Cannot change. (Gal. 1:6-9)
 - b. Once for all delivered. (Jude 3)

(Acts 10:33)

INTRODUCTION

1. Different types of audiences.
 - a. Indifferent, as Felix. (Acts 24:25)
 - b. Rebellious, as Stephen's (Acts 7:51)
 - c. Receptive, as Pentecostians. (Acts 2:41)
2. Attitude of heart determines result.
 - a. Four attitudes in parable of sower. (Lu. 8:4-15)
 - b. Cornelius' attitude. (Acts 10:33)

I. PRINCIPLE CHARACTERS OF AUDIENCE

1. Cornelius.
 - a. His civil relationship. (Acts 10:1)
 - b. His character. (Acts 10:2,22)
 - c. His instructions. (Acts 10:5)
2. Peter.
 - a. Apostle with keys. (Matt. 16:19; Acts 15:7)
 - b. "Go. .doubting nothing." (Acts 10:20)

II. THE ATTITUDE OF AUDIENCE

1. "We are ALL here."
 - a. Family, neighbors, and kinsmen. (Acts 10:24,27,33)
 - b. Many do not take family to church.
2. "Present before God."
 - a. God is in His appointments. (Matt. 18:20)
 - b. Need to be God-conscious. (2 Jno. 9)
3. "To hear."
 - a. Some go to see, be seen, "feel." etc.
 - b. Commanded to hear. (Matt. 11:15)
 - c. Take heed what hear. (Mar. 4:24)
 - d. Take heed how hear. (Lu. 8:18)
4. "All things commanded."
 - a. Most audiences want special doctrine.
 - b. Preach whole counsel. (Acts 20:27)
 - c. Preach oracles of God. (1 Pet. 4:11)
 - d. Only one gospel. (Gal. 1:5-9; Rev. 22:18,19)

III. THE PREACHERS' MESSAGE

1. God is no respecter of person. (Acts 10:34)
2. Commanded faith in Christ. (Acts 10:43)
3. Commanded repentance. (Acts 11:18)
4. Commanded baptism. (Acts 10:48)

IV. THE RESULT

1. They obeyed. (Acts 15:7-9)

IF AND WHY

(Jno. 8:31; Lu. 6:46)

INTRODUCTION

1. "If" is one syllable but important.
2. Many things hinge on the "if"
 - a. New Creatures "if." (2 Cor. 5:17)
 - b. His disciples "If". (Jno. 8:31)
3. Some "ifs" call for a "why".

I. IF CREEDS ARE NECESSARY, WHY

1. Does the word thoroughly furnish? (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
2. Has God given us all things? (2 Pet. 1:3)
3. Condemned for going beyond word? (2 Jno. 9)

II. IF ONE CAN FOLLOW MEN, WHY

1. Are human doctrines condemned? (1 Cor. 1:10)
2. Are we not to please men? (Gal. 1:10)

III. IF MEN HAVE RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY, WHY

1. Does Christ claim all authority? (Matt. 28:18)
2. Is Christ to be pre-eminent? (Col. 1:18)

IV. IF CAN BE SAVED IN ANY NAME, WHY

1. Is salvation only in Christ' name? (Acts 4:12)
2. Is the worthy name mentioned? (Jas. 2:7)
3. Glorify through name "Christian"? (1 Pet. 4:16)

V. IF THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST IS FUTURE, WHY

1. Are obedient in it? (Col. 1:13)
2. Was John already in it? (Rev. 1:9)
3. Cease to reign at his return? (1 Cor. 15:24-26)

VI. IF SAVED OUTSIDE THE CHURCH, WHY

1. Are the saved added to it: (Acts 2:47)
2. Is Christ its savior? (Eph. 5:23)
3. Why is the blood in the body, the church? (Acts 20:28)

VII. IF INFANT BAPTISM IS SCRIPTURAL, WHY

1. Is subject to be taught? (Matt. 28:19)
2. Is subject to believe? (Mar. 16:16)
3. Is subject to repent? (Acts 2:38)

VIII. IF BAPTISM IS BY SPRINKLING, WHY

1. Do you go "down into the water"; (Acts 8:38)
2. Is it burial? (Ro. 6:3,4; Col. 2:12,13)

INTRODUCTION

1. Caution is very necessary. (1 Cor. 3:10)
 - a. Pay bill - get receipt.
 - b. Buy farm - get abstract deed.
2. Least concern in spiritual matters.
 - a. Accept traditions. (Matt. 7:7,8)
 - b. Depend on feelings.
3. There is a safe way. (Psa. 19:7)

I. NO CREED BUT THE BIBLE

1. The law of the Lord is perfect. (Psa. 19:7)
2. Inspired word thoroughly furnishes. (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Pet. 1:3,20,21).
3. Can have unity by word. (Jno. 17:20,21)
4. Creeds, disciplines, manuals, etc., cause division. (Matt. 15:9; 1 Cor. 1:11-13)
5. Failure to abide His word condemns. (2 Jno. 9; Rev. 22:18,19)

II. NO NAME BUT CHRIST'S

1. Only one name to wear. (Acts 4:12; 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:16)
2. Human names are divisive. (1 Cor. 3:1-4)
3. Reasons for wearing Christ's name.
 - a. Saved only in his name. (Acts 4:12)
 - b. Christ crucified for us. (1 Cor. 1:13)
 - c. Baptized into his name. (1 Cor. 1:13)
 - d. Glorify God in his name. (1 Pet. 4:16)

III. NO ORGANIZATION BUT HIS CHURCH

1. Christ built but one church. (Matt. 16:18)
2. Christ purchased one church. (1 Cor. 12:20)
3. Christ saves one body - church. (Eph. 5:23)
4. Church the pillar and ground of truth. (1 Tim. 3:5)
5. Church to make known truth. (Eph. 3:10)

IV. NO WORSHIP BUT NEW TESTAMENT WORSHIP

1. The true worshipper. (Jno. 4:23,24)
 - a. In spirit -sincere- whole-hearted.
 - b. In truth - as truth directs.
2. New Testament worship. (Acts 2:42,47)
 - a. Teaching.
 - b. Giving.
 - c. Lord Supper.
 - d. Singing. (Eph. 5:19)
 - e. Prayer.

INTRODUCTION

1. We are acquainted with insurance plans.
2. Few know of eternal insurance plan.

I. ESSENTIAL FACTS OF THE COMPANY

1. Home office is heaven (2 Cor. 5:1,2)
2. Branch offices - Local churches. (Eph. 3:10)
3. Authority of head: All. (Matt. 28:18)
4. Founder: Christ. (Matt. 16:18)
5. Date of origin: AD 33. (Acts 2:1, 16, 47)
6. Rate book: The Bible. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)

II. COMPANY'S STANDING

1. Capital: "Unsearchable riches." (Eph. 3:8)
2. Reserve: Heaven. (1 Pet. 1:4)
3. Liabilities: Accepts all. (Jno. 3:36)
4. Surplus: Above asking. (Eph. 3:20)
5. Dividend: Hundredfold. (Mar. 10:30)

III. CONDITIONS OF POLICY

1. Belief in Christ. (Jno. 8:24; Acts 16:31)
2. Repentance. (Lu. 13:3; Acts 17:30)
3. Confess Christ. (Ro. 10-10; Acts 8:37)
4. Baptism. (Mar. 16:16; Gal. 3:26,27)

IV. HOW TO PAY PREMIUMS

1. By worship. (Acts 2:42; 20:7; Heb. 10:25)
2. By service. (1 Cor. 15:58; Col. 3:23)
3. Keeping pure. (Matt. 5:8; Jas. 1:27)
4. Faithfulness. (2 Jno. 9; Rev. 2:10; 22:14)

V. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

1. Salvation. (Heb. 5:8,9)
2. Forgiveness. (Eph. 1:7; Col. 2:12,13)
3. Advocate provided. (1 Jno. 2:1,2)
4. Communion of Godhead. (2 Cor. 13:14; 2 Jno. 9)
5. Hundredfold on earth and in heaven. (Mar. 10:30)

VI. THIS POLICY DOES NOT COVER

1. Those who do not hear Christ. (Acts 3:23)
2. The disobedient. (2 Thess. 1:7-9)
3. The "faith only" people. (Jas. 2:24)
4. Those who keep Moses' law. (Gal. 5:4)
5. The fearful, murderers, etc., (Rev. 21:8)
6. Those who cause division. (Ro. 16:17)
7. Those who deny Christ. (Matt. 10:32)

INTRODUCTION

1. Parable of talents meaningful. (Matt. 25:14-30)
2. Talents given according to ability. (Matt. 25:15)
 - a. Nothing given to incapables.
 - b. God expects of those who CAN.
3. Talents must be used or forfeited.
 - a. Profitable only when used. (Matt. 25:20,21)
 - b. Damnable when unused. (Matt. 25:26-30)
4. Character is portrayed in use of talents.
 - a. Used shows courage, foresight, and hope.
 - b. Not to use shows cowardice, fear, unbelief.

I. SOME EXAMPLES OF FEAR

1. The ten spies. (Nu. 13:31-33; 14:9)
2. Twenty - two thousand of Gideon's army. (Jud. 7:3-8)
3. Chief rulers. (Jno. 12:42)
4. Felix. (Acts 24:25)

II. "I WAS AFRAID"

1. Afraid to study the scripture.
 - a. I might learn my duty.
 - b. Might learn my religious training was wrong. (Acts 26:9)
 - c. Might learn my church not in the Bible.
 - d. Might learn the church of Christ is right.
2. Afraid to obey the gospel.
 - a. Fear parents would object. (Lu. 14:26)
 - b. Friends might turn me down. (Gal. 1:10)
3. Afraid could not live Christian life.
 - a. Certainly lost if not a Christian. (Matt. 7:21)
 - b. If we sin, we have advocate. (1 Jno. 2:1,2)
 - c. Way of escape provided. (1 Cor. 10:13)
 - d. Christ our proof case. (Heb. 4:15,16)
4. Afraid to stand for the truth. (Matt. 28:20)
 - a. Church the pillar of truth. (1 Tim. 3:15)
 - b. Not seek praise of men. (Lu. 6:26)

III. THE END OF THE FEARFUL

1. Cast into hell. (Rev. 21:8)
2. Cast into outer darkness. (Matt. 25:30)

(Acts 2:42-47)

INTRODUCTION

1. Example is forceful method of teaching.
2. Jerusalem church is a good model.

I. JERUSALEM WAS THE FIRST CHURCH

1. Birthplace of church. (Isa. 2:2,3; Lu. 24:46,47)
2. Pentecost the birthday. (Mar. 9:1; Acts.1:8; 2:1-4; 11:15)
3. First Sermon and first additions in Jerusalem.
(Acts 2: 14-47)

II. CHARACTERISTICS OF JERUSALEM CHURCH

1. Steadfast. (Acts 2:42)
 - a. Define: regular, not spasmodic.
 - b. Steadfast labor rewarded. (I Cor. 15:58)
 - c. Sin not to do as we know. (Jas. 4:17)
 - d. In apostles' doctrine. (Acts 2:42)
 1. Teach no other. (1 Tim. 1:3)
 2. Receive no other. (2 Jno. 9-11)
2. United. (Acts 2:44,46)
 - a. They "were together." (Acts 2:44)
 - b. "Of one heart and. . .soul." (Acts 4:32)
3. Liberal. (Acts 2:42)
 - a. "Sold their possessions." (Acts 2:45)
 - b. A voluntary liberality. (Acts 5:1-5)
4. Zealous
 - a. "Continued daily." (Acts 2:46)
 - b. Daily service demanded. (Jno. 9:4; Psa. 1:2)
5. Happy
 - a. Gladness, singleness of Heart. (Acts 2:46)
 - b. Result of service.
6. Respectable.
 - a. "Having favor." (Acts 2:47)
 - b. Respectable vs popular.
7. Successful
 - a. "Lord added daily." (Acts 2:47)
 - b. Reap if faint not. (Gal. 6:9)

III. RESULT OF FOLLOWING THIS CHURCH

1. Every member will be indoctrinated.
2. Every member evangelistic. (Acts 8:4,5)

INTRODUCTION

1. Many claim to love God. (Matt. 7:22)
2. Man to glorify God in body and soul. (1 Cor. 6:20)
3. We are commanded to love God. (Matt. 22:37)
4. God knows those that love Him. (Jno. 5:42)
 - a. His friends love Him. (Jno. 15:14)
 - b. Those who obey love Him. (Jno. 14:15)

I. IF WE LOVE GOD, WE LOVE THE CHURCH

1. Seek his kingdom first. (Matt. 6:33)
2. Called into one church, one kingdom. (Col. 3:15; 1 Thess. 2:12)
3. Denominationalists depise the church of God. (1 Cor. 11:19,22)
 - a. Division is heresy. (1 Cor. 11:18,19)
 - b. Denominationalism is division. (1 Cor. 1:10-13)
4. The church is the greatest treasure. (Matt 11:11; 13:44)
 - a. Heart and treasure together. (Lu. 12:34)
 - b. Suffer for the church (Col. 1:24)

II. IF WE LOVE GOD, WE WORSHIP HIM

1. Glad of day of worship. (Psa. 122:1)
2. Love the habitation of God's house. (Psa. 26:8)
 - a. The church is God's habitation. (Eph. 2:22)
 - b. God's glory is in the church. (Eph. 3:21)
3. The true worship defined. (Jno. 4:23,24)
 - a. In spirit - sincere, earnest.
 - b. In truth - according to truth, God's word.
4. Commanded to worship. (Heb. 10:25,26; Acts 20:7)
5. This is the love of God. (1 Jno. 5:3)

III. IF WE LOVE GOD, LOVE THE BRETHREN

1. The command to love. (Jno. 15:17)
2. How we know we love one another. (1 Jno 5:2)
3. This is the love of God. (1 Jno 5:3)

IV. IF WE LOVE GOD, LOVE HIS WORD

1. David loved his word. (Psa. 119:97)
2. Loved it above gold. (Psa. 119:127)
3. He delights in law of Lord. (Psa. 1:2)

(Lu. 12:16-22)

INTRODUCTION

1. "It is better to make a life than a living." - Gov. Wm E. Russel, Mass.
2. This was Jesus' philosophy. (Matt. 6:19-21; 16:24-26; Lu. 12:16-22)
3. Making a living should not interfere with making a life. (Matt. 6:25-34)

I. THE QUALITIES OF THIS BUSINESS MAN

1. He was rich. (Lu. 12:16)
 - a. Riches give power for good. (Matt. 27:57)
 - b. Only "love of money" wrong. (1 Tim. 6:10)
 - c. Christians share wealth. (Acts 4:36,37)
2. Made money honestly, so far as we know.
3. He was successful. (Lu. 12:16)
 - a. Accumulated wealth
 - b. "He is a benefactor who can grow two bushels where one did grow." Anon.
4. He was a moral man, yet a "fool."

II. MISTAKES OF THIS BUSINESS MAN

1. He was selfish. 12 personal pronouns. (Lu. 12:17,19)
 - a. "My barns," "My fruits," "My goods," "My soul."
 - b. Did not think of others. (Gal. 6:10)
 - c. Mr. Heinz's motto: "God first, others second pickles last."
 - d. Old man said there will be three questions at judgment.
 1. Did you make all you could?
 2. How did you make it?
 3. How did you use what you made?
2. Thought soul satisfied by material things.

"Eat, drink, be merry."

 - a. Material perisheth. (Jno. 6:27)
 - b. How live. (Matt. 4:4; Ro. 14:17)
 - c. Stranded mariner's estimate of pearls:

"Alas, ONLY a passenger's pearls."
3. Left God out of life. (See Psa. 24:1)
4. Thought he had lease on life - take ease.
 - a. Shrouds have no pockets. (Job. 1:21)
 - b. Only fools leave God out. (Psa. 14:1)

(Heb. 2:12)

INTRODUCTION

1. Music in church divinely authorized.
2. This suggest that we recognize:
 - a. The kind of music authorized.
 - b. The purpose it serves in worship.
 - c. The manner in which it is rendered.

I. KIND OF MUSIC SPECIFIED, AUTHORIZED

1. New Testament authorizes singing only.
 - a. "Sang a hymn and went out." (Matt. 26:30)
 - b. "Prayed and sang." (Acts 16:25)
 - c. "Sing unto thy name." (Ro. 15:9)
 - d. "Sing with the spirit." (1 Cor. 14:15)
 - e. "Sing and make melody." (Eph. 5:19)
 - f. "Sing with grace in the heart." (Col. 3:16)
 - g. Sing "in the midst of the church." (Heb. 2:12)
 - h. " Let him sing psalms." (Jas. 5:13)
2. The command to sing is specific.
 - a. Specific commands are exclusive also.
 - b. "Gopher wood" excludes oak. (Gen. 6:14)
 - c. "Remember sabbath day" excludes other day.
 - d. "Fruit of the vine" excludes water. (Matt. 26:29)
 - e. "Took bread" excludes cake. (Matt. 26:26)
 - f. "Singing" excludes playing. (Eph. 5:19)
 - g. To go beyond word is sin. (2 Jno. 9)
3. New Testament sufficient in all things.
 - a. "Throughly furnishes." (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
 - b. "All things that pertain." (2 Pet. 1:3)

II. THE PURPOSE OF SINGING

1. An expression of the heart. (Jas. 5:13)
2. Praise and thanksgiving. (Heb. 13:15; Ro. 15:9)
3. Teaching and admonishing. (Col. 3:16)

III. THE MANNER OF RENDITION

1. "Unto God" - not entertainment. (Acts 16:25)
2. "In spirit" - in sincerity. (1 Cor. 14:15)
3. "With the understanding." (1 Cor. 14:15)
 - a. Study sentiment of song.
 - b. Some songs Christians can't sing.
4. To be understood by others. (Eph. 5:19)
5. Kind: "Psalms, hymns, spiritual songs."

(Heb. 2:12)

INTRODUCTION

1. Should be acquainted with arguments used by instrumental users.
2. Scholars do not claim New Testament use.

I. ARGUMENTS USED TO JUSTIFY INSTRUMENTS

1. It was used under the law of Moses.
 - a. Sacrifices, incense, and polygamy were too.
 - b. Law of Moses abolished. (Col. 2:14)
 - c. Adultery if we live under two laws. (Rom. 7:1-4)
 - d. Severed from Christ by law. (Gal. 5:4)
2. Instrumental music not expressly forbidden.
 - a. Singing is "expressly" commanded. (Col. 3:16)
 - b. Damned if go beyond command. (2 Jno. 9)
3. The instrument is just an aid.
 - a. Not JUST an aid, it adds another kind.
 - b. It hinders "teaching and admonishing."
4. It is a matter of Christian liberty.
 - a. Liberty is not a license. (Gal. 5:13)
5. Instrumental music in heaven.
 - a. Bible does not so declare.
 - b. The "voice" heard "as they sung." (Rev. 5:8,9; 14:2,3)
6. "Psallo" means accompanied with instruments.
 - a. Instrument not expressed in "psallo."
 - b. Reliable scholars do not so render.

II. OBJECTIONS TO USE OF INSTRUMENTS

1. Severs from Christ.
 - a. Christ did not teach it.
 - b. Go beyond his teaching severs. (2 Jno. 9)
2. Makes worship vain. (Mar. 7:7,8)
 - a. Commanded to "sing". (Col. 3:16)
 - b. To "lay aside the command" is vain.
3. It is not a part of the truth.
 - a. Apostles guided in all truth. (Jno. 16:13)
 - b. They commanded us to "sing." (Col. 3:16)
4. It is not of faith.
 - a. Faith comes from word of God. (Ro. 10:17)
 - b. Instruments not used in New Testament.
 - c. Cannot please God without faith. (Heb. 11:6)

INTRODUCTION

1. Colosse in Phrygia, Asia Minor.
2. Worshipers, both sexes, practiced debaucheries
3. Paul refers to such. (Col. 3:5,8)

I. NEW LIFE IS IN CHRIST (2 Cor. 5:17)

1. This life is conditional, "if."
 - a. Obedience puts us in Christ. (Gal. 3:26,27; Ro. 6:3,4, 17,18)
 - b. Dwell in him through obedience. (1 Jno. 3:24; 2 Jno. 9)
2. New things in Christ.
 - a. New name. (1 Cor. 1:13; Acts 11:26)
 - b. New relation - child, son. (Gal. 3:26,27)
 - c. New law. (Heb. 8:3-12; Eph. 2:1-3; 4:17-24)
 - d. New object of affection. (Col. 3:1-3; 1 Jno. 2:15-17)
 - e. New interests. (Matt. 6:19-21, 33; Ro. 6:1,2)

II. NEW CREATION IS HEAVENLY MINDED

1. Raised with Christ.
 - a. "Buried with him." (Ro. 6:3,4)
 - b. "Risen with him." (Col. 2:12,13)
 - c. "Alive unto God." (Ro. 6:10,11)
2. Seek things above, where Christ is.
 - a. Search out. (Isa. 34:16; 2 Tim. 2:15)
 - b. Seek whole - heartedly. (Jer. 29:13)
3. "Ye died."
 - a. "Dead unto sin." (Ro. 6:11)
 - b. Life hid with Christ in God. (Col. 3:3)
4. Manifested in glory with him. (Col. 3:4)
 - a. Appear with him in glory. (Col 3:4 RV)
 - b. Fashion our bodies like his. (Phil. 3:20,21)

III. PUT OFF THE OLD LIFE (Col. 3:5-11)

1. "Put to death, mortify." (v. 5)
 - a. "Do not yield your members." (Ro. 6:13)
 - b. Sin shall not have dominion. (Ro. 6:14)
 - c. Can't walk like used to. (v. 7)
2. "Put away all these." (Col. 3:8)

IV. PUT ON THE NEW LIFE (Col. 3:12-15)

1. Christian graces. (2 Pet. 1:5-11)

(Ro. 12:21)

INTRODUCTION

1. Evil is abroad in the land. (1 Pet. 5:8)
2. Evil men wax worse and worse. (2 Tim. 3:13)
3. Satan transforms himself into angel of light to deceive. (2 Cor. 11:13,14)

I. OVERCOME OR BE OVERCOME

1. Joseph overcame evil. (Gen 39)
 - a. Refused to betray his master's trust.
 - b. Refused to sin against God.
 - c. Resist the devil and he flees. (Jas. 4:7)
2. Peter was overcome of Satan. (Matt. 26:29-75)
 - a. He chose to follow afar off.
 - b. He associated with the wrong crowd.
 - c. He became like his associates - cursed.
3. Overcome evil with good.
 - a. Principle set by Christ. (Matt. 5:38-44)
 1. Jesus practiced it. (1 Pet. 2:23)
 2. Apostles practiced it. (Acts 5:41)
 - b. Paul's admonition to do good. (Ro. 12:20)

II. PROPER ATTITUDE TOWARD EVIL (1 Jno. 2:15-17)

1. Love not the world - "Abhor evil." (Ro. 12:9)
2. Love not things of world.
 - a. Lust of the flesh is of the world.
 - b. Lust of the eye is of the world.
 - c. Vainglory of life is of the world.
3. Cannot love world and God. (Matt. 6:24)

III. PROPER RELATION TO EVIL (2 Cor. 6:17,18)

1. Separate yourselves from evil.
2. Touch not the unclean thing.
3. God heals the separated.

IV. PROPER ACTION TOWARD EVIL (Eph. 5:11-18)

1. Have no fellowship with darkness. (v. 11)
2. It is a shame to speak of them! Repeat not.
3. Look carefully how you walk. (v. 15)
4. Understand the will of the Lord. (v. 17)
5. Be not drunk, but filled with Spirit.
 - a. Abstain from all appearance of evil. (1 Thess. 5:22)

(Lu. 8:4-15)

INTRODUCTION

1. Parable not invented by Christ.
2. Christ a master in its use. (Matt. 13)
3. Define: "An imaginary story that could happen, setting forth a spiritual truth."

I. FACTS ABOUT SEED

1. Contains the principle of life.
 - a. Under favorable conditions life begins.
 - b. So with the word of God. (Jas. 1:21)
2. Produces after its kind. (Gen. 1:11)
 - a. There are no exceptions.
 - b. Word makes disciples. (Jno. 8:31)
3. Seed can be adulterated.
 - a. Cross - pollination adulterates.
 - b. Human doctrines adulterate. (Matt. 15:9; Mar. 7:7-9; Gal. 1:6-9)

II. DIFFERENT CLASSES OF HEARERS

1. The wayside hearer.
 - a. Seed is the word of God. (Lu. 8:11)
 - b. They hear the word. (Lu. 8:12)
 - c. Understood not. (Matt. 13:19)
 - d. Devil takes away word. (Lu. 8:12)
 - e. Prevents faith. (Lu. 8:12; Ro. 10:17)
2. Rocky ground hearer.
 - a. They hear the word. (Lu. 8:13)
 - b. Receive word with joy. (Lu. 8:13)
 - c. Believe for while. (Lu. 8:13)
 - d. Fall under persecution. (Matt. 13:21)
3. Thorny ground hearer.
 - a. Heard the word. (Lu. 8:14)
 - b. Are fruitful. (Matt. 13:22)
 - c. Choked by riches, lusts, cares, and other things. (Matt. 13:22; Lu. 8:14)
 - d. No fruit to perfection. (Lu. 8:15)
4. Good ground hearers.
 - a. Honest and good heart. (Lu. 8:15)
 - b. Hears the word. (Lu. 8:15)
 - c. Understands the word. (Matt. 13:23)
 - d. Keeps it. (Lu. 8:15)
 - e. Bring forth fruit. (Lu. 8:15)

(Ro. 12:1,2)

INTRODUCTION

1. Consecration: "To devote or dedicate to some purpose." "Set apart to deity."
2. Personal: Done by the individual involved.
 - a. Every man hear. (Jno. 6:44,45)
 - b. Every man bear own burden. (Gal. 6:5)
 - c. Present your body. (Ro. 12:1-3)

I. GOD REQUIRES CONSECRATION (Matt. 22:37)

1. Love God with all the heart.
 - a. Set affections on God. (Col. 3:1)
 - b. Enthroned God in heart. (1 Pet. 3:15)
2. Love God with whole soul.
 - a. More value than world. (Matt. 16:26)
 - b. Paul's estimate of soul. (Acts 20:24; Phil. 3:8)
3. Love with all the mind.
 - a. Must retain God in mind. (Ro. 1:28)
 - b. Meditate. (Psa. 1:1,2; 19:14; Isa. 55:7)

II. GOD'S RIGHT TO DEMAND CONSECRATION

1. He is our creator. (Acts 17:24)
2. Gives us what we have. (Acts 17:25)
3. Loved us supremely. (Jno. 3:16; 1 Jno. 4:10)
4. Prepared place for us. (Jno. 14:1-3)
5. Provides our escape. (1 Cor. 10:13)

III. WHAT THIS CONSECRATION DOES FOR US

1. Makes like thing adored.
 - a. Transformed. (Ro. 8:29; 12:1,2)
 - b. Partake of divine nature. (2 Pet. 1:4)
2. Try our best.
 - a. Keep commandments. (Jno. 14:15; 15:14)
 - b. Keep ourselves. (1 Jno. 5:18)
3. Protects from world.
 - a. Love not world. (1 Jno. 2:15-17)
 - b. Love life, see good days. (1 Pet. 3:10-12)

IV. THE CHRIST - CENTERED LIFE (Phil. 1:21)

1. Christ lives in us. (Gal. 2:20)
2. Death to such is gain.
 - a. Blessed in death. (Rev. 14:13)
 - b. Heaven our home. (Rev. 22:14)

INTRODUCTION

1. To please is to cause delight.
2. The Lord delights in those who fear. (Psa. 147:11)
3. Fear God - keep his commandments. (Eccl. 12:13)

I. SOME CANNOT PLEASE GOD

1. Those in the flesh. (Ro. 8:8)
2. In flesh is to live after. (Ro. 8:13)
3. In Spirit - live righteously. (Ro. 8:10)

II. SOME WOULD NOT PLEASE GOD

1. Cain would not. (Heb. 11:4)
2. King Saul would not. (1 Sam. 15:22,23)
3. Nadab and Abihu would not. (Lev. 10:1,2)
4. Ananias and Sapphira would not. (Acts 5:1-5)

III. SOME WHO DID PLEASE GOD

1. Enoch pleased God. (Heb. 11:5)
2. Jesus pleased God. (Matt. 3:17; 17:5)
3. Apostles pleased God. (Acts 4:20; 5:20; 29)
4. Paul pleased Him. (Gal. 1:10)

IV. PRINCIPLE EXEMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED

(Phil 2:12,13)

1. Christ's example
 - a. My meat to do will. (Jno. 4:34)
 - b. Seek not own will. (Jno. 5:30)
 - c. Came to do will. (Jno. 6:38)
 - d. Always please him. (Jno 8:29)
 - e. Humbled himself to please God. (Phil 2:5-8; Heb. 10:7; 5:8-9)
2. The explanation. (Phil. 2:12,13)
 - a. Work out own salvation. (Phil 2:12)
 - b. God works in you. (Phil. 2:13)
 1. "To will" - voluntary obedience.
 2. "To Do" - man made to do. (Eccl. 12:13)

V. THE RESULT OF PLEASING GOD

1. God takes us. (Heb. 11:5)
2. God accepts our service. (Jno. 9:31; Acts 10:34,35)
3. God gives what we ask. (1 Jno. 3:22)
4. God gives us a home. (Rev. 22:14)

INTRODUCTION

1. Some say alien saved by prayer.
2. Mourner's bench results from this thought.
3. If this is true, we enter Christ by prayer.
4. We are baptized into Christ. (Gal. 3:26,27)

I. PRAYERS GOD WILL NOT ANSWER

1. Those who refuse to hear his law. (Pro. 28:9)
2. All who regard iniquity in heart. (Psa. 66:18)
3. The sinner. (Jno. 9:31)
4. Those that do evii. (1 Pet. 3:12)

II. PRAYERS GOD WILL HEAR

1. The prayer of righteous. (1 Pet. 3:12)
2. The worshiper of God. (Jno. 9:31)
3. The obedient. (1 Jno. 3:22)

III. FOR WHAT SHOULD HE PRAY

1. God to love? He already loves. (Jno. 3:16)
2. Repentance? Goodness of God does. (Ro. 2:4)
3. Understanding? Word gives. (Psa. 119:130)
4. Light? Word gives. (Psa. 119:105, 130)
5. Spirit? Given obedient. (Acts 5:32; Gal. 3:2)
6. Christ to come? He's calling. (Matt. 11:28)
7. Reconciliation? Says "Be ye." (2 Cor. 5:20)
8. Grace? Grace already offered. (Titus 2:11,12)
9. Conversion? Doctrine of Lord. (Psa. 19:7)
10. Faith? By word of God. (Ro. 10:17)
11. Salvation? Saved by word. (Acts 11:14; Jas. 1:21)
12. New birth? Obey word. (1 Pet. 1:22,23)
13. Saving power? Gospel is that (Ro. 1:16)
14. Freedom from sin? Obey God. (Ro. 6:17,18)
15. Acceptance? Work righteousness. (Acts 10:35)
16. Santification? By word. (Jno. 17:17; Acts 26:13)
17. Religion? "Visit", not get. (Jas. 1:27)

IV. OBSERVE THIS

1. Alien never commanded to pray for anything.
2. Everything denominationalist says for the alien to pray for is received by the word.
3. Those who "got religion" need to "get an understanding."

INTRODUCTION

1. Define: Entreating for; beg for; ask for.
2. God's will concerning. (Lu. 18:1; 1 Tim. 2:8)

I. ELEMENTS OF PRAYER

1. Supplication (1 Tim. 2:1; Eph. 6:18)
2. Intercession. (1 Tim. 2:1; Ro. 15:30; 2 Thess. 3:1)
3. Thanksgiving . (1 Tim. 2:1; Eph. 5:20; 1 Thess. 5:18)
4. Praise. (Matt. 6:9; 1 King 8:15, 23, 24)
5. Confession. (Neh. 9:32-38; 1 Jno. 1:8; 2:2)

II. SOME REASONS FOR PRAYING

1. Evil is present. (Matt. 6:13; 1 Pet. 5:8)
2. To obtain grace. (Heb. 4:14-16)
3. Essential to Christ. (Mar. 1:35; Lu. 6:12)
4. Christ prays for us. (Heb. 7:25)

III. SECRETS OF EFFECTIVE PRAYER

1. Must direct it to God. (Acts.12:5; Matt. 6:6)
2. Must be unceasing. (1 Thess. 5:17)
 - a. "Stretched - out - ed - ly." (Lu. 22:44; Heb. 5:7)
 - b. A "striving." (Ro. 15:30)
3. Must be united. (Matt. 18:19; Acts 12:5)
4. Obedience must accompany. (1 Jno. 3:22)
5. According to God's will. (1 Jno. 5:14,15)
6. Must be in Christ's name. (Jno. 14:13,14)
7. Must be in faith. (Jas. 1:5,6; Mar. 11:24)
Note: Faith by hearing word. (Ro. 10:17)
8. Must not faint. (Lu. 18:1)
9. Must abide in Christ. (Jno. 15:7)

IV. SOME HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

1. Selfishness. (Jas. 4:3)
2. Hatred. (Matt. 5:44)
3. Own sins. (Isa. 59:1,2; Psa. 66:18)
4. Idols in heart. (Ezek. 14:3,4)
5. Unwillingness to forgive. (Mar. 11:25)
6. Family troubles. (1 Pet. 3:7)
7. Stinginess. (Prov. 21:13; Lu. 6:38)
8. Doubting. (Jas. 1:5-7)

CONCLUSION

1. He has taught us to pray.

(2 Tim. 2:15)

INTRODUCTION

1. Guide books are necessary. (Isa. 24:16)
2. Human guides are dangerous. (Matt. 15:9)
3. Man cannot guide self. (Jer. 10:23)

I. SOME SPECIAL GUIDANCE

1. Shepherds guided by angel. (Lu. 2:8-16)
2. Wise men by the star. (Matt. 2:2, 9,10)
3. Apostles by Holy Spirit. (Jno. 16:13)

II. WE ARE GUIDED TODAY BY APOSTLES' WORDS

1. Teach them to observe. (Matt. 28:20)
2. Believe through their words. (Jno. 17:20)
3. Teach to faithful men. (2 Tim 2:2)

III. THIS GUIDE REQUIRES PREACHERS TO

1. Give heed to reading. (1 Tim. 4:13)
 - a. Study. (2 Tim. 2:15)
 - b. Meditate upon word. (1 Tim. 4:15)
 - c. Give self wholly to. (1 Tim. 4:15)
2. Preach the word. (2 Tim. 4:1-4)
 - a. Speak as oracles of God. (1 Pet. 4:11)
3. Handle aright the word. (2 Tim. 2:15RV)
 - a. Some wrest the scripture. (2 Pet. 3:16)
 - b. Some handle deceitfully. (2 Cor. 4:2)
 - c. Some set it aside. (Mar. 7:8)
4. Make no entangling alliance. (2 Tim. 2:4)
 - a. With denominations. (2 Cor. 6:16-18)
 - b. With secret orders. (2 Cor. 6:14)
5. Be urgent in and out of season. (2 Tim 4:2)
 - a. If they like it or if they do not.
 - b. Savior of live or death. (2 Cor. 2:16)
6. Reprove, rebuke and exhort. (2 Tim. 4:2)
 - a. Reprove and rebuke sinner.
 - b. Exhort the weak and halting.
7. Suffer hardship. (2 Tim. 4:5)
 - a. Paul an example. (2 Cor. 11: 23-29)
 - b. Christ an example. (1 Pet. 2:21)
8. Abide in things learned. (2 Tim. 3:14)
9. Be an example. (1 Tim. 4:12)

IV. PREACHERS NEED TO KEEP THIS GUIDE BOOK

1. Some show signs of departure.

INTRODUCTION

1. Preaching essential to salvation. (Ro. 10:13-17; 1 Cor. 1:21)
2. Apostles told what to preach. (Matt. 28:19,20) Mar. 16:15,16)
3. Preached what "seen and heard." (Acts 4:20)

I. JESUS WAS AN ORIGINAL PREACHER

1. Spoke as none other. (Jno. 7:46)
2. Did not teach as scribes. (Matt. 7:29)
3. Did not preach to please people. (Jno. 6:60)

II. JESUS SPOKE WITH AUTHORITY

1. Spoke as commanded. (Jno. 12:49,50)
2. Spoke as written. (Matt. 4:4,7,10)
3. Spoke as Spirit directed. (Jno. 14:10)

III. JESUS HAD CONVICTION

1. Only one way. (Jno. 14:6; Matt. 15:9)
2. "Strait gate" or "wide gate." (Matt. 7:13,14)
3. Serve only one master. (Matt. 6:24; 1 Jno. 2:3,4)

IV. UPHELD AND SANCTIONED ALL GOOD

1. Pharisees' teaching. (Matt. 23:1-3)
2. Publican's prayer. (Lu. 18:13)
3. Sinful woman. (Lu. 7:36-50)
4. Adulterous woman. (Jno. 8:3-11)

V. CONDEMNED ALL EVIL

1. False doctrine. (Mar. 7:6-9; Matt. 15:3-9)
2. Called religious pretenders:
 - a. Hypocrites. (Matt. 23:15)
 - b. Serpents and vipers. (Matt. 23:33)
 - c. Sons of hell. (Matt. 23:15)
 - d. Fools and blind. (Matt. 23:17)

VI. SUGGESTED THE REMEDY FOR SIN

1. Between God and man. (Mar. 16:16; Lu. 24:47)
2. Between brethren. (Matt. 18:15-17)
3. Between neighbors. (Matt. 5:40,41)
4. Offering gifts. (Matt. 5:23)

CONCLUSION

1. A dearth of preachers like this today.
2. Too much compromising today
3. Need men to stand on the whole truth.

(1 Cor. 9:16)

INTRODUCTION

1. One of world's greatest preachers.
2. In labors more abundant. (2 Cor. 11:23)
3. Suffered most for Christ. (2 Cor. 11:23)

I. PAUL'S SELECTION

1. A chosen vessel. (Acts 9:15)
2. Called of God. (Ro. 1:1)
3. Sent to preach. (Acts 22:21; 1 Cor. 1:17)

II. HIS PREPARATION

1. Born in Tarsus - schools available.
2. Taught by Gamaliel. (Acts 22:2)
3. Received revelation. (1 Cor. 2:10; Eph. 3:3-5)
Gal. 1:11,12,16,17)

III. HIS CHARACTERISTICS

1. Conscientious. (Acts 23:1; 24:16)
2. Zealous. (Phil. 3:4-6; Gal. 1:14; 2 Tim. 4:6-8)
3. Bold. (Acts 9:27; Eph. 6:19,20)
4. Fearless. (Acts 27:23-25; Phil 1:14)
5. Unselfish. (Acts 20:33-35)
6. Patient. (2 Cor. 6:4; 12:12; 11:23)

IV. HIS ATTITUDE

1. Toward error.
 - a. Considered errorist lost.. (2 Cor. 4:3,4)
 - b. Rebuked the errorist. (Gal. 2:5,14)
 - c. Worked night and day to save. (Acts 20:31)
2. Toward sin.
 - a. Destroys its victim. (Ro. 6:23; 2 Thess. 1:8)
 - b. Christian freed from. (Ro. 6:17,18)
 - c. Christian dead to, not in. (Ro. 6:2,11)
3. Toward the gospel.
 - a. Not ashamed of it. (Ro. 1:16)
 - b. God's power to save. (Ro. 1:16)
 - c. Must be obeyed. (2 Thess. 1:7-9)
4. Toward preaching.
 - a. Word must be preached. (2 Tim. 4:1-4)
 - b. Preach whole counsel. (Acts 20:26,27)
 - c. Preached in synagogue, market place, prison, river bank, house to house.

V. HOW PAUL WAS RECEIVED

1. Favorably. (Acts 17:4; Gal. 4:13-15)
2. Unfavorably. (Acts 17:5; 21:28-31)

(Acts 4:20)

INTRODUCTION

1. Taught by Christ. (Jno. 17:8)
2. Impulsive. (Matt. 16:16,17; 17:4; Jno. 18:10)
3. Weak. (Matt. 26:58,74,75)
4. Guided by Spirit. (Acts 1:5,8; 2:1-7)

I. HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD WORD OF GOD

1. It is final. (Jno. 6:68)
2. Speak what seen and heard. (Acts 4:20)
3. Speak as oracles. (1 Pet. 4:11)
4. Hearken to God more than men. (Acts 4:19)

II. HIS STYLE OF PREACHING

1. Fearless. (Acts 4:19,20; 5:29)
2. Bold (Acts 4:13)
3. Powerful. (Acts 4:31)

III. FIELD COVERED IN PREACHING

1. First principles
 - a. On Pentecost. (Acts 2:22-41)
 - b. Cornelius. (Acts 10:43; 11:18; 10:48)
 - c. No salvation out of Christ. (Acts 4:12)
2. Christian living.
 - a. Purity of heart. (1 Pet. 1:22,23; 2:1)
 - b. Conversation:
 1. Holy. (1 Pet. 1:15)
 2. Honest. (1 Pet. 2:12)
 3. Refrain tongue from evil. (1 Pet. 3:10)
 - c. Manner of life.
 1. Sober and vigilant. (1 Pet. 5:8,9)
 2. Abstain from fleshly lust. (1 Pet. 2:11)
 - d. Citizenship. (1 Pet. 2:13)
3. Christian preparation.
 - a. Able to give an answer. (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - b. Ready for judgment. (1 Pet. 4:15-18)
4. Church polity.
 - a. Elders feed, tend, example. (1 Pet. 5:2,3)
 - b. Members submit to elders. (1 Pet. 5:5,6)
5. Concerning false teachers.
 - a. Beware of. (2 Pet. 3:1-4)
 - b. Give diligence to peace. (2 Pet. 3:14)

CONCLUSION

1. Human nature does not change
2. Need same kind of preaching today.

(2 Tim. 4:1-4)

INTRODUCTION

1. A most solemn charge.
2. Given to young preacher. (1 Tim. 4:1,2)
3. Covers whole duty when analyzed.

I. PURPOSE OF PREACHING

1. Give basis of faith. (Ro. 10:13-17)
2. Convict sinners. (Acts 2:37)
3. Produce repentance. (Jonah 3:1-10; Acts 2:38)
4. Save the lost. (1 Cor. 1:21; Jas.1:21)
5. Reprove erring. (1 Tim. 5:20; Gal. 2:4,5,14)
6. Strengthen the weak. (Acts 20:32)

II. THE GRAVITY OF PREACHING

1. Necessity laid upon us. (1 Cor. 9:16)
 - a. World lost without gospel. (2 Cor. 4:3)
 - b. Cannot save self without saving others.
(Acts 20:26,27; 1 Tim. 4:16)
2. Gospel for every creature. (Matt. 16:15,16)
 - a. It is the power to save. (Ro. 1:16)
 - b. Salvation for all. (1 Tim. 2:4; Titus 2:11)
 - c. Other's blood on us. (Acts 20:26,27)
3. There is but one gospel.
 - a. There are many perversions. (Gal. 1:6-9)
 - b. Perverters need stopping. (Titus 1:9-11)
 - c. Gospel must be faithfully preached. (Matt. 28:19,20;
Acts 20:27; 2 Tim. 2:2)

III. DISTINGUISHING MARKS OF PREACHING

1. Must be the doctrine of Christ.
 - a. To go beyond is fatal. (2 Jno. 9)
 - b. Refuse any false teacher. (2 Jno. 10,11)
 - c. Mark and avoid false teacher. (Ro. 16:17)
2. Must be presented in same spirit.
 - a. Earnestly contend. (Jude 3)
 - b. Tearfully preach. (Acts 20:31)
 - c. With heaviness and sorrow. (Ro. 9:2,3)

IV. EXAMPLES OF PREACHING

1. Pentecost. (Acts 2:22-41)
 - a. Inauguration day. (Lu. 24:47; Acts 2:1-4)
 - b. Must set forth same conditions. (Acts 2:38)
2. Samaria. (Acts 8:12,13)
3. Eunuch. (Acts 8:35-39)
4. Saul. (Acts 22:16)

70 **PRESENT DAY RESPONSIBILITY - THE CHURCH** (Eph. 5:26,27)

INTRODUCTION

1. Pure in heart see God. (Matt. 5:8)
2. Church members start clean. (Jno. 17:3; Eph. 5:26; 1 Cor. 6:11)
3. Must keep pure. (1 Tim. 5:22; 1 Jno. 5:18)

I. CHURCH IS COMPOSED OF MEMBERS

1. There are many members, one body. (1 Cor. 12:20)
2. The body is the church. (Col. 1:18)
3. Members make up the body. (1 Cor. 12:27)

II. CHURCH PURE AS MEMBERS ARE PURE

1. Personal purity enjoined:
 - a. Mortify members. (Col. 3:5)
 - b. Abstain from evil. (1 Pet. 2:11; 1 Thes. 5:22)
 - c. Abhor evil. (Ro. 12:9)
 - d. Flee fornication. (1 Cor. 6:18)
2. Means of maintaining purity.
 - a. Obey the truth. (1 Pet. 1:22,23)
 - b. Reprove, rebuke, exhort. (2 Tim. 4:2)
 - c. Restore erring. (Gal. 6:1,2)
 - d. Mark and avoid offenders. (Ro. 16:17)
 - e. Refuse to company. (1 Cor. 5:9-13; 2 Cor. 2:6-9; 2 Thess. 3:6)
 - f. Put away wicked. (1 Cor. 5:13)

III. SOME DANGERS CONFRONTING CHURCH

1. Influence of drinking members.
 - a. Both sexes indulge often.
 - b. Parrot said: "same crowd" at church as at "Honk-a-tonk"
2. Loose ideas of marriage - divorce practiced or condoned.
3. Worldliness in general. (1 Jno. 2:15-17)
 - a. Cigaret smoking women and men, children.
 - b. Strip-tease dressing - shorts, etc.
 - c. Questionable games - dignified gambling.
 - d. Modern dance - disgrace to decency.
 - e. Automobile, rolling house of prostitution.

IV. CALL BACK TO OLD PATHS

1. Let us return to primitive Christianity.

(Eph. 6:1-4)

INTRODUCTION

1. There are permanent responsibilities:
 - a. The home, the church, the school.
2. The home is a neglected study.

I. THE HOME A TRAINING GROUND

1. Children nurtured and admonished.
(Eph. 6:4)
2. Taught to honor parents. (Eph. 6:2)
3. Taught first lesson in obedience. (Eph. 6:1)
 - a. Rod to be used. (Pro. 13:24)
 - b. "Received training at knee of devout mother,
across knee of determined father."
4. Taught scriptures here. (2 Tim. 3:15)
 - a. Timothy's teachers. (2 Tim. 1:5,6)
5. Taught art of homemaking. (Titus 2:3-5)
 - a. Homes not made by instinct as birds.
 - b. Mothers and fathers must teach this.

II. HOME GOD'S BULWARK OF CIVILIZATION

1. It is our first line of defense.
2. Destruction of home life breeds decay.

III. SOME THREATS TO OUR HOMES

1. Its sanctity is being destroyed.
 - a. No quiet hours for prayer, social life.
 - b. Parents not acquainted with children.
2. Parents shifting responsibility to:
 - a. Shows - feed on moral scum, generally.
 - b. School - little moral training there
 - c. Church - does not relieve parents.
3. Parents disregard for sphere.
 - a. Husbands are providers. (1 Tim. 5:8)
 - b. Husband the head of wife. (Eph. 5:23)
 - c. Wife a homemaker. (Titus 2:3-5)
"Home executive" - not mere housewife.
 - d. Women lured to public work - home neglected.
55 per cent working women married - 1953.
 - e. God's will concerning. (1 Tim. 5:14)

IV. NEED TO RETURN TO HOMELIFE

1. Live with your children - pal with them.
2. Religion must have a place in home.

(1 Thess. 5:16-22)

INTRODUCTION

1. Exhort: Urge, advise, caution earnestly.
2. Exhortation follows teaching.
3. Timothy to give heed to. (1 Tim. 4:13)
4. Paul the greatest exhorter.

I. "REJOICE ALWAYS" (Phil 4:4)

1. This rejoicing "in the Lord."
2. Rejoice in the hope of glory. (Ro. 5:2)
3. Rejoice in obedience. (Acts 8:39; 16:34)
4. Rejoice in suffering for Christ. (Acts 5:41)
5. Christian's "cup runneth over." (1 Thess. 1:6; Psa. 23:5)

II. "PRAY WITHOUT CEASING" (1 Thess. 5:17)

1. Men ought always to pray. (Lu. 18:1)
2. Essential to wielding the sword of the Spirit. (Eph. 6:17,18)
3. Christian's way to get what he needs. (1 Jno. 3:22)

III. "IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS" (1 Thess. 5:18)

1. Given with prayer and supplication. (Phil 4:6)
2. The order; Rejoice, pray, and give thanks
3. This is God's will. (1 Thess. 5:18)

IV. "QUENCH NOT THE SPIRIT" (1 Thess. 5:19)

1. Some resist the Spirit. (Acts 7:51)
2. Some grieve the Spirit. (Eph. 4:30)
3. Quench and grieve Spirit by refusing its instructions.

V. "DESPISE NOT PROPHECYING (1 Thess. 5:20)

1. Prophecying is teaching. (1 Cor. 14:24,25)
2. Despise not faithful teachers. (Gal. 4:16)
3. Ahab despised Elijah's prophecying.

VI. "PROVE ALL THINGS" (1 Thess. 5:21))

1. Try your teachers. (1 Jno. 4:1; Rev. 2:2)
2. Hold fast the good. (1 Thess. 5:12)

VII. "ABSTAIN FROM EVERY FORM OF EVIL
(1 Thess 5:22)

1. Christians dead to sin. (Ro. 6:1,2)
2. Mortify deeds of body. (Col. 3:5)
3. God provides way of escape. (1 Cor. 10:13)

INTRODUCTION

1. Abimelech orders Isaac to leave Philistia.
2. Isaac redigs Abrahams' wells. (Gen. 26:18)
 - a. Philistines had filled. (Gen. 26:15)
 - b. Named wells with same name Abraham gave.
3. Christianity compared with water. (Jno. 4:14)
 - a. Christ opened fountain. (Rev. 21:6)
 - b. Fountain clogged by human doctrines.
 - c. This predicted. (1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 4:1-4)

I. ORIGINAL WELLS OPENED BY CHRIST

1. One head. (Col. 1:18; Eph 1:22,23)
2. One faith. (Eph. 4:5; Jno. 17:20; Ro. 10:17)
3. One body. (Eph. 4:4; 1 Cor. 12:20; Matt. 16:18)
4. One baptism. (Mar. 16:16; Ro. 6:3,4)
5. Local church government.
 - a. Elders in every church. (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5)
 - b. Deacons to assist. (1 Tim. 3:8-13)
6. All-sufficiency of God's word. (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Pet. 1:3)
 - a. Alteration is fatal. (Gal. 1:6-9)
 - b. Transgression fatal. (2 Jno. 9-11)
 - c. Strict obedience. (Heb. 5:8,9; 1 Jno. 2:3,4)
7. God given names.
 - a. My church. (Matt. 16:18)
 - b. Called "Christians." (Acts 11:26)

II. THINGS THAT CLOGGED WELLS

1. Changed form of church government. (3 Jno. 9,10)
 - a. From plurality of elders to ONE pope.
 - b. Divided into "laity" and "clergy"
2. Human creeds off-set the Bible
3. Recognition of many faiths; bodies.
4. Wearing human names. (1 Cor. 1:10-17)

III. ATTEMPTS TO RE-DIG WELLS

1. Reformers - Luther, Huss, Calvin.
2. The restorers - Jas. O'Kelly, Methodist; Stone, Presbyterian; A. Jones, Baptist.
3. Principle of seed observed. (Lu. 8:11)

74 RELATION OF TRUTH TO RELIGION (Jno. 18:36-38)

INTRODUCTION

1. Indifference toward truth is lamentable.
 - a. "Matters not what you believe," they say.
 - b. "All right if you are sincere," they say.
2. Truth is not elastic - can't be stretched.

I. CHRIST TEACHES IMPORTANCE OF TRUTH

1. Christ to witness truth. (Jno. 18:36-38)
2. Holy Spirit to reveal truth. (Jno. 16:13)
3. Disciples made by truth. (Jno. 8:31,32)
4. Truth makes us free. (Jno. 8:32)
5. Religion vain without truth. (Matt. 15:9)

II. WHAT IS TRUTH

1. Pilate asked in derision. (Jno. 18:38)
2. Many feign the question today.
3. Christ is truth. (Jno. 14:6)
4. God's word is truth. (Jno. 17:17; 1 Pet. 1:22,23)

III. CONDITIONS UNFAVORABLE TO TRUTH

1. Opinions and creeds of men.
 - a. Abraham even wrong in opinion. (Heb. 11:17-19)
Opinion: God will raise him.
 - b. Creeds lay aside command. (Mar. 7:8)
2. Religionists unwilling to accept Bible.
 - a. Desire fables more than word. (1 Tim. 4:1-4)
 - b. Ignore the word. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
3. "Broad - minded attitude. Note: (2 Jno. 9)

IV. WHAT IS SCRIPTURAL ATTITUDE TOWARD TRUTH

1. Zeal to know truth. (Jno. 7:17RV)
 - a. Hunger for. (Matt. 5:6; Ro. 10:1-3)
 - b. Study to be approved. (2 Tim. 2:15)
2. Courage to face truth.
 - a. Agrippa could not. (Acts 26:28)
 - b. Felix would not. (Acts 24:25)
 - c. Paul faced it. (2 Tim. 1:10-12)
3. Wisdom to be guided by truth
 - a. Paul was. (1 Cor. 2:2; 2 Tim. 1:12)
 - b. National rise or fall. (Pro. 14:34)
 - c. Destiny of those who refuse. (2 Thess. 1:7-9)
4. Buy the truth, sell not. (Prov. 23:23)

REPENTANCE

(Acts 17:30)

INTRODUCTION

1. Define - "It is a change of mind with reference to sin."
2. It is produced by godly sorrow. (2 Cor. 7:10)
3. It is performed in the minds of sinners.

I. SIN MAKES REPENTANCE NECESSARY

1. All sin, and all must repent. (Rom. 3:23; Acts 17:30)
2. What one may do about sin:
 - a. Deny it like Gehazi. (2 Kings 5:20-26)
 - b. Cover it up like David (2 Sam. 11,12)
 - c. Justify self like Adam. (Gen. 3:12)
 - d. Confess it like the prodigal. (Lu. 15:17-19)
 - e. Repent of it like Ninevah. (Jonah 3:10)
 - f. Forsake it like Zacchaeus. (Lu. 19:8)

II. REPENTANCE A PRIVILEGE FROM GOD

1. Always done toward God. (Acts 20:21; 26:30)
2. It is to gain life. (Acts 11:18)
3. We are given opportunity to repent. (Rev. 2:21; 2 Pet. 3:9; Acts 5:31; 2 Tim. 2:25)
4. Can withdraw unused opportunities. (Rev. 2:21; Heb. 12:17; Prov. 1:24-33)

III. CAUSES OF REPENTANCE

1. The goodness of God. (Ro. 2:4)
2. Hearing Gods word. (Jonah 3:5,6; Acts 2:37-41)
3. Thinking on certainty of judgment. (Rom 11:12; Heb. 9:27; 2 Pet. 3:8-13)
4. Godly sorrow. (2 Cor. 7:10)

IV. PLACE OF REPENTANCE IN PLAN OF SALVATION

1. Preceded by faith. (Heb. 11:6; Acts 2:37,38)
 - a. Cannot please God without faith.
 - b. Hence repentance before faith would not be pleasing to God.
2. Obedience follows repentance. (Acts 2:37,38; 3:19; 8:37,38; Lu. 3:7-11)
3. Erring Christians must repent and pray to be forgiven. (Acts 8:22)
4. Some try to cover repentance by good work.
 - a. Erring try to come back without repenting.
 - b. Aliens try to be saved without obeying.

INTRODUCTION

1. Defined. "It is a change of mind with reference to our sins." (Matt. 21:28,29)
2. It is produced by godly sorrow. (2 Cor. 7:8-10)
3. It is performed in the mind of the sinner.

I. THE NECESSITY OF REPENTANCE

1. Sinners are of the devil. (Jno. 8:44)
2. Those who die in sin go to hell. (Jno. 8:21)
3. Without repentance we perish. (Lu. 13:3)
4. All men are commanded to repent. (Acts 17:30)

II. REPENTANCE DEMONSTRATED (Jonah 3:10)

1. Nineveh was a great and wicked city.
 - a. Sixty miles in circumference.
 - b. Surrounded by wall 100' high, broad enough for three chariots abreast, with 1500 towers 200' high.
 - c. Population of 120,000 illiterates, and possibly 600,000 inhabitants.
2. Jonah to preach what God bid him preach.
 - a. God's word produces repentance.
 - b. God's word converts. (Psa. 19:7)
3. Ninevah repented. (Jonah 3:5-10)
 - a. People believed Jonah.
 - b. Fast proclaimed.
 - c. King calls for all to turn from evil.
4. God repented of evil spoken against Ninevah, and did it not.

III. JESUS TEACHES REPENTANCE (Matt. 21:28-31)

1. First son refused, repented, and went.
 - a. Repentance is not the going.
 - b. Going is fruit of repentance.
2. Second son, changed his mind also, but for the worse.
 - a. The first did the father's will.
 - b. The second did not the father's will.
3. The lesson is: the penitent are accepted, the impenitent are rejected.

(1 Tim. 4:1)

INTRODUCTION

1. Christian life is one of caution.
2. Satan is "walking about". (1 Pet. 5:8)
3. Transforms himself. (2 Cor. 11:14)

I. SPIRIT'S WARNING

1. He "speaketh expressly." (1 Tim. 4:1)
2. Some "depart from the faith." (1 Tim. 4:1)
3. Some will give heed. (1 Tim. 4:1)

II. POWER EXERCISED BY SATAN

1. "Forbidding to marry." (1 Tim. 4:3; Heb. 13:4)
2. Command to "abstain from meats." (1 Tim. 4:3)
 - a. Catholic Clergy not to marry.
 - b. Catholic and Advents "abstain from meat."

III. STEPS IN SEDUCTION

1. Faith, plus nothing, minus nothing.
 - a. Denominations rest on "faith only."
 - b. This idea excludes any overt act.
 - c. James flatly denies. (Jas. 2:20,24,26)
2. Deny baptism essential to salvation.
 - a. Baptism a hated command.
 - b. Some say damned if baptized for remission of sins.
 - c. Bible shows its essentiality. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Gal. 3:27; 1 Pet. 3:21)
3. Church membership not essential.
 - a. Say one saved outside church.
 - b. This denies the head. (Col. 1:18)
 - c. Nullifies death of Christ. (Acts 20:28)
 - d. All saved in the church. (Acts 2:47)
4. Say one church as good as another.
 - a. This to justify own error.
 - b. There is BUT ONE church. (1 Cor. 12:20)
5. Substitute prayer for obedience.
 - a. Affirm alien saved in prayer.
 - b. Bible denies such. (Jno. 9:31; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Ro. 6:3,17,18)
6. Charge division to Holy Spirit.
 - a. Called preachers preaching differently.
 - b. Confusion not of God. (1 Cor. 1:13; 14:33)
7. He is an adversary. (1 Pet. 5:8)

(Gen. 3:1-6; Ro. 5:12-18)

INTRODUCTION

1. The first sin known to man. (Gen. 3:1-6)
2. Satan the father of sin. (Jno. 8:44)
3. Only the Bible defines sin.

I. SIN DEFINED

1. Sin is a transgression of law. (1 Jno. 3:4; 1 Cor. 1:10; 2 Jno. 9-11)
2. Sin is unrighteousness. (1 Jno. 5:17)
3. Omission is sin. (Jas. 4:17)

II. HOW WE MAY SIN

1. In thought. (Isa. 55:7; Matt. 5:28)
2. In word. (Matt. 12:36;37; Jas. 3:10)
3. In deed. (Gal. 5:19-21)

III. NATURE OF SIN

1. Sin is enticing. (Jas. 1:12-16)
2. Deceptive. (Heb. 3:13; Acts 23:1, 26:9)
3. Pleasant for season. (Heb. 11:25)

IV. THE EFFECT OF SIN

1. Estranges from God. (Isa. 59:1,2)
 - a. God forsakes those who forsake him. (2 Chr. 15:2, 24:20)
 - b. Sin separates in:
 1. Life. (Prov. 28:9)
 2. Death. (Ezek. 18:20; Rev. 14:13)
 3. Judgement. (Psa. 1:5)
2. Enslaves men.
 - a. His thoughts. (Isa. 55:7, Ro. 1:21-23)
 - b. His passions. (Ro. 1:24,26)
 - c. His will. (Ro. 1:28-32)
3. Entails death. (Ro. 7:24,25)
 - a. Weakens one. (1 Cor. 3:1-3)
 - b. Its wage is death. (Ro. 6:23)
 - c. Eternal destruction. (2 Thes. 1:7-9)

V. REMEDY FOR SIN

1. The blood of Christ. (1 Jno. 1:7)
2. The word of God. (Jas. 1:21; Psa. 119:11)
3. The gospel. (Ro. 1:16; 1 Cor. 1:21)
4. Obedience. (Rev. 22:14)

INTRODUCTION

1. Importance set forth in text.
2. End of those without Christ. (Matt. 7:23)

I. CHRIST HAD SPIRIT OF HUMILITY

1. He lived humbly. (Phil 2:5-8)
2. He taught humility. (Matt. 18:1-3)
 - a. Be as little child. (Matt. 18:1-3)
 - b. Washed disciples' feet. (Jno. 13:1-17)

II. CHRIST HAD SPIRIT OF TENDERNESS

1. Dealings with sinful woman. (Lu. 7:36-50)
2. Deals with adulterous woman. (Jno. 8:1-11)

III. CHRIST HAD SPIRIT OF FORGIVENESS

1. He taught forgiveness
 - a. Love enemies. (Matt. 5:43,44)
 - b. How often forgive? (Matt. 18:21,22)
2. He demonstrated forgiveness.
 - a. Peter denied but Christ forgave. (Mar. 16:7)
 - b. Forgave his enemies. (Lu. 23:34)

IV. CHRIST WAS OBEDIENT

1. About father's business. (Lu. 2:49)
2. Fulfill all righteousness. (Matt. 3:15)
3. Pleased his Father. (Jno. 8:29)
4. Climax of obedience. (Heb. 5:8; Phi. 2:8)

V. CHRIST HAS SPIRIT OF LOVE

1. Loved the world. (Jno. 3:16)
2. Loved his friends. (Jno. 11:36)
3. Loved his enemies. (Matt. 5:44; 1 Jno. 4:10)

VI. CHRIST SUFFERED FOR OTHERS

1. Suffered death for all. (Phil. 2:8; Heb. 2:9)
2. Agony of Gethsemane. (Lu. 22:41-44)
3. Suffering on cross. (Jno. 19:17-30)

VII. CHRIST AND A SPIRIT OF TRUST

1. Dependent upon the Father. (Jno. 5:30)
2. Spent nights in prayer. (Lu. 6:12)

VIII. CHRIST WAS MISSIONARY IN SPIRIT

1. Sends the 12 and 70. (Matt. 10:1-42; Lu. 10:1)
2. World - wide commission. (Mar. 16:15-16)
3. Perpetual command. (Matt. 28:19,20)
4. To faithful men. (2 Tim. 2:2)

THE CHRISTIAN WAY (Acts 9:2; Jno. 14:6)

INTRODUCTION

1. Christian way described as "this way."
2. Used in contrast to other ways.
3. Christian way described by four words:
 - a. Know
 - b. Grow
 - c. Glow
 - d. Go

I. THE CHRISTIAN MUST KNOW

1. One is not a Christian by chance. (Jno. 6:45)
2. Contrast with old law. (Jer. 31:31-34)
3. Must know the truth. (Jno. 8:31,32; 17:17)
4. Must give reason for hope. (1 Pet. 3:15)
5. Must know God and Christ. (Jno. 17:31; 1 Jno. 2:3,4; 2 Jno. 9)
6. Must know ourselves. (2 Cor. 13:5)
7. Should observe and know human nature.

II. THE CHRISTIAN MUST GROW

1. Condemned for not growing. (Heb. 5:12-14)
2. Not to remain as children. (1 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:13,14)
3. Different kind of food required.
 - a. Milk for babes. (1 Pet. 2:2; 1 Cor. 3:1,2)
 - b. Meat for full-grown. (Heb. 5:14)
4. Grown in Christian graces. (2 Pet. 3:18)

III. THE CHRISTIAN WILL GLOW

1. What you are is written in your face.
2. Knowledge makes face shine. (Eccl. 8:1)
3. Stephen's face as angel's. (Acts 6:15)
4. Christians are lights. (Matt. 5:14-16)
5. The wise shine. (Dan. 12:3)

IV. THE CHRISTIAN MUST GO

1. Impelling forces moves us to tell the gospel Story. (2 Cor. 5:14; 1 Cor. 9:16)
2. Commission demands we go. (Mar. 16:15,16; Matt. 28:19,20)
3. Salvation depends upon going. (1 Tim. 4:16; Heb. 5:12; 2 Tim. 2:2; 4:1-4)
4. Bible examples demand it. (Acts 8:4,5; 11:19)
5. If can't go, send. (Phil. 4:15; Acts 13:1-3)
 - a. Paul to be sent to Spain by Rome. (Ro. 15:24)
6. Church to take the message. (Eph. 3:10)

INTRODUCTION

1. Church is divine institution. (Gal. 4:26)
2. Contrast with less glorious. (2 Cor. 3:11)
3. Membership our greatest privilege. (Matt. 11:11)

I. DIVINE CONTRIBUTION TO ITS GLORY

1. The Lord pitched it. (Heb. 8:2; Psa. 127:1)
2. Christ is its head. (Col. 1:18)
3. Christ is foundation. (1 Cor. 3:11)
4. It is blood bought. (Acts 20:28)
5. Its purpose:
 - a. To glorify God. (Eph. 3:21)
 - b. To save. (Eph. 2:16; 3:10; 5:23; Acts 2:47)
6. No denomination can claim either of these.

II. HUMAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO ITS GLORY

1. Sanctified members. (Eph. 5:26; 1 Cor. 1:2; 6:11)
 - a. Christ sanctified in us. (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - b. Seek kingdom first. (Matt. 6:33)
 - c. Always abounding. (1 Cor. 15:58)
 - d. Hate every false way. (Psa. 119:104; Ro. 12:9)
2. Clean membership. (Eph. 5:26; 1 Cor. 6:11)
 - a. Have put to death fleshly. (Col. 3:5)
 1. Fornication
 2. Uncleanness
 3. Evil desire
 4. Passion
 5. Covetousness
 - b. Put away. (Col. 3:8; 1 Pet. 2:1)
 1. Anger
 2. Wrath
 3. Malice
 4. Railing
 5. Shameful speaking
 - c. Have put on. (Col. 3:12)
 1. Heart of compassion
 2. Kindness
 3. Longsuffering
 4. Lowliness
 5. Meekness

III. THINGS THAT DETRACT FROM ITS GLORY

1. Indifference. (Rev. 3:16)
2. Worldliness. (1 Jno. 2:15-17)
3. Division. (1 Cor. 12:25)
4. Compromise. (Gal. 1:10)
5. Irreverence in worship. (1 Cor. 11:20-22)
6. Irregularity. (Heb. 10:25)

(Jno. 14:26)

INTRODUCTION

1. Greatly misunderstood subject.
2. Mystery removed when we:
 - a. Prove all things. (1 Thess. 5:21)
 - b. Don't go beyond word. (1 Cor. 4:6 RV)
 - c. Speak as oracles of God. (1 Pet. 4:11)

I. WHAT THE SPIRIT DOES

1. He speaks. (1 Tim. 4:1-3)
2. He testifies. (Jno. 15:26)
3. He teaches. (Jno. 16:13)
4. He guides. (Jno. 16:13)
5. He forbids. (Acts 16:6,7)
6. He searches. (1 Cor. 2:10)
7. He convicts. (Jno. 16:8)
8. He intercedes. (Ro. 8:27)

II. WHAT THE SPIRIT HAS

1. He has mind. (Ro. 8:27)
2. He has knowledge. (1 Cor. 2:11)
3. He has affection. (Ro. 15:30)
4. He has will. (1 Cor. 12:11)
5. He has goodness. (Neh. 9:20)

III. THE SPIRIT SUFFERS

1. He can be grieved. (Eph. 4:30)
2. He can be despised. (Heb. 10:29)
3. He can be blasphemed. (Matt. 12:31)
4. He can be resisted. (Acts 7:51)
5. He can be lied to. (Acts 5:3)

IV. PERSONAL TRAITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. He is eternal. (Heb. 9:14)
2. He is omniscient. (1 Cor. 2:10,11)
3. He is omnipresent. (Psa. 139:7)
4. He is omnipotent. (Micah 3:8)

V. HOLY SPIRIT HAS PART IN

1. Regeneration. (Jno. 3:5)
 - a. Convicts through word. (Jno. 16:8, Acts 2:37)
 - b. Given to obedient. (Acts 2:38; 5:32; Gal. 4:6)
2. Part in life. (Gal. 5:22-25)
 - a. Dwells in body. (1 Cor. 3:16)
3. Part in resurrection. (Ro. 8:11)

THE "I AMS" OF CHRIST (Jno. 14:6)

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INTRODUCTION

1. Christ taught as no other. (Jno. 7:46)
2. He spake with final authority. (Mar. 1:22)
3. His "I Ams" give good picture of Christ.
1. "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last."
 - a. He was in the beginning. (Jno. 1:1,2)
 - b. He was before Abraham. (Jno. 8:58)
2. "I am . . . the bright and morning star." (Rev. 22:16)
 - a. His star guided the wise men. (Matt. 2:9)
 - b. Jesus is our guide. (Jno. 14:6)
3. "I am . . . searcheth the reins and heart." (Rev. 2:23)
 - a. He knew the apostles' hearts. (Mar. 2:8)
 - b. He knows every heart. (Jno. 2:24,25)
4. "I am the bread of life." (Jno. 6:35)
 - a. He is the bread from heaven. (Jno. 6:50)
 - b. This bread gives eternal life. (Jno. 6:51)
 - c. No life in one who eats not. (Jno. 6:53)
5. "I am the way, the truth, the life." (Jno. 14:6)
 - a. Only approach to God is through Him.
 - b. The obedient are in him. (1 Jno. 3:24)
6. "I am the light of the world." (Jno. 8:12)
 - a. Those who follow are in light. (Jno. 8:12)
 - b. God's word gives light. (Psa. 119:130)
 - c. Walk in that light cleanses. (1 Jno. 1:7)
7. "I am the true vine." (Jno. 15:1-5)
 - a. Christians are branches. (Jno. 15:6)
 - b. Must abide in vine. (Jno. 15:4)
 - c. Abide in him by his word abiding in us. (Jno. 15:7)
8. "I am the door." (Jno. 10:9)
 - a. To try any other door is fatal. (Jno. 10:1)
 - b. Baptized into Christ, the door. (Gal. 3:27)
9. "I am the good shepherd." (Jno. 10:11)
 - a. Laid down his life for sheep. (Jno. 10:15)
 - b. He knows his sheep. (Jno. 10:14)
10. "I am the resurrection and the life." (Jno. 11:25)
 - a. A pledge of our resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:23)
 - b. Believer shall live. (Jno. 11:25)

THE NEW NAME

(Isa. 56:5; Acts 11:26)

INTRODUCTION

1. Desire a good name. (Prov. 22:1)
 - a. A good name is hard to establish.
 - b. Easier to lose than build.
2. Christians wore a "worthy name." (Jas. 2:7)
 - a. They suffered for it. (1 Pet. 4:16)
 - b. Charged to glorify God in that name.

I. WHAT THE PROPHETS SAID ABOUT THE NAME

1. God will give a new name. (Isa. 62:2)
 - a. This will be another name. (Isa. 56:5)
 - b. Not be anything ever worn before.
2. The mouth of the Lord shall name. (Isa. 62:2)
3. Given after gentiles see the righteousness of God. (Isa. 62:2)
4. Be given "within my house." (Isa. 56:5)
 - a. God's house is the church. (1 Tim. 3:15)
 - b. Name applied ONLY to church members.
5. The name shall be an everlasting name. (Isa. 56:5)

II. OCCURANCE OF THIS NAME

1. The name Christian first used at Antioch. (Acts 11:26)
 - a. Gentiles had just seen God's righteousness. (Acts 10:1-48)
 - b. Paul present at the first naming. (Acts 11:26)
2. Agrippa almost persuaded to be a Christian. (Acts 26:28)
3. Peter said glorify God in that name. (1 Pet. 4:16)

III. REASONS FOR WEARING THE NAME

1. Obedience demands it. (Matt. 28:19,20)
2. Crucifixion demands it. (1 Cor. 1:12,13)
3. Our baptism demands it. (1 Cor. 1:13)
4. To glorify God. (1 Pet. 4:16)

IV. WHAT THE NAME DEMANDS OF US

1. Live like Christ. (1 Jno. 2:6)
2. We must suffer for the name. (1 Pet. 4:16)

INTRODUCTION

1. Title sounds contrary to fact.
2. Impossible physically, but not spiritually.
3. Many dead spiritually but don't know it.
 - a. (Matt. 7:22,23)
 - b. (Matt. 25:44)
4. Two classes of living dead.
 - a. Those not conscious of it. (1 Tim. 5:6)
 - b. Those conscious of it. (Gal. 2:20)

**I. THOSE WHO LIVE IN PLEASURE ARE DEAD
(1 Tim. 5:6)**

1. Sin is pleasant for a season. (Heb. 11:25)
2. Worldly pleasure dangerous. (1 Jno. 2:15-17; 2 Tim. 4:10).
3. Worldly members hinder instead of help.
 - a. Bad influence on the good.
 - b. Cheapens church in eyes of world.

**II. THOSE WHO ARE INSINCERE ARE DEAD
(1 Cor. 11:17-34)**

1. Some drunken and full, others hungry.
2. Gathered for wrong purpose. (v. 20)
3. Did not discern Lord's body. (v. 29)
 - a. Some insincere in worship.
 - b. Mind on something else than worship.
4. Corinthians were weak, sickly and asleep - dead spiritually.

**III. THOSE WHO ARE LUKEWARM ARE DEAD
(Rev. 3:14-19)**

1. Condemned for being lukewarm.
 - a. Better be cold or hot.
 - b. Be spewed out because of lukewarmness.
2. They were conceited - thought they were rich and needed nothing.
3. They were wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.
4. They were dead, yet walking in a strutt.

**IV. CHRISTIANS ARE LIVING DEAD IN OPPOSITE
SENSE. (Ro. 6:1-11; Gal. 2:20)**

1. Crucified with Christ. (Gal. 2:20)
2. Dead to sin, alive with Christ. (Ro. 6:11)

(Lu. 22:19)

INTRODUCTION

1. Memory great factor for good or evil.
 - a. Israel remembered Egypt, wanted to return.
 - b. "Remember Lot's wife."
2. Some of God's memorials.
 - a. Rainbow. (Gen. 9:8-17)
 - b. Passover. (Exo. 12:14)
 - c. Manna. (Exo. 16:32-34)

I. INSTITUTION OF LORD'S SUPPER

1. Instituted by Christ. (Matt. 26:26-30; Mar. 14:22-26; Lu. 22:14-20)
2. Revealed to Paul. (1 Cor. 11:23-26)
3. Observed under apostolic sanction. (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)

II. EMBLEMS USED IN SUPPER

1. Bread. (Matt. 26:26) "Took bread."
 - a. Instituted during feast of unleaven Bread.
 - b. No leaven bread could be used.
 - c. "This is my body."
2. Fruit of the vine. (Matt. 26:29)
 - a. Nothing said of stage of wine.
 - b. "This is my blood." (Matt. 26:28)

III. PLACE AND TIME TO OBSERVE

1. In the kingdom. (Lu. 22:29,30; 1 Cor. 11:18,20)
2. Upon the first day of the week. (Acts 20:7)
3. By born again people. (Jno. 3:5)

IV. MANNER OF OBSERVANCE

1. In remembrance. (Lu. 22:19)
2. With anticipation. (1 Cor. 11:26)
3. In fellowship. (1 Cor. 10:17) "one bread."
4. With self-examination. (1 Cor. 11:28)
5. Worthily. (1 Cor. 11:29)
6. Heart Christ centered. (1 Cor. 10:16)

V. PURPOSE OF COMMUNION

1. Declare death of Christ. (1 Cor. 11:26)
2. Keep alive spiritually. (1 Cor. 11:30; Jno. 6:53)
3. Keep Christ in memory. (Lu. 22:19)

INTRODUCTION

1. Many figures, symbols, and illustrations in the Bible.
2. Christians are pictured as soldiers, runners, branches, the temple of God.

I. CHURCH AS A TEMPLE

1. Christian is the temple of God. (1 Cor. 3:16)
2. Christian body is temple of Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 6:19)
3. Obedience is condition of becoming God's temple, dwelling place. (1 Jno. 3:24; 4:15)

II. ESSENTIALS OF BUILDING - TEMPLE

1. The foundation
 - a. Christ is foundation. (1 Cor. 3:11)
 - b. Church built on Christ. (Matt. 16:18)
 - c. Christ the chief conerstone. (Eph. 2:20)
2. The builders.
 - a. Christ. (Matt. 16:18)
 - b. Apostles and Christians. (1 Cor. 3:5-9)
 - c. How to build:
 1. Add new material. (1 Tim. 4:16)
 2. Grow stronger. (Acts 20:32; 1 Pet. 2:2)
3. Material in the temple.
 - a. Prepared material. (Jno. 3:3-7)
 - b. Lively Stones. (1 Pet. 2:5)
 - c. "Fitly framed" stones. (Eph. 4:16)

III. TAKE HEED HOW WE BUILD

1. Every man take heed. (1 Cor. 3:10)
2. Things used in building. (1 Cor. 3:12)
3. Works tried by fire. (1 Cor. 3:13)
4. Two classes of works.
 - a. Enduring - gold, silver, precious stones.
 - b. Perishable - wood, hay stubble.

IV. THINGS THAT THREATEN THE TEMPLE

1. Division. (1 Cor. 3:1-3)
2. False teachers. (Acts 20:29,30)
3. Indifference. (Rev. 3:16,17)
4. Corrupted worship. (1 Cor. 11:23-34)
5. Ungodly living. (1 Cor. 6:18)
6. God can destroy temple. (1 Cor. 3:17)

(Lu. 15:11-24)

INTRODUCTION

1. This son usually called "the prodigal."
2. Father represents God.
3. Sons represent two classes of children.

I. GIVE ME MY PORTION (Lu. 15:12)

1. Only asks for his portion - no other.
 - a. Every individual has his own powers.
 - b. Powers mental, spiritual, and physical.
2. Portion could have been used wisely.
 - a. Invest it - use it - keep it.
 - b. Waste it - spend it - lose it.
3. Father divided to them his living.

II. TOOK HIS JOURNEY INTO FAR COUNTRY

1. Had time to deliberate his course.
 - a. "Not many days after - " time to think.
 - b. Hour of decision is a crucial hour.
2. "Gathered all together" - gambled the - whole.
 - a. Can't partially serve God. (Matt. 6:24)
 - b. It is all or nothing with God.
3. "Far" is measured in consequence - not distance.

III. WASTED HIS SUBSTANCE IN RIOTOUS LIVING

1. Riotous is disorderly living.
 - a. Smoking, drinking, dancing, harlots.
 - b. Pleasant "for a season." (Heb. 11:25)
2. Sin has a wage! (Ro. 6:23)

IV. WHEN HE HAD SPENT ALL

1. Riotous living wears you away mentally, spiritually, and financially - it gets all.
2. The price of waywardness is famine. (Gal. 6:7; Ro. 6:23)

V. HE CAME TO HIMSELF

1. His personal inventory showed nothing.
2. Discovered what he left. (Lu. 15:17; Acts 20:32; Heb. 7:25)
3. "I will arise" - Wonderful! Unbroken will.
4. "He arose and went." (Lu. 15:20,21)

VI. THE FATHER'S FORGIVENESS

1. Was dead - is alive.
2. Was lost - is found.

(Lu. 15:25-32)

INTRODUCTION

1. Purpose of lesson:
 - a. Not to show the error of the prodigal.
 - b. To show the error of the Pharisees. (Lu. 15:1,2)
 - c. To show self-righteousness of elder son.
2. Often overshadowed by stressing prodigal.

I. ANALYSIS OF ELDER BROTHER

1. His sin of cowardice. (Lu. 15:25)
 - a. Afraid to go in and see what went on.
 - b. Called a servant and asked. (Lu. 15:26)
 - c. Many fear to enter into troubled spots.
2. His sin of anger. (Lu. 15:28)
 - a. He was angry, boiling in general.
 - b. The warning against anger. (Eph. 4:26,31)
 - c. The command to lay aside. (Col. 3:8)
3. The sin of stubbornness. (Lu. 15:28)
 - a. Refused father's entreaties!
 - b. Swelled like a stuffed toad!
 - c. The sin of stubbornness. (1 Sam. 15:23)
4. Sin of self - praise. (Lu. 15:29)
 - a. "Lo, these many years I have served!"
 - b. Characteristic of Pharisee. (Lu. 18:10,12)
 - c. Church members praise themselves.
5. The sin of self- righteousness. (Lu. 15:29)
 - a. "I never disobeyed your command."
 - b. Israel's trouble. (Ro. 10:1-3)
 - c. Warning against this sin. (1 Cor. 10:12)
6. The sin of self pity. (Lu. 15:29)
 - a. "Never gavest me a kid."
 - b. In honor preferring one another. (Ro. 12:10)
7. The sin of contempt. (Lu. 15:30)
 - a. "This your son" - not even respectful.
8. The sin of slander. (Lu. 15:30)
 - a. "Devoured your living with harlots."
9. The sin of envy. (Lu. 15:30)
 - a. "You killed for HIM the fatted calf."
 - b. Sign of jealousy.

(Jno. 6:68)

INTRODUCTION

1. Authority is behind every secure thing.
2. Christians are to be secure in faith.
 - a. Anchor to soul. (Heb. 6:19)
 - b. God is able to keep us. (2 Tim. 1:12)
3. Denominationalists find security in the flesh, fleshly feelings.
 - a. Feelings are deceiving. (Acts 26:9)
 - b. Our trust must be in God. (Prov. 3:5)
4. Peter's question is our question. (Jno. 6:68)

I. SHALL WE GO TO THE PREACHER

1. The influence of preachers is great.
 - a. People depend too much on preachers.
 - b. People think they cannot err.
 - c. Peter erred. (Gal. 2:11-14)
2. Preachers are just men. (Acts 10:26)
3. Denominationalism results from following men. (1 Cor. 1:11-13; 3:1-3)
4. The governing principle. (1 Cor. 11:1)

II. SHALL WE FOLLOW MOSES

1. Moses instructs to follow Christ. (Deu. 18:15; Acts 3:22,23)
2. Moses' law was faulty. (Heb. 8:7,8)
3. Moses' law removed by Christ. (Gal. 3:19,16; Col. 2:14)
4. Christ is to be heard today, not Moses.

III. SHALL WE FOLLOW JOHN THE BAPTIST

1. His work was preparatory. (Lu. 1:17; Jno. 1:23,24)
2. Died before church established. (Matt. 14:10; 16:18)†
3. He was never in the kingdom. (Matt. 11:11)
4. Sin to perform his baptism. (Acts 19:1-6)

IV. SHALL WE FOLLOW CHRIST

1. God speaks to us through Him. (Matt. 17:5; Heb. 1:1,2; 2:3,4)
2. He has all authority. (Matt. 28:18)
3. He is able to save all. (Matt. 1:21; Heb. 7:25)
4. He saves all that obey him. (Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:8,9)

INTRODUCTION

1. Uselessness, what a thought!
2. Useless thing is a pitiful sight.
3. Uselessness, like usefulness, is acquired.

I. A POSITIVE VIEW OF THE TREE

1. The tree was planted, not an accident.
 - a. Every man has a work. (Matt. 13:34)
 - b. Every joint supplies its part. (Eph. 4:16)
 - c. Christ had definite work. (Jno. 9:4)
2. Its purpose was to bear fruit.
 - a. To give account in FIGS, its proper fruit.
 - b. It was not planted for itself.
 - c. Ours to be Christian fruit.
 1. Fruit of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:22)
 2. Christian light. (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15)
 3. Living sacrifice. (Ro. 12:1,2)
3. Tree planted in vineyard - prepared place.
 - a. Enjoy protection and culture.
 - b. Christians in church protected. (Acts. 20:28)
 - c. All blessings in Christ. (Eph. 1:3)
4. Tree utterly failed its purpose.
 - a. Invited its destruction. (Jno. 15:2)
 - b. God makes no one perform his duty. (Col. 3:23)
 - c. I must work. (Jno. 9:4; 1 Cor. 15:58)

II. WHY THE TREE FAILED

1. It was useless.
 - a. Unfruitful branches cut off. (Jno. 15:2)
 - b. Men are damned for not doing. (Matt. 25)
 - c. Virgins shut out for having NO oil. (Matt. 25:1-13)
 - d. "What doest thou here, Elijah?" Nothing. (1 Kings 19:9)
2. It was a hindrance.
 - a. A parasite - like many church members.
 - b. Indifference is a positive foe. (Rev. 3:16)

III. WHAT IS THE REMEDY

1. Dig about and dung.
2. Except ye repent, ye perish. (Lu. 13:3)

INTRODUCTION

1. Church is body of Christ. (Eph. 1:22,23)
2. There is but one body. (1 Cor. 12:20)
3. It is composed of members. (1 Cor. 20:27)
4. Individuals to maintain unity. (Eph. 4:3)

I. HOW TO ATTAIN UNITY

1. By earnest endeavor. (Eph. 4:3)
Note: Go the second mile. (Matt. 5:41)
2. By having the same mind. (1 Cor. 1:10)
3. Through apostles' words. (Jno. 17:20)

II. WHERE UNITY IS ATTAINED

1. In the body. (Eph. 2:14-22)
 - a. Can't have in denominations. (1 Cor. 1:10)
 - b. Denominations prevent unity. (1 Cor. 3:4)
2. "In us." (Jno. 17:21)
 - a. Those who confess Christ. (1 Jno. 4:15)
 - b. Those who obey Christ. (1 Jno. 3:24)
 - c. Those who love one another. (1 Jno. 4:12)

III. UNITY REQUIRES OF US

1. Agreement with the Godhead. (Col. 2:9)
 - a. Must agree with God. (Heb. 10:7)
 - b. Must agree with Christ. (Jno. 12:48-50)
 - c. Must agree with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 7:51)
2. Agreement with church officers. (Heb. 13:17)
 - a. Know them. (1 Thess. 5:12)
Note: Not mere acquaintance but submit.
 - b. Remember them. (Heb. 13:7)
 - c. Obey them. (Heb. 13:17)
3. Agreement with each other.
 - a. A pleasant thing. (Psa. 133:1)
 - b. Must be of one accord. (Phil. 2:2-4)
 - c. Means of agreement:
 1. Walk together. (Amos 3:3)
 2. Become reconciled. (Matt. 18:15-17; Lu. 17:3,4)
4. Agreement within ourselves.
 - a. Dual beings. (2 Cor. 4:16)
 - b. Dual natures must agree. (Ro. 14:22)
 - c. Must do as we know. (Jas. 4:17)
5. Unity a deadly foe to infidelity. (Jno. 17:21)

INTRODUCTION

1. Saul authorized to go to Damascus. (Acts 26:12)
 - a. Authority from the elders. (Acts 22:5)
 - b. Bring Christians for punishment. (Acts 22:5)
2. Experience on the road. (Acts 22:6,7)
 - a. Saw a great light.
 - b. Heard a voice.
3. Tells Agrippa he saw a vision.
 - a. Paul saw many things in that vision.

I. PAUL SAW HE WAS IGNORANT (1 Tim. 1:13)

1. Brought up before Gamaliel. (Acts 22:3)
2. Profited above equals. (Gal. 1:14)
3. Acknowledges ignorance. (1 Tim. 1:13)
 - a. Because of ignorance he was:
 1. A blasphemer.
 2. A persecuter.
 3. Injurious.
4. Religionists need "wisdom from above."

II. PAUL SAW HE WAS A SINNER (1 Tim. 1:15)

1. His Hebrew status. (Phil. 3:5,6)
2. Thoughts wrong. (Acts 26:9)
3. Followed his conscience. (Acts 23:1)
4. Saw himself as was. (1 Tim. 1:15)
5. Had to do something to be saved. (Acts 22:16)

III. PAUL SAW HIS TEACHER WAS WRONG

1. Few like to part with teacher.
2. He saw that even Gamaliel could be wrong.
3. He obeyed the one he had hated! (Heb. 5:8,9)
4. He put no trust in flesh and blood. (Gal. 1:13)

IV. PAUL SAW HE HAD TO BREAK WITH TRADITION

1. His traditional background. (Acts 22:3, Gal. 1:14)
2. Had to make a choice. (Phil 3:7)
3. The cost was great. (Phil 3:8)
4. Reward was greater. (Ro. 8:18; 2 Cor. 4:17; 2 Tim. 4:6-8)

(Gen. 5:24)

INTRODUCTION

1. "Enoch walked with God." (Gen. 5:24)
 - a. Story of Enoch told in few words.
 - b. Greatest not most talked of.
2. Those who know God must walk with Him. (1 Jno. 2:6)
 - a. How we know that we know him. (1 Jno. 2:3)
 - b. How we know he is with us. (Jno. 3:24)

I. IMPORTANCE OF WALKING WITH GOD

1. God accepts such. (Heb. 11:5)
2. God is present with the obedient. (2 Jno. 9)
3. Such are blameless before God. (Lu. 1:1-5)
4. Such are happy before God. (Psa. 1:1-5)

II. WHAT IS IMPLIED IN WALKING WITH GOD

1. We must be agreed. (Amos 3:3)
 - a. We must be one. (1 Cor. 1:10; Jno. 17:20,21)
 - b. Doing his word makes us one. (Jno. 8:31)
 - c. We must walk in God's way. (Isa. 55:7-9)
2. We must have faith. (Heb. 11:6; 2 Cor. 5:7)
 - a. Faith comes from hearing. (Ro. 10:17)
 - b. Anything without faith is sin. (Ro. 14:23)
 - c. If God does not say it, we sin in doing it. (2 Jno.9)
3. We must be obedient.
 - a. God is with obedient. (1 Jno. 3:24; 2 Jno. 9-11)
 - b. Obedience better than sacrifice. (1 Sam. 15:22)
 - c. Confessing Christ requires obedience. (Lu. 6:46; Jno. 14:15)
4. We must be friends of Christ.
 - a. Only obedient are friends. (Jno. 15:14)
 - b. Abraham called friend of God three times.
5. We must suffer hardships.
 - a. We suffer to reign. (2 Tim. 2:12)
 - b. All who live godly must suffer. (2 Tim. 3:12)

III. RESULT OF WALKING WITH GOD

1. Partake his divine nature. (2 Pet. 1:4)
2. Worshipper like thing worshipped. (Psa. 135:11-18)

(Isa. 21:11)

INTRODUCTION

1. Watchman's duty is to warn of danger.
2. Old testament for our learning. (Ro. 15:4)
3. Declare what he seeth. (Isa. 21:6)
4. If fail, blood upon own soul. (Ezek. 3:17,18)

I. THE NEED FOR WATCHMEN

1. Devil seeks to devour. (1 Pet. 5:8)
2. Grievous wolves abound. (Acts 20:29)
3. Some are perverse. (Acts 20:30; Gal. 1:7)

II. THE WORK OF WATCHMAN

1. See present or approaching evils.
 - a. Elders are watchmen. (Heb. 13:17)
 - b. Preachers are watchmen. (2 Tim. 4:5)
2. Watchmen "Cry aloud, spare not." (Isa. 58:1)
 - a. Errors must be exposed. (Isa. 21:6)
 - b. Sinners to be rebuked. (1 Tim. 5:20; Gal. 2:14)
3. Deliver his soul. (Ezek. 3:17-21)
 - a. Paul free from blood. (Acts 20:26)
 - b. Preached whole counsel. (Acts 20:27)

III. EXAMPLES OF WATCHMEN

1. Old testament examples:
 - a. Samuel to Saul. (1 Sam. 15:13,14,21,22)
 - b. Elijah to Ahab. (1 Kings 18:17-24)
 - c. Nathan to David. (2 Sam. 12:7-15)
 - d. Young prophet to Jeroboam. (1 Ki. 13:1-3)
2. New testament examples:
 - a. John Baptist to Herod. (Mar. 6:17,18)
 - b. Jesus to Pharisees. (Matt. 23:1-33)
 - c. Stephen. (Acts 7:51)
 - d. Paul. (Acts 20:29,30; Gal. 2:5,14)

IV. WHAT WATCHMEN SEE TODAY

1. Denominationalism. (1 Cor. 1:10; 3:1-4; 2 Cor. 6:17,18)
2. Secret order entanglement. (2 Tim. 2:4)
3. Indifference. (Rev. 3:15-18)
4. Worldliness. (1 Jno. 2:15-17; 1 Tim. 5:6)
5. Selfishness. (Acts 11:27-30)
6. Inefficiency. (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 3:15)
 - a. Christians are warriors. (Eph. 6:12)
 - b. Should fight. (1 Tim. 6:12)

(Eph. 5:27)

INTRODUCTION

1. Every member should consider local needs.
 - a. All to know. (Jno. 6:44,45)
 - b. To know and not do is sin. (Jas. 4:17)
2. Every member to supply his part. (Eph. 4:16)
3. Must give an abundant service. (1Cor. 15:58)

I. A 100% CONVERTED MEMBERSHIP

1. Only converted compose kingdom. (Jno. 3:5)
2. Some in local congregations not converted.
 - a. They "join the church."
 - b. Obedience saves the soul. (1 Pet. 1:22,23)
3. God adds the saved to the church. (Acts 2:47)
 - a. Local membership moves with us. (Acts 9:26)
 - b. Phebe commended to local church. (Ro. 16:1)

II. A 100% ATTENDANCE

1. Early disciples steadfast. (Acts 2:42)
2. Whole church to come together. (1 Cor. 14:23)
3. Tarry one for another. (1 Cor. 11:33)
4. Not forsake assembly. (Heb. 10:25,26)

III. A 100% CO-OPERATION

1. Some want to operate without the "co."
 - a. Bite and devour. (Gal. 5:15)
 - b. Kindly affectioned. (Ro. 12:10)
2. We are co-laborers together. (1 Cor. 3:9)
3. Endeavoring to keep unity. (Eph. 4:1-3)

IV. A 100% GIVING

1. To purpose to give. (2 Cor. 9:7)
2. To give willingly and freely. (1 Cor. 9:6,7)
3. Commanded to give as prosper. (1 Cor. 16:1,2)

V. A 100% LIVING

1. Christian is the light. (Matt. 5:13-16)
2. Christ seen only through Christians. (Gal. 2:20; Phil 1:21; 2:14,15)

VI. THIS CHURCH DOES NOT NEED

1. Non-attending members. (Heb. 10:25; 1 Cor. 11:30-34)
2. Uninformed members. (2 Tim. 2:15; Heb. 5:12-14; 1 Pet. 2:1,2; 3:15; Eph. 4:18)
3. Non-supporting members.
 - a. Church requires material support. (Phil 4:15,16)

INTRODUCTION

1. Wonderful attitude manifested here.
 - a. No question to get around.
 - b. Full submission to His will.
2. Obedience is God's delight. (1 Sam. 15:22)
3. Cornelius possessed of this spirit. (Acts 10:33)
4. Nadab and Abihu fail here. (Lev. 10:1,2)

I. DIFFERENT VIEWS OF COMMANDS

1. The infidel view.
 - a. There is no God.
 - b. Hence there can be no command.
2. The denominationalist view.
 - a. Commands divided into essential and non-essential.
 - b. We have liberty to make laws - creeds.
 - c. God's commands not sufficient.
3. Christian view.
 - a. Christ has all authority. (Matt. 28:18)
 - b.. Every command is essential. (Jas. 2:10)
 - c. Disobedience damns soul. (2 Thess. 1:8)

II. THE COMMAND AS RELATED TO:

1. The alien.
 - a. Believe. (Heb. 11:6; Jno. 8:24; Mar. 11:22)
 - b. Repent. (Lu. 13:3; Acts 2:38; 17:30)
 - c. Confess. (Matt. 10:32,33; Acts 8:37)
 - d. Baptism. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16)
2. Erring child of God.
 - a. Repent. (Acts 8:22)
 - b. Confess. (Jas. 5:16)
 - c. Pray. (Acts 8:22; Jas. 5:16)
3. The faithful child of God.
 - a. Be steadfast. (Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 15:58)
 - b. Desire to grow. (1 Pet. 2:1,2; Heb. 5:12)
 - c. Not forsake assembly. (Heb. 10:25)
 - d. Teach the word. (2 Tim. 2:2,24)
 - e. Endeavor to keep unity. (Eph. 4:1,2)
 - f. Convert the erring. (Jas. 5:19,20; Gal. 6:1)
 - g. Abstain from all evil. (1 Thess. 5:22)
 - h. Do good. (Gal. 6:10)

(1 Pet. 3:15)

INTRODUCTION

1. Christian religion demands thought.
 - a. All have to be taught. (Jno. 6:44,45)
 - b. All have to give reason. (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - c. All have to study. (2 Tim. 2:15)
2. Must speak as oracles of God. (1 Pet. 4:11)

I. FACTS ABOUT THE CHURCH

1. Christ it's builder. (Matt. 16:18)
2. Christ is the head. (Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22,23)
3. Members names written in heaven. (Heb. 12:23)
4. It cannot be shaken. (Heb. 12:28)
5. Membership in church is greatest privilege. (Matt. 11:11)

II. MAN'S EXCUSE FOR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

1. Parents were members. (See Lu. 14:26)
2. Joined with companion. (See Matt. 10:34,35)
3. Most popular thing. (See Lu. 6:26)

III. BIBLE REASONS FOR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

1. Called into it. (Col. 3:15; 1 Thess. 2:12)
 - a. Called by the gospel. (2 Thess. 2:14.)
 - b. Must obey the gospel. (2 Thess. 1:7-9)
2. Born again. (Jno. 3:5; 1 Pet. 1:22, 23.)
3. Reconciled. (Eph. 2:16; 2 Cor. 5:18-20.)
4. Saved. (Mar. 16:15, 16; Acts 2:47; K. V.)
5. Married to Christ. (Ro. 7:4; Eph. 5:30.)
6. Translated into it. (Col. 1:13.)
7. Accepted Christ as head. (Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22.)
8. Sanctified. (1 Cor. 1:1, 2; Eph. 5:26.)

IV. HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF CHURCH

1. Saved are added. (Acts 2:47.)
2. How one is saved.
 - a. Believe in Christ. (Jno. 8:24.)
 - b. Repent of sins. (Acts 2:38; 17:30.)
 - c. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32; Acts 8:37.)
 - d. Be baptized. (Mar. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21.)

V. THAT REQUIRED OF CHURCH MEMBERS

1. Faithfulness. (Rev. 2:10; 22:14.)
2. Steadfastness (1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 10:25.)

INTRODUCTION

1. This is a question worth considering.
 2. Two theories will eliminate study:
 - a. Unconditional election.
 - b. Direct operation of Holy Spirit.
 3. Either study or accept a theory.
- I. SOME DID NOT HAVE TO STUDY
1. Twelve apostles and Paul did not.
 - a. Words given as needed. (Matt. 10:19, 20.)
 - b. Holy Spirit remind them. (Jno. 14:26; 16:13.)
 - c. Paul received his by revelation. (Gal. 1:11, 12; Eph. 3:3-5.)
 2. Some enjoyed special gifts. (1Cor. 12:8.)
- II. REASONS FOR STUDYING THE BIBLE
1. It is God's word. (Isa. 1:2; Heb. 1:1,2)
 2. It is God's perfect will. (Jas. 1:25)
 - a. Is all pertaining to life. (2 Pet. 1:3)
 - b. Thoroughly furnishes. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
 - c. A final message. (Jude 3; Gal. 1:6-9)
 3. It is our source of light. (Psa. 119:105)
 - a. Tells of man's origin. (Gen. 1:26,27)
 - b. Tells of destiny of soul. (Rev. 21:8; 22:14)
 - c. Gives knowledge of eternal life. (Jno. 17:3; 1 Jno. 2:3,4; 3:24)
 - d. Source of all faith. (Ro. 10:17; Jno. 17:20; 20:30,31)
 4. Only way to spiritual understanding.
 - a. We may understand. (Eph. 3:1-5)
 - b. Gives understanding. (Psa. 119:104,130)
 5. We will be judged by it. (Jno. 12:48; Rev. 20:12)
 - a. Disobedient damned. (Mar. 16:16; 2 Thess. 1:7-9)
 - b. Ignorance does not excuse. (Acts 17:30)
 6. Reveals the plan of salvation. (Matt. 28:19; Mar. 16:15; Lu. 24:46,47; Acts 2:36-38)

INTRODUCTION

1. Work is an honorable thing. (2 Thess. 3:10,12; Titus 3:14)
2. Do our work heartily. (Col. 3:17,23)
 - a. In religious work. (1 Cor. 15:58)
 - b. In secular work. (2 Thess. 3:10,11)
3. Every man has his own work to do. (Mar. 13:34)

I. LIMITED TIME TO WORK! (Jno. 9:4)

1. Work is necessity - "I must work."
2. We must work in the "day" - "while it is day."
3. Cannot work in the night - night of death.
4. Not our works, but God's
 - a. The works of Him that sent me. (Jno. 9:4)
 - b. Seek not mine own will. (Jno. 5:30)
 - c. Came to do will of God. (Jno. 6:38)
 - d. My meat to do God's will. (Jno. 4:32,34)

II. ENCOURAGED TO WORK! (1 Cor. 15:58)

1. Steadfastness in faith - "Unmovable."
2. Always abounding:
 - a. This must be qualified.
 1. Some abound in evil works.
 2. This is the easy course.
 - b. Qualified by: "In the work of the Lord."
2. Working for the Lord keeps us out of the employ of Satan. (1 Jno. 5:18)
4. Your labor is not in vain.
 - a. Faith without works is vain. (Jas. 2:20)
 - b. The obedient blessed. (Rev. 22:14)

III. NATURE OF WORK TO BE DONE (1 Thess. 1:2,3)

1. Work of faith.
 - a. Must be taught in the word. (Ro. 10:17)
 - b. We walk by faith. (2 Cor. 5:7)
2. Labor of love. This is love: (1 Jno. 5:3)
3. Patience of hope. See (Lu. 21:19)

IV. RELATION OF FAITH AND WORKS

(Jas. 2:14-20)

1. Faith without works is dead. v. 20.
2. Faith perfected by works. (Jas. 2:22)

V. JUDGED BY OUR WORKS (2 Cor. 5:10)

1. All face the judgment. (Matt. 25:31-33)

