THE INSTRUCTOR

"***All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.***" (2 Timothy 3:16)

Volume 49 **JULY, 2012** **Number 7**

IT IS WRITTEN, BUT MANY REJECT THE TEACHING

[No. 3]

Let us continue to consider some things that are written in the NT that many "believers" reject.

13. Mark 9:1- "And he said unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, **That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power**." Also see Mt. 16:28. **NOTE**: Jesus said that the kingdom of God would come during the lifetime of some who were then living – in the first century! In Col. 1:13 Paul said to the saints who were at Colosse had been "**translated... into the kingdom of his dear Son**." In Rev. 1:9 we learn that John was "**in the kingdom**". Also see Hebrews 12:28-29. Many reject the teaching that is plainly written in these verses.

14. During His earthly ministry, Jesus instituted "the Lord's supper" and commanded that His disciples eat & drink it. [Read Mt. 26:26-29; Mk. 14:22-25; Lk. 22:19 & 1 Cor. 11:23-34.] We read in Acts 2:42 that the disciples "continued steadfastly in the apostles' **doctrine and fellowship**, **and in the breaking of bread**, **and in prayers**." NOTE: The Lord's supper (the breaking of bread) was not occasionally observed by the disciples according to their own whim (fancy, notion), but they "**continued steadfastly**" in observing it as they did "**in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship**...**and in prayers**."

We learn from Acts 20:7 the day on which disciples assembled to observe it. It says "**And upon the first day of the week**, **when the disciples came together to break bread**, **Paul preached unto them**..." NOTE: This is clearly written but many reject this teaching! You aren't one of them, are you?

15. Mark 16:15-16- "**And he said unto them**, **Go ye into all the world and preach the gos-**

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Editorial...

SERVING GOD ACCEPTABLY

God desires of us that we serve Him! In Matt. 4:10 Jesus said: "...**for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve**." Also see Matt. 6:24. In writing to saints in 1 Thess. 1:9 Paul said: "...**how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God**." Also see Romans 12:11 & Acts 20:19.

DOES IT MATTER HOW ONE SERVES GOD?

Yes, it does matter how one serves God! In Heb. 12:28-29 we read: "...**let us have grace**, **whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear**: **For our God is a consuming fire**." Many do not serve God with reverence and godly fear and God will not accept their service. In John 16:2 [Jesus said to his disciples]: "**They shall put you out of the synagogues**: **yea**, **the time cometh**, **that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service**." Also see Matt. 7:21-23; 15:7-9; Titus 1:16; Matt. 25:30; Rom. 6:18 & 12:1.

ACCEPTABLE SERVICE IS CHARACTERIZED BY REVERENCE AND GODLY FEAR!

"Reverence" suggests profound respect mingled with love and awe. It is true piety of man toward God. "Godly fear" involves a fearful, deep, sincere respect for God that leads to the obedience of His will.

In Psalms 89:7 we read: "**God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints**, **and to be had in reverence by all them that are about him.**" Sometimes silence may show reverence. Habakkuk 2:20 says: "**But the Lord is in his holy temple**: **let all the earth keep silence before him**." Also see Zephaniah 1:7 & Zech. 2:13.

We learn from Hebrews 11:7 that "**By faith Noah**, **being warned of God of things not seen as yet**, **moved with fear**, **prepared an ark to the saving of his house**..." We should *move with fear* to do what God tells in His Word! We should emulate the prophet Obadiah of whom it is written: "(**Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly**)" [1 Kings 18:3]. Also consider such men as Abraham & Job who "**feared God**." See Gen. 22:12; Job 1:1. Also see Eccl.12:13; Psalms 128:1; Matt. 10:28; Acts 10:35.

ACCEPTABLE SERVICE IS DOING GOD'S WILL!

Please consider carefully the following passages.

---Matt. 7:21- "**Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."**

---Luke 6:46- "**And why**

call ye me, Lord, **Lord**, **and do not the things which I say**?"

---John 15:14- "**Ye are my friends**, **if ye do whatsoever I command you**."

---James 1:22- "**But be ye doers of the word**, **and not hearers only**, **deceiving your own selves**." See James 2:12.

God accepted Abel's offering & rejected Cain's because Abel did God's will but Cain did not. [See Gen. 4:1-15; Heb. 11:4] Nadab & Abihu were killed by fire that went out from the Lord because they "**offered strange fire before the Lord, which he commanded them not**" according to Lev. 10:1-3. Speaking of properly moving the Ark of the Covenant David said: "**For because ye did it not at the first**, **the Lord our God made a breach upon us**, **for that we sought him not after the due order**." [1 Chron. 15:13]

ACCEPTABLE SERVICE IS A WILLING SERVICE IN THE IMMOVEABLE KINGDOM!

Read 2 Cor. 8.12; Heb. 12: 28; Mt. 16:18-19; John 3:3-5; 2 Pet. 3:9; Mt. 11:28; Rev. 22:17.

Are you a true child of God? Is your service to Him acceptable by Him? If it is not, conform your attitudes and actions in accordance with His will and He will accept it! Begin today!

(CRS)

(Continued from page 1)

IT IS WRITTEN, BUT MANY REJECT THE TEACHING

pel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." NOTE: Although it is clear that Jesus promised salvation in this passage ***after*** belief *and* baptism, many reject what is written.

16. In Acts 2:38 Peter said, "**Repent**, **and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins**, **and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost**." NOTE: It is written that sinners are to "**repent**, ***and*** **be baptized**...***for the remission of sins***" but this is clearly rejected by many, many people! Are you one of the many who reject what is plainly written in the word of God? I hope not.

17. Galatians 3:26-27- "**For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ**." NOTE: Clearly written, isn't it? They were God's children by faith in Christ Jesus because they had been baptized into Christ! Is that what you did?

(To be continued) [CRS]

"***I'M THANKFUL***"

I'm thankful for the blessings
God has bestowed on me,
Hands to feel, feet to walk,
and eyes with which to see.
I'm grateful for my job, my
friends, the home in which I live,
and for a loving family,
Who knows how to forgive.
I'm thankful for the faith and hope,
that lingers in my heart;
With these I always find the strength,
to make another start.
I'm grateful, too, for sorrows
which may befall my lot,
because they teach me how to open,
trouble's double knot.
For these and countless other things,
I owe a debt to God,
So I offer prayers of thanks,
As through the years I plod.

-Author unknown

G. C. PACK

[1928 – 2012]

G. C. Pack was born May 17, 1928 and departed from this earthly life June 10, 2012 at the age of 84 years.

G. C. and his faithful wife Louise were married for about 63 years. They were blessed with 3 children, Mike, Connie and Chris who are faithful Christians. They have 13 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

G. C. obeyed the gospel of Christ while a teenager. When I began working with the Church at East Albertville 48 years ago last August, G. C. had been a Christian about 20 years and was a faithful member of the church.

In my judgment, our beloved brother in Christ and dear friend desired to be righteous and sincerely endeavored to faithful in serving the Lord!

Our brother G. C. Pack was a man of faith in God and faith in Jesus Christ. He was a man of conviction and he endeavored to live by faith. He was an asset to the congregation. No one had to guess about where he stood. He served as an elder of the church at East Albertville from 1991 – 1997. We are thankful that he lived and was our friend!

On June 11, 2012 the body of G. C. Pack was laid to rest in the Blessing Cemetery in DeKalb County, Alabama to await the resurrection of all the dead. We do not sorrow as those who have no hope. [CRS]

GOSPEL MEETINGS @ LIGON ST CHURCH OF CHRIST, Guntersville, AL. JULY 2 – AUG. 1, 2012 at 10 am & 11am & 4pm on Lord's Day & 7pm nightly. *Carrol R Sutton will be preaching.* Tell others & you come!

HEAR THE GOSPEL DAILY over WBSA Radio 1300 on the AM dial- at 11:15 am Monday – Saturday and at 8:30am on the Lord's Day. You can listen by means of the *Internet*. Go to: eastalbertvillechurchofchrist.com and follow instructions.

LIVE SERMONS over the internet each Lord's Day - 11am & 6pm. Go to: <**eastalbertvillechurchofchrist.com**> and follow directions - 11am & 6pm.

Sentence Sermons

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is to stop digging.

* * * * * *

As incomes have gotten higher, it seems that morals have gotten lower – much lower.

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When "success" turns a man's head, it usually leaves him looking in the wrong direction.

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Some people are like blotters; they soak up "everything" but get it backwards.

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One thing you can and should give and still keep is your ***word!***

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