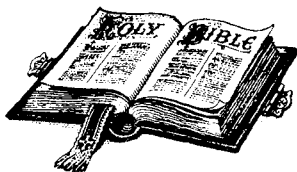


# THE INSTRUCTOR



*"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 15

DECEMBER 1978,

Number 12

## WHAT ABOUT WOMEN PREACHERS?

The number of women "preachers" is increasing yearly. Many people think they are really "broad-minded" if they accept and promote the modern idea of "equality" of the sexes. It seems to never enter the minds of some people that **God's Will** should be considered when the subjects of "the role of men" and "the role of women" are considered. **What about "women preachers?"** Should we have them? Is God please with them? What is **God's Will** relative to "**women preachers?**" Can a woman be a preacher of the gospel BY FAITH? Let us consider the following facts and principles.

1. I CORINTHIANS 11:3 says: "**But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the HEAD OF THE WOMAN IS THE MAN; and the head of Christ is God.**" This shows that in a general way **women should be in subjection to men.** We also learn from 1 Corinthians 11:7-9 that the woman is the glory of man, was created for the man and is of the man.

2. EPHESIANS 5:22-24 says: "**WIVES, SUBMIT YOURSELVES UNTO YOUR OWN HUSBANDS, as unto the Lord. For THE HUSBAND IS THE HEAD OF THE WIFE, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so LET THE WIVES BE TO THEIR HUSBANDS IN EVERYTHING.**" This indicates that **each wife should be in subjection to her husband as her head.** In Colossians 3:18 Paul said: "**Wives, submit**

**yourself unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.**" It is certainly proper, fitting and right for wives to be in submission to their husbands!

3. I CORINTHIANS 14:34-35 says: "**Let your WOMEN KEEP SILENCE IN THE CHURCHES: FOR IT IS NOT PERMITTED UNTO THEM TO SPEAK; but they are commanded to be UNDER OBEDIENCE,** as also saith the law. And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home: **FOR IT IS A SHAME FOR WOMEN (A.S.V. says "a woman" — CRS) TO SPEAK IN THE CHURCH.**" Paul teaches (by inspiration) in this passage that **WOMEN SHOULD KEEP SILENCE IN THE ASSEMBLIES BECAUSE IT IS A SHAME FOR WOMEN TO SPEAK IN THE CHURCH (assembly).** Women preachers do not keep silence in the assemblies. Women preachers do speak. Women preachers are not under obedience as also saith the law. **It is a shame for women preachers to speak in the church!** There is no way that women can follow the instructions of the Lord in 1 Cor. 11:34-35 and be a preacher!

4. I TIMOTHY 2:11-12 says: "**LET THE WOMAN LEARN IN SILENCE WITH ALL SUBJECTION. But I suffer NOT a woman to teach, not to usurp authority OVER THE MAN, BUT TO BE IN SILENCE.**" This passage shows that **women should have a quiet disposition and a spirit of SUBJECTION.** It also teaches that a woman has **no right to teach nor have**

*(Continued on page 4)*

## THE INSTRUCTOR

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

CARROL R. SUTTON  
EDITOR

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

Second-class postage paid in  
Albertville, Ala. 35950

## Editorial - - -

### FEET WASHING

Nothing can be practiced BY FAITH unless it is authorized in the Word of God since **"faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."** (Romans 10:17). There are a number of "religious" people who obviously think that "we should engage in feet washing as an act of public worship." Should we? Can it be done BY FAITH? What saith the **Scripture**?

#### IT IS MENTIONED IN OLD TESTAMENT

"Feet washing" is mentioned several times in the Old Testament. Sometimes visitors were told soon after their arrival to wash their feet. (See Genesis 18:1-8; 19:1-3; 24:32 & 43:24). Providing water to enable the visitors to wash their feet was, no doubt, an act of hospitality. This was practiced **before** the law of Moses was given. It was also practiced **during** the time that the law of Moses was in force. (See Judges 19:16-21). The law of Moses required **"Aaron and his sons"** to **"wash their hands and their feet"** when they went **"into the tabernacle of the congregation"** or when they went **"near to the altar to minister."** (See Exodus 30:17-21). Of course, we are NOT living either **before** the law of Moses was given or **during** the

time that the law of Moses was in force. The law has been nailed to the cross. In Col. 2:14-17 Paul said: **"Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross. . . . Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ."** We are **"dead to the law,"** (see Romans 7:4), and are **"free from the law of sin and death."** (See Romans 8:2). We are living **during the gospel age** and are **"under law to Christ."** (See 1 Corinthians 9:21; also Hebrews 9:16-17; James 1:25; James 2:12; & 2 Thess. 1:7-9).

#### JESUS WASHED HIS DISCIPLES' FEET

During His personal ministry, Jesus washed the feet of His twelve disciples and told them that they should **"wash one another's feet."** (See John 13:1-17). A close reading of this passage will show that Jesus washed their feet **because they were dirty** and **He could perform a needed service** and **by this act He could teach them a lesson they needed on humility.** Jesus did NOT command them to **"wash feet"** as an act of public worship! This idea is a "doctrine of men." It did NOT originate with Christ. The "feet washing" of John 13 took place **before** the church was established. The only time "feet washing" is mentioned after the church was established on Pentecost in Acts 2 as in Paul's first letter to Timothy in chapter 5 and verse 10. In that passage "feet washing" is NOT mentioned as an act of public worship, but it is listed with other **"good works"** performed by Christians as individuals such as **"rearing children," "lodging strangers,"** and **"relieving the afflicted."** Are these **"good works"** acts of public worship that are to be performed in the public assembly? I know of no passage of Scripture that indicates that they are. Neither do I know of **any person** who so believes and contends.

YES, we should **"wash one another's feet"** as an act of service, hospitality or humility as the occasion may demand or warrant, but NOT as an act of public worship. NO, we can NOT engage in "feet washing as an act of public worship BY FAITH!

If you are too proud to wash the feet of disciples of Christ, you are too proud to be a faithful servant of Jesus Christ.

(CRS)

# THE KINGDOM IS NOW IN EXISTENCE

There are many people who believe that **"the kingdom is not in existence now, but when Christ comes again he will then set up his kingdom on earth."** Let us examine very carefully the Word of God and see if such an idea is taught therein.

1. Daniel prophesied that God would set up a kingdom during the reign of the Roman kings when he said: **"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."** (Daniel 2:44). NOTE: This prophecy was made about 600 years before Jesus Christ was born. Jesus Christ lived on earth during the days of the Roman Ceasars.

2. John the Baptist preached saying, **"Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."** NOTE: The kingdom was **"at hand"** (or near) at the time John spoke which was a few years before the death of Jesus. (Matthew 3:2).

3. Jesus Christ began **"to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."** (Matthew 4:17). NOTE: The kingdom was **"at hand"** (or near) a few years before Jesus died on the cross.

4. We learn from Matthew 16:18-19 that the church (or kingdom) had not been built at that time, but that when it was built in the near future (from that time) that Jesus would **"give"** to Peter **"the keys of the kingdom."** NOTE: The words **church** and **kingdom** are used interchangeably in this passage.

5. Jesus taught that the kingdom would come during the life time of some of those who were **then** living. Mark 9:1 says: **"And he (Jesus—CRS) 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."**

6. While the body of Jesus Christ was on the cross, Joseph of Arimathaea, a disciple, **"also waited for the kingdom of God."** (See John 19:38 & Mark 15:43).

7. By about 96 A.D. the kingdom had been set up because John was **"your brother and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom**

**and patience of Jesus Christ,..."** (Revelation 1:9).

8. By approximately 64 A.D., Christians had received **"a kingdom,"** (see Hebrews 12:28), and **"the saints and faithful brethen in Christ"** at Colosse had been **"delivered from the power of darkness, and translated into the kingdom of his dear Son."** (See Colossians 1:13).

9. A short time after Pentecost as mentioned in Acts 2, Philip was **"preaching things concerning the kingdom of God."** (See Acts 8:12). NOTE: Since the kingdom is the church, and the church began on Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2, **that is when the kingdom of God was set up on earth!**

10. When Christ comes again, instead of setting up the kingdom on earth, He will deliver up the kingdom to God. In 1 Corinthians 15:23-28 Paul said: **"But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterwards they that are Christ's at His coming. Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign, till He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under His feet. But when He saith all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted, which did put all things under Him. And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that God may be all in all."**

NO, the idea that **"the kingdom is not in existence now, but will be set up later"** is NOT taught in God's Word! It is a theory of men that plainly contradicts the Word of God.

The church is the kingdom of God. The church is NOW in existence! Therefore the kingdom is NOW in existence!

Are you a citizen in the kingdom of God? If you are truly a member in the body of Christ which is the church, you are a citizen in the kingdom of God. If you are not in the kingdom which is the body of Christ, you should **believe** that Jesus Christ is God's Son, **repent** of every sin, **confess** faith in Christ as the Son of God, and **be baptized** INTO the body, which is the kingdom!

(CRS)

# DID YOU KNOW?

Many "believers in God" have an erroneous concept of the nature of God. All we know about the nature of God is what we learn from the Scriptures. In this study let us consider some passages that deal with the nature of God.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"** (Numbers 23:19).

**DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent?"** (1 Samuel 15:29).

**DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth?"** (John 4:24). **NOTE:** God (the Father) does not have flesh and bones because Jesus said: **"Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have."** (Luke 24:39). **OBSERVATION:** The GOD of the Bible does not have a tangible, physical body of flesh and bones!

**DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory?"** (Isaiah 6:3). **NOTE:** The Psalmist also said: "... for the

**Lord our God is holy." (Psalms 99:9). NOTE: Our GOD is HOLY!**

**DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God?"** (Psalms 90:1-2). **NOTE: Our GOD has always existed and always will exist!**

**LET US NOT THINK OF GOD AS IF HE WERE A MAN, BUT LET US EXALT HIM AS GOD!**

(CRS)

*(Continued from page 1)*

## WHAT ABOUT WOMEN PREACHERS?

**dominion over the man.** A woman can NOT respect these restrictions and be a preacher.

**NO, women preachers are NOT authorized in the Word of God!**

(CRS)

THE HILL-SUTTON DEBATE HAS NOT BEEN RESCHEDULED YET because we have not received the proper response from the West Hobbs Street "elders" nor from Albert Hill. We are still waiting.

---

## Sentence Sermons

The best way to escape evil is to pursue good.

God's grace is always greater than our problems.

You can never find a lost opportunity.

The longest journey begins with a single step.

Friends are made by many acts, but they may be lost by one.

---

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1107 Highway 431 South  
Albertville, AL 35950