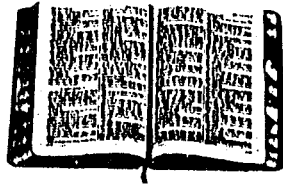


THE INSTRUCTOR



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

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INCREASING OUR FAITH

Faith defined by *W.E. Vine* is primarily, firm persuasion, a conviction based upon hearing (to persuade), is used in the New Testament always of faith in God Of Christ or things spiritual Page 71. We as christians should desire to increase our faith, since we walk by faith II Cor. 5:7 **"For we walk by faith! Not by sight."** Since faith comes by hearing the word Rom. 10:17 **"So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God."** We need to study the word and be familiar with it II Tim. 2:15 **"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."** Since all scripture is given by inspiration of God II Tim. 3:16-17 **"All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."** We should not be without faith. Heb. 11:6 **"But without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."** In increasing our faith we will obey the truth I Pet. 1:22 **"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see**

that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." In increasing our faith we will stand fast in the word Gal. 5:1 **"Stand fast therefore in the liberty where with Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."** We should grow as children of God II Pet. 3:18 **"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, to him be glory both now and forever amen."** In serving God we will add to our faith I Pet. 5:5-8 **"And beside this giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."** We should increase our faith Lk. 17:5 **"And the apostles said unto the Lord, increase our faith."** We should be obedient to the faith Acts 6:7 **"And the word of God increased, and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly, and a great company of the priest were obedient to the faith."** As we increase in our faith the church will also increase in faith

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WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT PUTTING AWAY

Jesus is quoted four times in Matthew, Mark, and Luke concerning putting away and marrying again. There are significant points from each that contribute to our understanding of the truth. Luke 16:18 is a good verse to begin with since it deals with the rule without dealing with the exception. It says **"Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery."** The first part of the verse (to the colon) deals with every one (ASV) that puts away his wife, and marries someone else, commits adultery. The second part of the verse states that he commits adultery that marries the wife that was put away by her husband. Note that the Lord dealt individually with the marriages of the one who put his wife away first and the one who married the wife that is put away from her husband.

A reading of Matthew 19:9 shows an almost identical wording: **"...Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."** The differences in the first part of this reading (to the colon) and the first part of the verse from Luke is (1) an exception to the rule, and (2) the tense of the verb (putteth vs. shall put). Though the exception is only stated in Matthew, it is still fully binding since we are to live **"by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."** So if a man puts away his wife for the cause of

fornication and marries another, the scriptures do not call him an adulterer. In the second part of Matthew 19:9, there is no exception applied here to the one that would marry a woman that is put away. He is an adulterer without exception.

Matthew 5:32 is the next verse that Jesus spoke to be noticed. He said, **"... That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery."** The first part of the verse shows that a man bears guilt for putting his wife away unless it is for the cause of fornication. The latter part of the verse (after the colon) is very similar to our previous two verses except it uses the term "divorced" instead of "put away." Both of these terms come from the Greek APOLUO. In Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words under "Divorce, Divorcement" after commenting on Matthew 5:32, he continues "it is further used of divorce in Matt. 1:19; 19:3,7-9; Mark 10: 2,4, 11; Luke 16:18. The Lord also used it of the case of a wife putting away her husband, Mark 10:12...." The Thayer Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament says of the word with respect to the subject verses: "used of divorce." No one should misunderstand when these verses speak of "putting away" it means divorcing.

The fourth passage is Mark 10:11-12 where it reads: **"...Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery."** This scripture does not deal with the exception either but one significant thing from this is that it shows the rule of putting away and marrying another to be an adulterous act whether it is the husband or wife that takes the action. Clearly, whichever one takes the action in the divorce is putting the other away without regard to gender.

In conclusion, it has been noted that the terms "divorced" and "put away" are synonymous in these passages. This leaves no room for some other "putting away" after the divorce. Secondly, it has been shown that the exception of allowing a person to remarry after divorce without being guilty of adultery only applies to the one who is granted a divorce based on fornication.

(Sid Rowe)

THE WAGES OF SIN

There has always been a price to pay when one commits sin. Some times it seems to be a small price and at other times it is huge. When we commit a sin we become weaker, our conscience is seared, our self esteem suffers and we are separated from God. We all pay for our sins in different ways depending on the sin and the circumstances. In the garden Adam and Eve paid a great price for sin, Rom. 5:12 Says **"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned"**. The price was, that sin entered into the world, and not only sin but death, both physical and spiritual. That was a great price for one sin. However, no matter how insignificant a sin may seem, it will take something from us. The price for some sins is bondage! II Pet 2:19 **"For of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought into bondage"**.

Many a person has been bound by the sin of alcoholism, drugs, fornication, lying, deceiving, cheating, stealing, and many other such like sins. What a great price to pay for sin. Another price to be paid for sin is the separation from God that it brings, so says Isaiah 59:2

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear". Separation from God is a great price to pay for sin. When we confront temptation and overcome it we are made stronger from the encounter, it becomes easier to resist sin the next time. But when we give in to sin it takes a toll on our ability to resist sin. I Pet 3:12 says **"the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers but the face of**

the Lord is against those that do evil".

This too is a great price to pay for sin. Sin can make us a slave to it, and many people are enslaved to sin. They do not seem to be able to get loose from its power. This slavery to sin is a testimony to the price that sin extorts. Another price for sin is related in II Jn. 9 **"Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God"**.

What a great price to pay for sin, to lose God and all the benefits that go with being close to him. Another great price for sin is revealed in II Thes. 3:6 it says **"ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly"**. This is certainly no small price for sin. To be separated from the best people on earth is a great price to pay for sin. Paul realized the destructive power of sin in I Cor. 6:12 when he said, **"I will not be brought under the power of any"**. He realized that we must not let sin take over in our lives or else we will pay the price for being disobedient to God. And finally what about the ultimate price to pay for sin and that is our soul. In Mt. 16:26 **"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"** Our savior knew what a great price that sin would require when he made this statement. He knew the great destructive power of sin and of its final consequences. Paul tells us of the ultimate price that many will pay for their life of sin in II Thes. 1:7-9. He says **"And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them"**

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INCREASING OUR FAITH

Acts 16:5 **“And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.”** And in Rom. 1:17 **“For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, the just shall live by faith.”**

(Lionel Gary)

(Continued from page 3)
THE WAGES OF SIN

That know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power.” This is the ultimate price that all who sin and do not repent will pay. What a great and terrible price to pay .

(Rex Henson)

A REPORT ON CARROL R. SUTTON
Bro. Sutton continues his period of recuperation , in his home, from his illness. However, he has encountered some problems, but we are hopeful that he will soon be able to assemble with the saints and return to his labors in the Lord's kingdom. We ask that all the saints continue to pray for him.

SENTENCE SERMONS

Character is built, not inherited.

* * * *

Lord increase our faith Lk 7:5

* * *

A heart that seeks God, will find him.

* * *

Faith is personal, but must be displayed openly

* * *

The way to worry about nothing is to pray about everything.

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