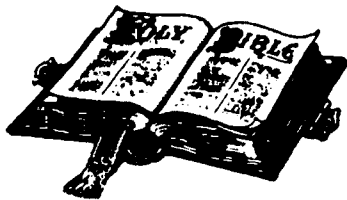


THE INSTRUCTOR



"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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SOME THINGS THE SPIRIT OF MAN CAN DO

An honest consideration of the following Scriptures should convince all of us that **"the spirit of man: is neither mere "breath," "active force" nor "physical life."** Here are some things that **"the spirit of man" MAY BE or CAN DO!**

1. It may be **filthy!** (See 2 Cor. 7:1)

2. It may be **holy!** (See 1 Cor. 7:34)

3. It may be **grieved!** (See Isaiah 54:6)

4. It may be in **anguish!** Job said **"I will speak in the anguish of my spirit:..."** (Job 7:11)

5. It may be **guileless!** Psalm 32:2 says: **"Blessed is the man..., and in whose spirit there is no guile."**

6. It may be **saved!** Paul said: **"...that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. (1 Cor. 5:5)**

7. It may **glorify God!** The apostle Paul admonished: **"...Therefore glorify God in**

your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. (1 Cor. 6:20)

8. It can be **vexed!** Solomon declared: **"... This also is vanity and vexation of spirit."** (Eccl. 2:26; also see 2:11, 17)

9. It can be **troubled!** Nebuchadnezzar said: **"... And my spirit was troubled to know the dream."** (Daniel 2:3; also see verse 1). John 13:21 Says: **"When Jesus had thus said, He was troubled in spirit,..."**

10. It can be **stirred!** Haggai 1:14 tells us **"... that the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel..."** Referring to Paul, Acts 16:17 says that **"... his spirit was stirred in him,..."**

11. It can **fail!** The Psalmist said: **"Hear me speedily, O Lord: my spirit faileth:..."** (143:7)

12. It can **err!** Isaiah 29:24 says **"They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding,..."**

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CARROL R. SUTTON
Editor

Send all questions, comments and criticisms to the **editor**, 4777 U.S. Highway 431, Albertville, Alabama 35950.

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THE LOVE OF GOD

The love of God is mentioned a number of times in the Scriptures. Sometimes when the love of God is mentioned, it has reference to **God's love** (His true concern) **for man**. Here are some of the passages where it is so used.

1. Hosea 11:1- "**When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.**"

2. Jeremiah 31:3- "**The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.**"

3. John 3:16- "**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**"

4. Romans 5:8- "**But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**"

5. 1 John 4:10- "**Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins,**"

6. 2 Cor. 13:11- "**Finally, brethren farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.**"

7. Hosea 14:4- (The Lord through Hosea to Israel) "**I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him.**"

8. 1 John 4:18- "**And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.**"

At other times when the love of God is mentioned it has reference to **man's love for God**. Here are some of the passages in which it is so used.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5- "**Hear O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.**"

2. Matthew 22:36-40- "**... Jesus said unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind...**"

3. Psalm 31:23 says; "**O love the Lord, all ye His saints...**"

4. Romans 8:28- "**And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.**"

5. Psalm 97:10- "**Ye that love the Lord, hate evil...**"

6. 1 Cor. 8:3- "**But if any man love God, the same is known of him.**"

John declared: "**For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments...**" (1 John 5:3). Is John discussing **OUR love for God** and the fact that **it acts**? Or is he discussing the fact that **God's love for us IS** that **we keep His commandments**? Or is He discussing both?

Many people claim to love God, but their actions and attitudes belie their claim. These people remind me of those to whom Jesus referred in Matthew 7:22-23 when He declared: "**Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy**

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THE LOVE OF GOD

name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me ye that work iniquity." It is obvious from this passage that just because people claim to be doing things "in the name of" Jesus Christ does not necessarily mean that they are pleasing God!

Jesus Christ knows if we do or not have the love of God in us. To some Jews who obviously thought that they loved God, Jesus said: "But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you." (John 5:42).

To be friends of Christ, we must do what He tells us! In John 15:14 Jesus said: "Ye are my friends if you do whatsoever I command you." Also to His disciples Jesus said: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15. NOTE: The ASV says: "...Ye will keep my commandments." In John 14:23-24 Jesus declared: "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings:...")

ALL are recipients of God's love (concern and care) in many ways. God giveth to all breath and life and all things. He sends sunshine and rain upon all! He gave Jesus Christ (His only begotten Son) as a sacrifice to atone for the sins of the whole world! However, ONLY those who listen to God's word, believe and obey it have the proper love for God and have access to all spiritual blessings IN Christ!

**SOME THINGS THE SPIRIT OF
MAN CAN DO**

13. It can know! Paul said: "for what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?..." (1 Cor. 2:11)

14. It can will! Jesus declared: "... The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41)

15. It can seek the Lord! Isaiah declared: "...Yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early:..."

16. It can serve God! Paul said: "... My spirit prayeth,... I will pray with the spirit,... (1 Cor. 14:14-15)

17. It can pray Paul declared: "... For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son,..." (Rom. 1:9)

18. It can rejoice in God! Mary said: "And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior." (Luke 1:47)

19. It can be refreshed! Speaking of Stephanas, Fortunatus and Archaicus, Paul said: "For they have refreshed my spirit and yours:..." (1 Cor. 16:18; also see 2 Cor. 7:13)

20. It can go upward! Solomon asked: "Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?" (Eccl. 3:21)

21. It can return unto God! Speaking of death, Solomon declared: "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." (Eccl. 12:7)

22. It can be received by the Lord Jesus! Stephen called "...upon God, saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." (Acts 7:59)

NOTICE: If we are not using your "911" number please send it to us as soon as possible! Thanks!

WILL THE EARTH BE BURNED UP?

So called "Jehovah's Witnesses" contend that the earth will never really be burned up, **only** the wicked, their works, etc. will be burned up. Is this teaching true? Or is it merely a **false** doctrine? To learn the **truth** let us go to the **inspired** Word of God.

In discussing the **coming** of the Lord (which is **not** symbolic) the apostle Peter declared: "**But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, THE EARTH ALSO AND THE WORKS THAT ARE THEREIN SHALL BE BURNED UP.**" (2 Peter 3:10). Then in the next verse Peter continues by saying: "**Seeing then that all these things SHALL BE DISSOLVED, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,...**"?"

NOTE: The "**heavens**" (no doubt, referring to the heavens that surround the earth where the birds fly and the place where the moon, stars, etc.) will pass away with a great noise and the

elements **shall melt** with fervent heat. We learn from verse 12 that "**the heavens BEING ON FIRE SHALL BE DISSOLVED, and the elements SHALL MELT WITH FERVENT HEAT.** The **earth ALSO AND** the works that are therein **SHALL BE BURNED UP!**" This language is plain enough to be understood. It does **not** need any "interpretation" given to it by the "Watchtower Bible & Tract society" or "the governing body of Jehovah's witnesses". The **inspired** words of the apostle Peter are easily understood. OBSERVATION: If **you** are planning on living on this planet **earth "forever and ever"** (or even on it for a thousand years at the **coming** of the **Lord Jesus Christ**) **YOU HAD BETTER MAKE OTHER PLANS** or you will be **sadly disappointed!**

The doctrine that "**the earth will never really be burned up, but ONLY the wicked, their works, etc., will be burned up**" is a **FALSE** doctrine that will **not** stand when the searchlight of truth is focused on it!

(CRS)

- SENTENCE SERMONS -

One's emotions are **not** the **standard** by which we determine what *is* right.

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Desire is the first rung on the ladder of learning.

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"Average and hard work" beats "brilliant and lazy."

* * * * *

Drinking intoxicants doesn't drown your troubles: it only irrigates them

* * * * *

We may not be what we think we are, but we **are** what we **think**.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
4777 U.S. Highway 431
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