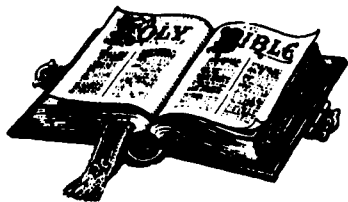


THE INSTRUCTOR



"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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WHO RECEIVED HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM IN ACTS 2?

Most serious students of the Scriptures will agree that the Apostles received Holy Spirit baptism on the day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2. Some people say that **only** the **apostles** were baptized with the Holy Spirit and others contend that the 120 disciples received it also.

Without question, the **apostles** received Holy Spirit baptism. In Acts 1:5 Jesus promised the Apostles that "**. . . Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.**" A few days later on Pentecost in Acts 2:4 we read, "**An they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.**" So, it is evident that the **apostles** received Holy Spirit baptism in Acts 2. What about the multitude in Acts 2 and the 120 disciples of Acts 1:15? Did they receive Holy Spirit baptism?

To learn who were recipients of the Holy Spirit baptism on Pentecost we must allow the Scriptures to be our source of information. What said the Scriptures?

First, did the multitude in Acts 2:6 receive Holy Spirit baptism?

Were they "**filled with the Holy Spirit**" as the apostles were? **No**, because we read in Acts 2:6 that "**. . . When this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.**" **NOTE:** The multitude came together **after** the apostles "**were all filled with the Holy Ghost.**" It is evident from this that the multitude did **not** receive Holy Spirit baptism on Pentecost in Acts 2.

There is **NO** evidence that **any-one** except the apostles received Holy Spirit baptism on the day of Pentecost! A careful reading of Acts 1 and 2 will indicate that **only** the **apostles** received Holy Spirit baptism on Pentecost. Please **consider the following facts:**

1. The antecedent of "**they**" in Acts 2:1-2 and "**them**" in verse 3 and "**they**" and "**them**" in verse 4 is "**apostles**" of Acts 1:26.

2. All who spake in other tongues (i.e., languages) were Galileans. (Cf. verse 7). All the apostles were Galileans! There is **no evidence** that **all** of the 120 disciples were Galileans!

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Editorial . . .

WHY SO MUCH DIVORCE?

Divorce is growing at an alarming rate. Since God **hates** divorce it should indeed be rare among those who have confessed the name of Jesus Christ. (See Mal. 2:11-17). However, such is **not** the case. Even among the people of God, **divorce** is rising at an alarming rate. Although divorce is **evil** and should be abhorred, (cf. Rom. 12:9), it seems that divorce is being tolerated by most, accepted by many and even encouraged by some. Jesus plainly said: "**Whosoever shall put away his wife, and shall marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery.**" (Mark 10:11-12; Also see Luke 16:18). In Matthew 5:32 Jesus plainly said: ". . . **And whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.**" Jesus teaches that the **only** person who has the right to divorce (and thus to marry another) is the person who puts away (i.e., **divorces**) his (or her) companion because his (or her) companion has committed fornication! (See Matthew 19:1-12; 5:31-32). Even when there is a Scriptural divorce (i.e., one of which God approves) **sin is always present!**

Why is there so much divorce among God's children? Is it because of **ignorance**? Do God's people as a whole not

know that **divorce** (with one exception — Matthew 19:9) is **sinful**? Are we failing to teach the truth on this subject? If so, let each of us begin **today** to teach God's Word on this subject.

Is divorce so prevalent because of a **lack of concern** about it and its consequences? Are we failing to impress upon each other, our children and others the seriousness of and the **sin** involved in divorce? If we are failing along this line we should begin immediately to correct this situation.

Is divorce so prevalent because of **fearfulness**? Are we **afraid** (i.e., too **timid**) to stand against the **evils of divorce**? If so, our souls are in danger. We learn from Rev. 21:8 that "**the fearful**" (i.e., those who are characterized by timidity or cowardice) "**shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.**"

NOT BECAUSE WE CANNOT UNDERSTAND

Divorce is not increasing at an alarming rate because it is impossible to understand God's truth concerning divorce. It is possible to understand God's will for man. Paul said, "**Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.**" (Eph. 5:17). We learn from Eph. 3:2-6 that Paul wrote what he received by revelation so others could read and understand his knowledge in the mystery of Christ. A long time ago (in speaking to the Lord) the psalmist declared, "**The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple.**" (Psa. 119:130), and "**Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.**" (Psa. 119:104). It is certainly possible for us to understand the will of God! In fact we should hate every false way because we do understand God's precepts. God would not expect us to "**abhor that which is evil,**" (Rom. 12:9) if it were not possible for us to understand God's will and discern evil.

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WHY SO MUCH DIVORCE?

(Continued from page 2)

EVIL INFLUENCES

No doubt, evil influences contribute to the increase in the number of divorces that are granted. Here are some things that play a part in influencing men and women to divorce.

1. **TELEVISION.** Marital infidelity and even divorces are portrayed on popular soap operas (as well as on other programs) as being proper, right and wholesome as well as desirable. The programs are designed to get the viewers to relate to and sympathize with the person who is doing **wrong** rather than the person who is being mistreated and sinned against. These programs encourage role changes of men and women. Christians should **not** watch and thus meditate upon such **evil** lest we be influenced by such. Solomon said, **"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."** (Prov. 4:23) He also said: **"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he . . ."** (Prov. 23:7).

2. **MOVIES.** Most movies shown at the modern theaters (as well as those sold for VCR viewing) are produced by **immoral** people who have absolute no concern whatever for the marriage relationship as set forth in the Scriptures. (See Heb. 13:4; Mt. 19:3-12; 5:31-32; Mk. 10:2-12; Lk. 16:18; 1 Cor. 7). **Un-godly, immoral** producers, actors and actresses often boast of their having illicit affairs, children out of wedlock, etc. These **wicked** people are set forth by society as highly successful, rich, fulfilled, happy individuals. In many cases they are very unhappy. However, they are set forth as "role models" by Hollywood.

3. **WOMEN'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT.** This movement is making efforts to destroy marriage and the family unit as set forth in the Scriptures. It encourages women to be more assertive, self-sufficient, independent, masculine, less submissive and thus have "fulfilment." Women are encouraged to think that they cannot be truly happy and have "fulfilment" unless they leave the "boredom" of home

(with its responsibilities) and get out into the "work force" of the world and have a "career." Thus the women "libbers" try to foment discontent and dissatisfaction among women. If a woman cannot do as she pleases with her husband she is encouraged to leave him. (For some of the responsibilities of women see Titus 2:3-5; 1 Pet. 3:1-7 and Eph. 5:22-33).

EMPHASIS ON MATERIAL THINGS

In my judgment, an over-emphasis on material things is a contributing factor to so many divorces. In an effort to provide more and better physical things the husband may have to work longer hours. It might even become "necessary" for the wife to leave the home and join the "work" force. This increases tensions at home because of the added work load and places more strain on the marriage relationship.

The wife may spend more of her waking hours in a close working relationship with other men than she does with her husband. In time, temptations come. This may (and in many cases does) result in a divorce. Of course, the same thing may happen with a husband who spends more of his waking hours in a close working relationship with a woman who is not his wife.

Before husbands and wives decide that the wife should leave the home for outside employment, they should seriously and prayerfully consider the teachings of Paul in Titus 2:3-5. They should ask themselves if more and better "material things" are really worth the risk involved and the price that must be paid if the wife leaves the home for outside employment.

We are taught to **" . . . Be content with such things as you have: . . ."** and that **" . . . Godliness with contentment is great gain"** and **"Having food and raiment let us therewith be content."** (Cf. Heb. 13:6; 1 Tim. 6:6-8). It is far more important to give our children more of our time in teaching and training by working and playing with them than to give them more and better things at the expense of teaching and training, etc.

(To be continued)

(CRS)

WHO RECEIVED HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM IN ACTS 2?

(Continued from page 1)

3. Peter stood up **“with the eleven”** (not the 119) and defended **them!** (See Acts 2:14).

4. The hearers **inquired of Peter and the rest of the APOSTLES!** (See Acts 2:37). There is **no evidence** that the hearers made inquiry of the 120 disciples!

5. We learn from Acts 2:43 that **“Many wonders and signs were done by the apostles!”** We also learn from Acts 3, 4, and 5 that miracles were done by the **apostles!** NOTE: There is **no** indication that the 120 disciples could perform miracles as could the **apostles.**

6. In Luke 24:48-49 Jesus said to the **Apostles:** **“And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of**

my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high . . .”

7. A few days before Pentecost Jesus was assembled together with the **apostles** and He commanded **them to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father, “Which, saith He, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.”** (See Acts 1:1-5) On Pentecost the **apostles** received what Jesus had promised in Acts 1.

The **evidence** points to the conclusion that **only the twelve apostles** received Holy Spirit baptism in Acts 2! (CRS)

SENTENCE SERMONS

The man who rows the boat generally does not have time to rock it.

* * * * *

If you don't get everything you want, think of the things you don't get that you don't want.

* * * * *

The person with a narrow mind and a wide mouth usually travels the broad way.

* * * * *

We should not try to keep a good man down nor a good-for-nothing man up.

* * * * *

Begin where you are, but don't stay where you are.

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