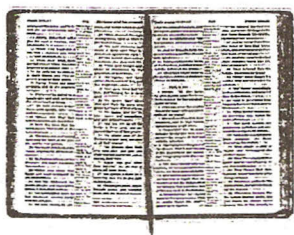


# THE INSTRUCTOR



**"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 46

JULY, 2009

Number 7

## **SOME THINGS THAT MAN CANNOT PROVE! (NO. 7)**

As we continue our examination of some things that are often taught or preached that can not proven by the Scriptures, let us now consider the following.

8. "Christians today should keep the sabbath day holy like the Israelites in the Old Testament were commanded to do (See Exodus 20:1-17; & Deut. 5:1-22).

Those who believe and teach the above doctrine do not "rightly divide the word of truth" (see 2 Tim. 2:15).

The sabbath "law" was a part of the first (old) covenant that God gave through Moses to govern the Israelites before the death of Jesus on the cross. (Read & study carefully Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 8:6-13, etc.) The second (new) covenant (testament) was given by Jesus Christ to govern all after his death on the cross and his ascension into heaven (Read Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-16; Heb. 9:15-17).

A careful study of the following passages will indicate that the first (old) covenant (which contained the sabbath command) was abrogated at the death of Jesus Christ on the cross and the second (new) covenant came into effect (of force) after His death on the cross. It did

*not* command anyone to keep the sabbath holy. See Mt. 5:17-18; Luke 24:44; Heb. 10:1-14; Col. 2:14-17; Exo. 31:18; 24:12; 32:15-16; Eph. 2:14-16; Romans 7:4-7; Hebrews 7:12; Hebrews 7:11-22; 9:15-17; 8:7-13; 7:19; Galatians 3:19-25; Romans 1:16-18; Acts 6:7; Jude 3, etc.

Consider carefully the following facts about the *two covenants*.

1. The *first covenant* referred to as "the law" in a number of passages "was given by Moses" but the *second* (included in the expression, "truth and grace" in John 1:17) "came by Jesus Christ"! Cf. Gal. 6:2.

2. The *first covenant* was faulty, but the *second* is perfect! (See Hebrews 8:7; 7:19 & James 1:25.)

3. The *first covenant* was taken away that the *second* might be established. (See Heb. 10:9-10; 9:16-17).

Meditate on the following syllogisms.

1. The *ten commandments*, written and engraven in stones were glorious. (For proof see Exo. 32:16; Dt. 4:13; 2 Cor. 3:7).

2. But that which was glorious was done away! (See 2 Cor. 3:7, 11).

3. Therefore: *The ten commandments were done away!* (A logical conclusion.)

(Continued on page 4)

## THE INSTRUCTOR

(USPS # 581680)

Published monthly in the interest of truth and righteousness by the congregation of Christ, meeting at 4777 US Highway 431 S, Albertville, AL 35950.

### ELDERS

Lionel Gary

Rex Henson

Mike Pack

Carrol R. Sutton

### DEACONS

Gary Chumley

Jerry Tucker

Gerald White

CARROL RAY SUTTON

Editor

Website: <eastalbertvillechurchofchrist.com>

Send all questions, comments and criticisms to the Editor, 4777 US Highway 431 S, Albertville, AL 35950 or at <theinstructor@bellsouth.net> or at (256) 878-0920 or <sutton413@bellsouth.net>

Second-class postage paid in  
Albertville, AL 35950.

## Editorial...

### BOOK OF PHILEMON -- SOME LESSONS (Part 2) (Read Philemon)

In "Part 1" of our study of the Book of Philemon, we showed that this book teaches the following lessons.

I. THE VALUE OF A SOUL.

II. ALL CHRISTIANS ARE EQUAL IN CHRIST.

III. A PERSON DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE TO CHANGE HIS PHYSICAL (SOCIAL OR SECULAR) RELATIONSHIPS IN ORDER TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN.

As we continue our study of the Book of Philemon, we learn that it also teaches the following lessons.

IV. RESTITUTION SHOULD BE MADE WHEN POSSIBLE.

In verses 18-19 we read: "If he (Onesimus - Ed) hath wronged

thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account. I Paul have written it with mine own hand, I will repay it..." NOTE: In prior verses we learn that Paul was sending Onesimus back to Philemon to serve him. In these verses Paul indicated that anything that Onesimus owed Philemon should be paid. We can see from these facts that "restitution" should be made.

In Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus indicated that he was going to make "restitution" when he said: "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold."

"Repentance" implies restitution when possible. Repentance is a "change of heart that is wrought by godly sorrow that results in a change of life." NOTE: If a man steals an auto and later he "repents", since he has godly sorrow because he sinned against God by stealing the auto, he certainly would not want to keep it.

V. THAT EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO RECONCILE THOSE WHO ARE ENEMIES.

A reading of verses 10-17 reveals to us that the Apostle Paul put forth efforts to reconcile Onesimus (a run-a-way slave) and Philemon (his master). Both Onesimus and Philemon would now be blessed (or profited) by the reconciliation of these two since both were now Christians.

After Cain had slain his brother Abel, the Lord said unto Cain, "Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not:



**Am I my brother's keeper?"**

NOTE: Although Cain failed to fulfil his responsibility, he was to be his brother's keeper! And so are we!

**VI. THAT ONE WHO HAS BEEN UNPROFITABLE MAY BECOME PROFITABLE.**

Writing to Philemon, in verse 11 Paul (referring to Onesimus) said: **"Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me."**

NOTE: As a run-a-way slave, Onesimus was not profitable to Philemon (a Christian), but now as a Christian he was profitable to him. Onesimus would return to Philemon, not only as a servant, but as a beloved brother.

What a real difference it makes in the life of a person who is begotten by the gospel and obeys it from his heart!

Let us consider Saul of Tarsus. Before he heard, believed and obeyed the gospel, he persecuted saints (See Gal. 1:21-24; Acts 22:4; Acts 26:9-11). Saul **"made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison."** (Acts 8:3). Speaking of himself, Saul (who was now the apostle Paul) said: **"Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief."** (1 Tim. 1:13).

In Acts 26:9-11 he also said: **"I verily thought within myself that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice**

**against them. And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them unto strange cities."** He further said: **"...Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee: And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him."** (Acts 22:19-20). NOTE: Although Saul was unprofitable to the cause of Christ before he obeyed the gospel, he became very profitable after he became a Christian.

The same thing is true today. One can be unprofitable to Christ and become profitable once he (or she) becomes a Christian.

At one time all of us were unprofitable to the cause of Christ but as true Christians we can indeed become profitable.

**VII. THAT PAUL HAD A GENUINE CONCERN FOR A RUN-A-WAY SLAVE.**

A reading of verses 10 - 21 should impress each of us with Paul's interest in and his concern for this run-away- servant Onesimus. It is obvious that Paul expended a lot of time and effort on behalf of Onesimus.

Many people do wrong and never make correction for the sin. It may be because they think that "no one cares." In Psa. 142:4 David said: **"I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me; refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul."** NOTE: At this point in his life, David felt like no man cared for his soul. NOTE: Sometimes we

may become depressed and think like he did! NOTE: We should have a genuine concern and care for every soul!

#### VIII. THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL!

In verse 10 Paul said: **"I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds."** In verse 13 he mentioned the possibility of Onesimus ministering unto him (Paul) **"in the bonds of the gospel."** He also mentioned that Onesimus was now **"a brother beloved...in the Lord."** (Verse 16).

To see that one must be begotten by the gospel (the word of truth) and must obey it in order to be saved, read and study carefully Romans 1:16; 1 Cor. 4:15; James 1:18; Mark 16:15-16; Galatians 3:26-27; 1 Peter 4:17-18; 2 Thess. 1:6-10, etc.

We should never underestimate the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ! (CRS)

(Continued from page 1)

1. The **ten commandments** were done away! (Already proven)

2. But the **sabbath command** is one of the ten commandments. (See Exo. 20:8).

3. Therefore: **the sabbath command was done away!** (A logical, inescapable conclusion!)

1. We are dead to the law that said, **"Thou shalt not covet."** (Proven by Rom. 7:4-7)

2. The **ten commandment law** said **"thou shalt not covet."** (See Exo. 20:17)

3. Therefore: **We are dead to the ten commandments!** (A sure conclusion!)

OBSERVATION: Since the **sabbath command** is one of the ten commandments, **we are also dead to it!**

(To be continued) (CRS)

NOTICE: It will be a while before the last nine years of THE INSTRUCTOR will be available for mailing. It has not been bound yet. If you have already requested a copy we have your name and address in a notebook. If you haven't sent in your request, please do so at your convenience, if you want to receive one. Copies of the bound volumes will be mailed when they are ready-FREE!

## SENTENCE SERMONS

Be courageous and stand for truth & righteousness. It will encourage others to do likewise.

\* \* \* \* \*

If our purposes have become blurred, we need to sharpen them!

\* \* \* \* \*

Stay at home parents seldom raise go to worship children.

\* \* \* \* \*

A kind deed often does more than a large gift.

\* \* \* \* \*

The wages of sin have never been reduced.

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4777 US Highway 431  
Albertville, AL 35950

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