

# 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 THAT MAN CANNOT PROVE! (NO. 6)

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.

7. *"A person who is once saved will always be saved. In fact, he can not so sin as to be eternally lost in hell. It is impossible for him to fall from grace."* NOTE: This teaching is promoted by most Baptist, Presbyterian and other Calvinistic churches.

I have a tract in my possession that is entitled, "Do a Christian's Sins Damn His Soul" by Sam Morris. Pastor First Baptist Church, Stamford, Texas. It says: *"We take the position that a Christian's sins do not damn his soul. The way a Christian lives, what he says, his character, his conduct or his attitude toward other people have nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul..."*

*...All the prayers a man may pray, all the Bibles he may read, all the churches he may belong to, all the services he may attend, all the sermons he may practice, all the debts he may pay, all the ordinances he may observe, all the laws he may keep, all the benevolent acts he may perform will not make his soul one whit safer; and all the sins he may commit from idolatry to murder will not make his soul in any more danger..."* NOTE: The

above is the doctrine of *"once saved, always saved"* in a "nut-shell."

Although the above doctrine is preached and believed by, no doubt, millions, it can not be proven by the Word of God! The Word of God teaches that a child of God can:

1. "Fail of (or fall from) the grace of God". (See Heb. 12:15; Gal. 5:4)
2. "Fall from your own steadfastness". (See 2 Peter 3:17)
3. Have "an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God." (See Heb. 3:12)
4. "Depart from the faith." (See 1 Tim 4:1)
5. "Fall into condemnation." (See James 5:12)
6. Forsake "the right way" and go "astray". (See 2 Peter 2:14-15)
7. Have "an evil heart of unbelief." (See Hebrews 3:12)
8. "Draw back unto perdition" and not "believe to the saving of the soul." (See Hebrews 10:39)
9. "Err from the truth" and need converting that his soul might be saved from death. (See James 5:19-20)
10. Become "worse than an infidel." (See 1 Tim. 5:8)

(Continued on page 4)

## THE INSTRUCTOR

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## Editorial...

### BOOK OF PHILEMON -- SOME LESSONS (Part 1)

(Read Philemon)

It is generally understood that the book of Philemon was written by Paul in about AD 62 - 64 while he was a prisoner in Rome. This book was written to Philemon, (a Christian in whose house the church met), on behalf of Onesimus, a runaway slave whom Paul had converted while in prison. Paul had begotten him with "the word of truth", which is "the gospel of Christ." (See verse 10; Jas. 1:18 & 1 Cor. 4:15).

This letter is purely personal, yet it is a highly significant one.

This book teaches the following lessons.

#### 1. THE VALUE OF A SOUL.

The time and effort that Paul spent and the concern that he

showed for Onesimus indicate that that Paul valued one soul very highly.

Jesus valued one soul very highly also. He said: "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?" (Mt. 16:26). Jesus also admonished his disciples saying: "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to \*destroy both soul and body in hell." (Mt. 10:28) [\* to devote or give over to eternal misery" - THAYER, p. 64]

You and I should value one soul worth more in value than the whole world with all of its riches. This conviction should make us more determined to please God in all that we do and think! It should make us earnestly strive to teach the gospel of Christ to others to save them also.

How much value do you put on *one* soul? On *your* soul? On the souls of *others*?

II. ALL CHRISTIANS ARE EQUAL IN CHRIST. Verses 15-18 say: "For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever; Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh and in the Lord" If thou count me therefore as a partner, receive him as myself. If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account."

NOTE: (1) Although Onesimus was a servant (slave) and Philemon was his master, now both of them were brothers in Christ. (2) Since Onesimus had become a Christian he was now



**"a brother beloved" both "in the flesh, and in the Lord."** In the Lord, Onesimus was equal to Philemon. (3) Paul was willing to repay anything that Onesimus owed Philemon.

In writing to Christians in Galatia Paul said: **"For ye are all the children of God in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."** (Gal. 3:26-28). NOTE: This passage shows the equality that exists in Christ.

In Mt. 23:8-10 Jesus said: **"But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ."** NOTE: This passage also teaches that all Christians are one in Christ and thus equal.

III. A PERSON DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE TO CHANGE HIS PHYSICAL (SOCIAL OR SECULAR) RELATIONSHIPS IN ORDER TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN. Read verses 10 - 17 and be impressed with the fact that Onesimus was not only still a servant, but he was now more than a servant of Philemon's. He was a brother beloved, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

Onesimus had been unprofitable to Philemon as a servant, but now as a Christian, he was profitable, not only to Paul, but also to Philemon. He would now be a better servant to Philemon than he was before he departed.

Paul sent Onesimus back to Philemon and asked him to receive him (Onesimus) as he would have received him (Paul).

In 1 Cor. 7:17-24 Paul said: **"...as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches."**

**Is any man called being circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised. ...**

**Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.**

**Art thou called being a servant? Care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather.**

**For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant...**

**Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God."**

NOTES: (1) Paul points out that a person can be called (by the gospel to be a Christian) while he is in circumcision or uncircumcision and can remain in such and can faithfully serve God. (2) He also points out that a person can be called being a servant or being free and can abide in that state and can faithfully serve God.

A close, careful study of Eph. 6:5-9 and Col. 3:22 - 4:1 will show that in the "servant - master" relationship that those servants who are Christians will make better servants than those who are not Christian. Likewise, those masters who are Christians will make better masters than those will who are not Christians. (To be continued) (CRS)

### PAULINE PACK

Sister Pauline Pack was born March 4, 1919, and departed this life on May 28, 2009 at the age of 90 years.

She and her husband James were two of the original members of the East Albertville congregation. They helped start it about 60 years ago and were faithful members until their death. James departed this life in Oct. of 1981. Although we sorrow in our loss, we have reason to rejoice in hope for Pauline, as well as for James.

### GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Over the last 45 years many members of the East Albertville Church have departed from this life. A number of them have been mentioned in this paper, but others have not. Here are some that I can think of.

(1) J. W. & Rose Bud Hill. (2) Smith & Nettie Tucker. (3) Virgil & Dovie Martin. (4) Omer & Lura Chaffin. (5) Ozzie Jones. (6) Flora Mae Fowler. (7) Gladys Bright. (8) Lula Gunter. (9) Robbie Norman. (10) Frankie Smith. (11) Maude Leath. (12) Harley Costner. (13) Lum Roe. (14) Johnnie Chaffin. (15) Elmus Pledger. (16) Dorothy Mathis. (17) Willie Lee Gunter.

(Continued from page 1)

11. Tread "**under foot the Son of God**". (See Hebrews. 10:29)

12. Turn "**aside after Satan**." (See 1 Tim. 5:15)

In order for a person to enter into the kingdom of heaven, he must do the will of the Father. (Mt. 7:21)

Jesus said: "**...Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life.**" (Rev. 2:10)

If a man cannot be convinced by the Scriptures that a child of God can so sin as to be lost eternally, his eyes must be closed, his ears must be stopped and his heart must be hard indeed! (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.

CORRECTION: The date for the last series of meetings here should have been May 31 - June 5, 2009.

## SENTENCE SERMONS

It is much better to quit something you should not have started, than to finish it!

\* \* \* \* \*

It takes a very strong person to control his own thoughts, passions and actions!

\* \* \* \* \*

Men with clenched fists cannot shake hands.

\* \* \* \* \*

A true friend is one who knows our faults, but loves us in spite of them

\* \* \* \* \*

If there were no listeners, there would be no gossipers.

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