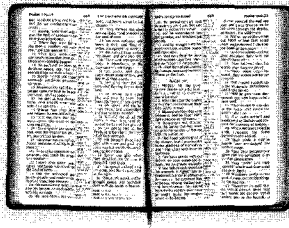


THE INSTRUCTOR



"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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Number 5

LOVE GOOD

We learn from Eccl. 3:8 that there is "A Time to love and a time to hate..." The time to love is *when* God says to love. The *things* to love are the things that *God* tells us to love. We have no right to *love* the things that God says *hate*. Neither should we *hate* the things that *God* says *love*.

A long time ago God said to Israel (through Amos): "Hate the evil. And love the good..." (5:15). We should love *good people* and *that which is good*. Here are some specific things we should love.

1. **GOD.** Jesus said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." (Mt. 22:37). Also see Rom. 8:28; 2 Tim. 3:4, etc.

2. **JESUS CHRIST.** Paul said: "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema, Maranatha." (1 Cor. 16:22). Also see John 14:15; 14:21; 14:23, etc.

3. **DISCIPLES (BRETHREN).** Jesus said: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one another." (John 13:34-35). Also see Heb. 13:1; Rom. 12:10; 1 Pet. 3:8; 1 Pet. 1:22; 1 John 4:20-21; 3:23; 4:7; 3:11; 1 Pet. 2:17, etc.

4. **TRUTH.** Prov. 23:23 says: "Buy the truth, and sell it not..." Psalms 119:97: "O how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day." Also see Psalms 119:113; 119:127, 163, 165, 167; 2 Thess. 2:9-12.

5. **NEIGHBORS.** Jesus said: "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love

thy neighbor as thyself." (Mt. 22:39). Also see Rom. 13:9-10; Gal. 5:14; Eph. 4:25, etc.

6. **GOOD MEN.** Titus 1:8- But a lover of hospitality, a love of good men..." (Footnote says: Or things).

7. **HUSBANDS SHOULD LOVE WIVES.** Eph. 5:25- "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." Also see Eph. 5:28, 33, etc.

8. **WIVES SHOULD LOVE HUSBANDS.** Titus 2:4- "That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children..."

9. **ENEMIES.** Jesus said: "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? Do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? Do not even the publicans so?" (Mt. 5:44-47)

10. **HOSPITALITY.** Titus 1:8 says: "But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men..." 1 Peter 4:9 says: "Use hospitality one to another without grudging."

11. **LIFE.** 1 Peter 3:10-11- "For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it."

Do you love the proper things? (CRS)

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Editorial...

HELL! IS THERE PLACE OF ETERNAL TORMENT FOR THE WICKED? (No. 26)

In previous studies of **Hell**, we have been exposing the *false doctrine that the wicked will not be tormented eternally*, but that *they will be annihilated and thus cease to exist*. Most of these also contend that the *dead are in a state of non-existence and unconsciousness*. Most of those who teach these doctrines also teach that *man is wholly mortal and that he does not have an eternal soul or spirit within his physical body*.

Let us resume our study of some arguments that are made in an effort to prove that there is not a place of eternal torment for the wicked. At this time we are going to continue our consideration of *Argument XII* as listed below.

XII. ARGUMENT: "THERE CAN BE NO ETERNAL TORMENT FOR THE WICKED BECAUSE WHEN THEY DIE, ARE CUT OFF, OR DESTROYED, THEY CEASE TO EXIST. THEY BECOME EXTINCT. THEY ARE ANNIHILATED."

REPLY:

As we continue our examination of words that appear in a list of 25 or so, that Curtis Dickinson gives in his booklet that he thinks proves that

there will be a total bringing to nothing or non-existence of the wicked, we are learning that the desired conclusion is *not proven* by the verses that Dickinson lists. (The list is found on pages 20-21 of What the Bible Teaches About Immortality and Future Punishment and is taken from Professor L.E. Froom's monumental work,, "The Conditionalists' Faith of Our Fathers). Let us continue a study of the words listed and the passages given.

12. Dickinson lists the word *destroy* and gives Matthew 10:28; 27:20; Romans 6:6; 7:6; (1 Cor. 1:19) ; 2:6; 5:5; 15:24, 26; Galatians 5:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:3; 2 Thess. 1:9; 2:8; 1 Tim. 6:9; 2 Timothy 1:10; Heb. 2:14 & 1 John 3:8 as passages to prove that there will be a *total bringing to nothing or non-existence* of the wicked. The "Jehovah's Witnesses", Seventh Day Adventists, Edward Fudge, Homer Hailey, etc. basically make the same argument on the word *destroy* (& destruction) that Dickinson makes.

In Mt. 10:28 Jesus said: "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." Also read Luke 12:4-5. Luke 12:5 says: "...Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell..." NOTE: Man can kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Therefore, the soul will exist even after the body has been killed. God has power to destroy both body and soul in hell by casting the body and soul into hell to be punished (tormented). See Mt. 25:41, 46; Rom. 2:2-11; Rev. 20:10; 21:8, etc.)

The word translated "*destroy*" in this verse means "1. To destroy, i.e. to put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to, ruin... Render useless... 1 Cor. 1:19... to kill...: contextually, to declare that one must be put to death: Mt. xxvii:20; metaph. to devote or give over to eternal misery: Mt. x:28; Jas. iv:12..." THAYER'S LEXICON, page 64.

Job declared: "Know now that God hath overthrown me" and "He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone..." (19:6, 10). NOTE: Although Job was *overthrown, destroyed and gone*, he was very much alive! He still existed!

Job also said: "...He destroyeth the perfect and the wicked." (9:22) QUESTION: Does God *annihilate* the perfect and the wicked? Of course not! "*Destroy*" does not necessarily mean *annihilate* and/or bring to a state of *non-existence*, does it?

In Gal. 2:18 Paul said: "For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor." Had Paul *annih-*

lated "the things" to which he referred? Of course not!

In Gal. 1:23 Paul said: "But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed." Was Paul now preaching "the faith" that he previously had annihilated? No, Paul had not annihilated "the faith"! It still existed although he once destroyed it.

Dickinson, Fudge & others have failed to prove that the wicked will be annihilated, brought to nothing and cease to exist.

Mt. 27:20 says: "But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus." NOTE: They simply wanted Jesus crucified! Luke and John's accounts indicate this. This doesn't prove that the word *destroy* as used in this passage means to bring to nothing or non-existence. It surely does not prove that it means *annihilate*.

Romans 6:6-7 says: "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin." NOTE: Since our old man is crucified, i.e., *put to death*, we are dead to sin. Since we are *dead to sin*, we are *separated* from it. We no longer serve sin. We are *alive unto God* and serve him! No, "*destroyed*" as used here does *not* mean that the wicked will be brought to nothing, annihilated and cease to exist throughout eternity!

1 Cor. 2:6 says: "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought." NOTE: The princes, rulers, etc. along with their wisdom, riches, power, etc. will be become useless or without effect. YOUNG'S ANALYTICAL CONCORDANCE TO THE BIBLE defines the word (in 1 Cor. 1:28 & 2:6) translated "*bring to nought*" and "*come to nought*" to mean "To make useless, without effect". There is absolutely nothing in these verses that prove that *the wicked will be annihilated and cease to exist*.

1 Cor. 5:5 says: "To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus." NOTE: Whatever the expression "*the destruction of the flesh*" means, we can rest assured that it does

not mean that the saints at Corinth were to deliver that man to Satan to be *annihilated* and *taken out of existence*. When they delivered him unto Satan there was *punishment* inflicted on him by many, and obviously he was brought to repentance because they were told to forgive him.

1 Cor. 15:24 says: "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power." NOTE: According to YOUNG, the word translated "*put down*" means "To make thoroughly idle or profitless." (ibid.). THAYER'S LEXICON, page 336 defines the word to mean "to render idle, unemployed, inactive, inoperative..." COMMENT: There is no evidence whatsoever that this passage even suggests that *the wicked will be annihilated and cease to exist*.

1 Cor. 15:26 says: "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." NOTE: YOUNG defines the word that is translated "*destroyed*" to mean "To make of none effect." (YOUNG'S ANALYTICAL CONCORDANCE TO THE BIBLE). Physical death will be made of none effect when all of the dead (righteous and wicked) are resurrected. It will then lose its power.

Galatians 5:15 says: "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." NOTE: The word translated "*devour*" as used in this verse means "*to ruin*, (by the infliction of injuries)..." according to THAYER'S LEXICON, page 339. Certainly a person can bite and "*ruin*" another. This does not suggest that a person can bite and *annihilate* another.

The word "*consume*" is also found in Gal. 5:15. Jeremiah 10:25 mentions the fact that the heathen and others "*have eaten up Jacob, and devoured him, and consumed him...*" NOTE: Does "*eaten up*" mean *annihilated*? Does "*devoured*" mean *annihilated*? Does "*consumed*" mean *annihilated*? If the answer to all three questions is *yes*, does that mean that Jacob was *annihilated* three times?

1 Thessalonians 5:3 says: "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them..." NOTE: The word translated "*destruction*" in this passage is defined by THAYER'S LEXICON, page 443, to mean "*ruin, destruction, death*:" 1 Th. 5:3; 1 Tim. vi:9..." There is nothing inherent in the definition of this word that suggests that it means *to annihilate* or *to cause* (something or someone) *to cease to exist*. NOTE: 1 Tim. 6:9 says:

"...which drown men in destruction and perdition." If *destruction* here means *annihilation* and non-existence, does this verse mean that after men are *annihilated* and *cease to exist*, that they will be *drowned in perdition*? Since the word translated *perdition* here is also translated *destruction*, would that mean that after a person is *annihilated* and is *non-existent*, that the person will be *annihilated* again?

FURTHER NOTE: Since Dickinson contends that "*drown*" means "*to annihilate*" and "*to cease to exist*, would 1 Tim. 6:9 mean that men are *annihilated in annihilation* and *annihilation*? This seems to be the logical consequence of the reasoning of Dickinson and others.

To see that the word *destruction* in 2 Thess. 1:9 does not mean *annihilation* see the discussion above relative to 1 Thess. 5:3 and 1 Tim. 6:9. The *destruction* (*death, ruin*) of 2 Thess. 1:9 is "*everlasting*."

2 Thess. 2:8 says: "And then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming."

NOTE: The word translated *destroy* here is

defined by YOUNG to mean "To make of none effect." See the discussion under 1 Cor. 15:24 & 15:26 above. If *consume* means "*annihilate*" like Dickinson contends, how would it be possible to *destroy* (*annihilate*) one who had been *annihilated* (*consumed*)?

2 Tim. 1:10 tells us that Christ "*abolished death...*" YOUNG defines the word translated *abolished* to mean "to make thoroughly inactive."

1 John 3:8 tells us that "*the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.*" NOTE: In John 2:19 when Jesus said "*Destroy this temple*", He did not mean to *annihilate* it, but to kill it. The same word translated *destroy* here is translated *unloose* in Mark 1:7 where John (referring to Jesus) said: "...*the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to ...unloose.*" Surely John didn't mean to *annihilate* those shoe strings.

Heb. 2:14 tells us that Christ became a man that through death he might destroy the devil. We know that *the devil will never be annihilated* because he "*shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*" (Rev. 20:10)

(To be continued)

GOSPEL MEETINGS

East Albertville- June 20-25, 2004 @ 7:30pm
except the Lord's Day. Richard Boone - Preacher.

SENTENCE SERMONS

Someone has said: "*Sin fascinates you, then it assassinates you*". Beware!

We can exercise daily by walking with God.

Since your life is your message, what message are you sending?

We should enter and travel, but never try to reconstruct, "*the strait and narrow way*".

The Devil accomplishes much evil through some who claim to love the Lord. Be on guard!

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