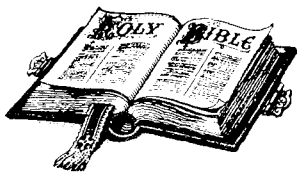


THE INSTRUCTOR



"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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DANCING IS SINFUL!

Dancing is an accepted social practice of the world. Many professed Christians engage in dancing or approve of those who do. Some preachers see "no harm" in the modern dance. Those who are spiritually mature should be able to discern good and evil. It is the firm conviction of this writer that modern dancing is sinful. Let us consider some of the reasons that such is the case.

1. **DANCING IS CONDEMNED AS A WORK OF THE FLESH.** It is included in the word "**lasciviousness**" in Galatians 5:19-21 and in the word "**wantonness**" in Romans 13:13. To be **lascivious** means to be "**wanton, lewd, or lustful.**" That which produces or tends to produce lewd or lustful thoughts or emotions is lasciviousness. In commenting on "**wanton (acts or) manner,**" THAYER'S LEXICON says "**as filthy words, indecent bodily movements, unchaste handling of males and females, etc.**" (Pages 79-80).

Dancing may also be condemned (in some instances) under "**revelling**" which is also a work of the flesh that is specifically condemned in Galatians 5:19-21 THE NEW CENTURY DICTIONARY says under the word "**revel**" (among other things): "**specif., formerly an occasion or course of noisy festivity with dancing, masking, and other**

forms of entertainment." (Page 1545). NOTE: Dancing is unquestionably sinful because it produces or tends to produce lewd or lustful thoughts or emotions!

2. **DANCING BEARS EVIL FRUIT.** Jesus said: "**Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.**" (Matthew 7:20). The modern dance has produced broken hearted parents, fornication, divorce, drunkenness, prostitution, cursing, fighting, murder and other vices. Dancing can not be a "**good tree**" with such rotten fruit!

3. **DANCING WILL CORRUPT GOOD MORALS BECAUSE IT HAS EVIL COMPANIONS.** The apostle Paul said: "**Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.**" (1 Corinthians 15:33). Evil companionship or communion will indeed corrupt good morals or character. Dancing does not strengthen one's moral character.

4. **DANCING IS DEFINITELY OF THE WORLD SINCE IT IS EVIL AND PRODUCES EVIL FRUIT.** We must not engage in it. Please read 1 John 2:15-17, James 1:27, James 4:4, Romans, 12:1-2 and John 15:19 very carefully.

5. **DANCING HAS THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL.** Paul said: "**Abstain for all appearance of evil.**" (1 Thess. 5:22).

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THE INSTRUCTOR

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Editorial - - -

IS SALVATIONAL CONDITIONAL?

There can be no genuine faith without hearing the Word of God. Faith is not inherited. It can not be purchased with money. Sincerity within and of itself can not produce faith. One does not receive faith in some mysterious or miraculous way. **"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."** (Romans 10:17). Many doctrines are accepted as being true which did not originate with God and are not taught in the Scriptures. In reality, **they are not of faith!**

Several religious groups advocate the doctrine of **"unconditional salvation,"** that is, that God, before the foundation of the world, unconditionally elected and predestinated that a definite number of people would be saved and that all others would be lost. This theory says that there are **no** conditions whatever that sinners must meet in order to be saved. Is this doctrine OF FAITH? It can not be OF FAITH unless it is taught in God's Word. (See Romans 10:17). Let us consider the following:

1. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, PREACHING THE GOSPEL IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THE SALVATION OF SINNERS, BUT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT IT IS NECESSARY. (See Mark 16:15-16; 1 Cor. 1:18-21).

2. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, FAITH IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THE SALVATION OF SINNERS, BUT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR SINNERS TO BE SAVED WITHOUT FAITH. (See Hebrews 11:6; John 1:11-12; 3:16-18; 8:24, 21; Acts 16:30-34; James 2:14-26).

3. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, REPENTANCE IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THE SALVATION OF SINNERS, BUT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT SINNERS MUST REPENT. (See Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; Acts 3:19; Acts 17:30).

4. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, CONFESSION IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THE SALVATION OF SINNERS, BUT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT SINNERS MUST CONFESS FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. (See Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10).

5. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, BAPTISM IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THE SALVATION OF SINNERS, BUT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT BAPTISM IS ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION. (See Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:26-27; 1 Peter 3:21).

6. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, GOD RESPECTS PERSONS, BUT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT **"GOD IS NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS."** (See Acts 10:34-35; Romans 2:11; Ephesians 6:9).

7. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE INVITATION GIVEN BY JESUS TO COME AND RECEIVE REST IS MEANINGLESS. (See Matthew 11:28-31).

8. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE PROMISE OF SALVATION TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS WORTHLESS. (See Acts 16:31).

9. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE PROMISE OF REMISSION OF SINS AND THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT OF THOSE WHO REPENT AND ARE BAPTIZED IS WORTHLESS. (See Acts 2:38).

10. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE PROMISE OF AN ENTRANCE INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN TO THOSE WHO DO THE WILL OF THE FATHER IS WORTHLESS. (See Matthew 7:21).

11. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE PROMISE OF THE RIGHT OF THE TREE OF LIFE TO THOSE WHO DO HIS COMMANDMENTS IS WORTHLESS. (See Revelation 22:14).

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SPRINKLING IS NOT SCRIPTURAL BAPTISM

A number of denominations such as the Catholic, Luther, Methodist, and Presbyterian practice "**sprinkling**" and call it "**baptism**." Is "**sprinkling**" really "**baptism**?" What saith the Word of God?

SCRIPTURAL REQUIREMENTS OF BAPTISM

In order for "**baptism**" to be **Scriptural**, it must meet the following requirements:

1. **There must be a human administrator.** We learn this from reading Matthew 28:19. **Sprinkling**, as well as **immersion** fulfills this requirement.

2. **Water is the element used in baptism.** Water is specifically mentioned in Acts 8:36 and Acts 10:47-48. **Sprinkling**, as well as **immersion**, fulfills this requirement also.

3. **Much water is required.** John 3:23 says. "And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there." Please observe also that John "**baptized**" people "**in the river of Jordan**." (See Mark 1:4-5). **Immersion** fulfills this requirement, but **sprinkling** does not. Therefore **sprinkling is not scriptural baptism!**

4. **There must be a going down into the water.** We learn this from reading Acts 8:38. **Immersion** fulfills this requirement, but **sprinkling** does not. Therefore **sprinkling is not scriptural baptism!**

5. **A burial is required.** Paul tells us in Romans 6:4 that we are "**buried with him by baptism**" and in Col. 2:12 that we are "**buried with him in baptism**." **Immersion** is a burial, but **sprinkling** is not. Therefore **sprinkling is not scriptural baptism!**

6. **There must be a resurrection.** Paul said: "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." (Col 2:12). **Immersion** fulfills this requirement, but **sprinkling** does not. Therefore, **sprinkling is not scriptural baptism!**

7. **A washing of the body with pure water is necessary.** Hebrews 10:22 mentions this. **Immersion** fulfills this requirement, but **sprinkling** does not. Therefore **sprinkling is not scriptural baptism!**

8. **A coming up out of the water is involved.** We learn this from a reading of Acts 8:39. **Immersion** meets this requirement, but **sprinkling** does not. Therefore **sprinkling is not scriptural baptism!**

ADDITIONAL FACTS TO CONSIDER

1. The so-called "Church Fathers" and

early Church historians are generally agreed on the fact that the **action** involved in **baptism** was an **immersion**.

2. "**Sprinkling**" was first "**officially**" adopted by the Roman Catholic Church in a council held at Revenna in 1311 A.D. This was nearly 1300 years after Christ commanded "**baptism**."

3. Standard lexicons which define the word "**baptizo**" are generally agreed that it basically means "to immerse."

4. "**Sprinkling**" can not be a "mode" or "mannner" of "**baptism**" since "**baptism**" is one "**action**" (an immersion) and "**sprinkling**" is a **different action**. One could as easily **ride** by **walking** as he could **baptize** by **sprinkling**.

5. There is NO command statement, example or necessary implication in God's Word that authorizes "**sprinkling**!"

6. "**Sprinkling**" can NOT be practiced "in the name of Jesus Christ," (see Acts 2:38 & Col. 3:17) since Christ has not authorized it!

7. "**Sprinkling**" can NOT be practiced "to the glory of God" (see 1 Cor. 10:31), since Christ has not authorized it!

8. "**Sprinkling**" is an **addition** to God's Word and a substitution for what God has commanded. Hence, it is sinful and those who practice such **do not have God!** (See Matthew 7:21-23 & 2 John 9).

Have you been baptized scripturally? If you were "**sprinkled**" you were not baptized according to God's eternal truth!

(CRS)

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(Continued from page 2)

IS SALVATION UNCONDITIONAL?

12. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE PROMISE OF ETERNAL SALVATION UNTO ALL THEM THAT OBEY HIM IS WORTHLESS. (See Hebrews 5:8-9).

13. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE STATEMENT BY PAULIN GALATIANS 3:26 THAT "YE ARE ALL THE CHILDREN OF GOD BY FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS" IS NOT TRUE.

14. IF SALVATION IS UNCONDITIONAL, THE STATEMENT BY PETER IN 1 PETER 3:21 THAT " ... BAPTISM DOTH ALSO NOW SAVE US..." IS FALSE.

NO, salvation is NOT unconditional, but it is conditional. One must obey God in order to be saved!

(CRS)

DID YOU KNOW?

It seems that many people fail to realize that **Jesus Christ is the mediator between God and man. He is also the mediator of the new covenant.** Therefore we must go through Christ unto God by believing and meeting the terms of the new covenant.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "For there is one God, and ONE MEDIATOR between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Timothy 2:5-6).

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS:

"But now hath He obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also He is the MEDIATOR of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises." Hebrews 8:6).

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "And for this cause He is the MEDIATOR of the new testament, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." (Hebrews (9:15).

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BIBLE SAYS: "And to JESUS THE MEDIATOR of the new covenant,..." (Hebrews 12:24).

Yes, Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and men! You can not go to God unless you go through Him!

(CRS)

It is easy to drift
With the current swift;
Just to lie in your boat and dream.
But in nature's plan
It takes a real man
To paddle the boat upstream!

(Continued from page 1)

DANCING IS SINFUL

6. DANCING WILL RUIN THE GOOD INFLUENCE OF A CHRISTIAN. A Christian should be **"an example of the believers"** and in **"all things"** show himself **"a pattern of good works."** (See 1 Timothy 4:12; Titus 2:7-8; Matthew 5:16). The most godly people on earth do not dance nor encourage others to dance. Even many ungodly people believe it is wrong to dance. So if a Christian dances, it will certainly ruin his influence for good.

Some one has said that "a dancing leg and a prayer knee" do not belong on the same body. I say, AMEN!

(CRS)

WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THE
HOBBS STREET ELDERS TO
INFORM US AS TO THE DATE OF
THE HILL-SUTTON DEBATE - OR
TELL US THAT THEY HAVE
CHANGED THEIR MINDS.

Sentence Sermons

Some folks don't look up until they are flat on their backs.

Daily prayers lessen daily cares.

Lending a hand will make it harder for you to borrow trouble.

The most untameable thing in the world has its den just back of the teeth.

The smile is a universal language.

If there is no sorrow for sin there is no joy in salvation.

"He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house." (Proverb 15:27).

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