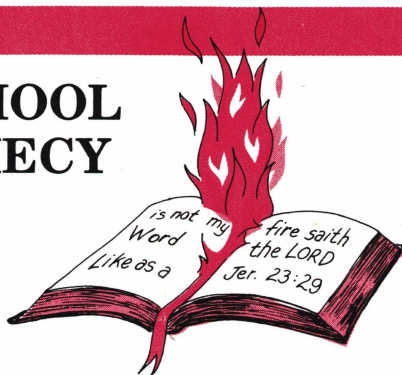


BIBLE STUDY COURSE
LESSON NO. 5
— FROM —

**BIBLE SCHOOL
OF PROPHECY**



"SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS"

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.



Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right. Proverbs 20:11

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE

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BIBLE SCHOOL OF PROPHECY

LESSON NO. 5

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE

DECLARATION:

An ever present danger in today's Sick Society and lukewarm Christian Culture is the acceptance of "Religion" as a substitute for True Repentance and for being truly Born Again! **Bargain-counter religion is offered everywhere** — on TV, Radio, in Club Meetings, Hootenannies, and from the churches' pulpits — sans True Repentance and True Conversion, that is, a spiritual experience without a divinely-endowed new nature that hates sin and the world, but loves the Word of God and God's Holiness!

God's Word warns: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death (ways to hell, that is)." Prov. 14:12.

There are evidences of being a true Christian found in God's Word — Bible Evidences, and like God's mighty prophet, John the Baptist, real saints and true men of God must demand Bible evidence — the fruit of repentance! John demanded of professing people of God: Don't tell me you're saved — show me! Matt. 3:8. Beware, true saint of God, **Religious Bewitching is Satan's biggest and most lucrative business enterprise in America** (also in Western Nations), **and his agents of deceit are popular, talented, and greatly gifted.** Acts 8:9-11; II Cor. 11:13-15. Read I John 4:1, 5-6.

INTRODUCTORY SCRIPTURES:

The Holy Ghost declares: "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." I Pet. 1:23. A sinner may receive the experience of the new birth only by believing and obeying God's Word. **A born-again Christian will also continue to love, believe, and be obedient to all the Word of God.** Rom. 8:5-7.

Jesus stated unequivocally: "Man (i.e., a Christian) shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matt. 4:4. The Word of God alone judges the true experience of a professed Christian, and, only a life that is disciplined by obedience to God's entire Word, bears the fruits of the new nature of Jesus Christ: "They profess that they know God; but in works (i.e., obedience) they deny him, being abominable, **and disobedient**, and unto every good work reprobate." Titus 1:16.

Every professed Christian can be judged by their fruit, said Jesus (Matt. 12:33), and this judging (knowing or discerning) is not only right, but absolutely vital. The Apostle exhorts professing Christians: "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" II Cor. 13:5. Evidences of being a true Christian are all through the New Testament, and when these Bible Evidences are applied, they perform a true litmus test for any professor that brags or testifies: "I'm a born-again Christian." This is the judging of a professed spiritual experience, not a judging of the individual whom God will judge.

If a person professes to be born-again, but still lives an unrepented life of sinning, living to the lusts of the flesh, and consistently rebels against God's revealed Word, that person is not born-again, nor a real Christian. Unequivocally, that professor is a real hypocrite. The proof: "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him (Christ)." I John 3:6. Also: "He that committeth sin is of the devil." I John 3:8. And: "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." I John 2:4. Further: "If any man love the world (i.e., world conformity), the love of the Father is not in him." I John 2:15.

Bible evidence is Christian evidence — and, every true saint of God must demand it of worldly professors who lay claim to the born-again experience. "But he that is spiritual judgeth (i.e., discerneth) all things, yet he himself is judged of no man." I Cor. 2:15. **A spiritual, experienced saint can judge those professors whose lives and life-styles mock the holiness of God and the Bible!** The proof or Bible Evidence: "For what have I to do to judge them also that are without (i.e., without the church or body of Christ)? do not ye judge them that are within (i.e., members of Christ's body or church)? But them that are without God judgeth." I Cor. 5:12-13. Also I Cor. 6:1-5.

LESSON EXPOSITION

If a person's spiritual experience does not harmonize with the evidence of true conversion as revealed in God's Word, that individual should play safe and doubt his experience — not the Bible Evidence of a true born-again experience!

Bargain counter religion as is offered everywhere in our Sick Society and Laodicean church culture costs nothing. **However, it costs everything to accept Christ as Lord and to receive His new life and nature.** The world, all sin, all lusts of the flesh, all pride of life, and even one's own life-style of pleasure must all be forsaken. Luke

14:25-27, 33. Jesus emphatically proclaimed: "If any man come to me, and hate not. . . his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. . . So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." "Give up the world or there is no acceptance" is Christ's ultimatum to every would-be disciple. Read Mark 10:21-22, 28. Remember this warning from the Holy Ghost: "But she (or he) that liveth in pleasure is dead while she (or he) liveth (i.e., spiritually dead)." I Tim. 5:6. Also Luke 8:14.

A NEW CREATION

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (i.e., a new creation): old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. This is vital Christian Evidence. This is the result of True Repentance. A New Creature! Old things (i.e., the old life-styles) are given up, and all things become new (i.e., a completely new life-style). **A truly born-again person has a New Nature, a New Mind, a New Spirit, a New Heart, and a Pure Conscience.**

- (1) **"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."** Ezekiel 36:26.
- (2) **"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."** II Pet. 1:4.
- (3) **"But we have the mind of Christ."** I Cor. 2:16.
- (4) **"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"** Heb. 9:14. Also: **"Having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience."** Heb. 10:22.

BIBLE EVIDENCE IS OBVIOUS — MANIFEST

A new nature, a new heart, a new spirit, a new mind, and a pure conscience sensitized by the blood of Christ, constituting the true works of regeneration in a sinner who has repented and received Christ as Lord, is recognizable by even an imbecile to be God's miracle of divine grace. True salvation through Jesus Christ is "by the washing of **regeneration**, and renewing of the Holy Ghost." Titus 3:5.

Regeneration means: "To be spiritually reborn; to be made anew; renewed; to be completely reformed." You can tell a "new creature" a block away — the manifestation of a newborn son of God is obvious and apparent to the 5 senses as the definition of manifest affirms.

Manifest means: "Apparent to the 5 senses or mind; to make clear or evident; obvious; to prove."

OF JUDGING

“He that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.” I Cor. 2:15. A dangerous and erroneous precedent has been established in the end-time church by pious preachers crying out: “Look out there, you’re judging!” Well, it is right to judge professing Christians by Bible Evidence, but, this judgment must be exercised by the spiritual ones among God’s saints. “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, **ye which are spiritual**, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.” Gal. 6:1. The Apostle Paul unveiled a profound revelation on this subject of Christian Evidence and Judging: “For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? **do not ye judge them that are within (i.e., the body of Christ)? But them that are without God judgeth.** Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person (i.e., a professing Christian that lives ungodly).” I Cor. 5:12-13.

WHAT IS JUDGING?

Some judging may be wrong (cf. Rom. 14:13) but true spritual discernment is right — it is vital — it is a responsibility that a truly spiritual saint of God must exercise toward the Body of Christ. How can a False Prophet be identified and exposed if judging is such a horrible sin? How can sin in a Christian’s life be rebuked if the Holy Scriptures forbid judging among saints? Judging that is approved and required of God to be exercised among Christ’s disciples is in all reality Spiritual Discernment. **To Discern means:** “To see; to detect; to understand or see the difference; to make distinction; to descry.”

- (1) **Peter judged** among the professed disciples of the Lord. To Simon: “Thy heart is not right in the sight of God.” Acts 8:21. Spiritual discernment!
- (2) **Paul judged a false prophet.** To Elymas: “Thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness.” Acts 13:10. Spiritual discernment!
- (3) **The Apostle Paul also judged** between right and wrong, sin and righteousness among the church of God members at Corinth: “Deliver such an one (i.e., an immoral church member) unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit (i.e., the good spirit in the church) may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.” I Cor. 5:5.
- (4) **The Apostle Peter judged** the renegade members of the early church who lied to the Holy Ghost: “How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out. Then fell she down straightway at his feet (dead, i.e.)” Acts 5:9-10.
- (5) **Stephen**, the Holy Ghost-filled deacon of Christ’s early church

also judged his religious persecutors: “Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.” Acts 7:51.

- (6) **The church of Jesus Christ in Ephesus judged phony preachers:** “Thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars.” Rev. 2:2.
- (7) **Jesus commanded His church to judge** in spiritual matters and disputes between brethren: “If thy brother trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault (or sin, i.e.) between thee and him alone. . . . But if he will not hear thee. . . . tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man (i.e., a hypocrite) and a publican.” Matt. 18:15-17.
- (8) **The Holy Ghost order for saints to judge** phonies and mimickers of true Christian discipleship is: “But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer (one who verbally attacks his brethren violently), or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. . . . Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.” I Cor. 5:11-13.

JUDGING THAT IS WRONG

Forming an opinion is judging! To decide what is right in a controversy is judging! To hear a matter and pass judgment on, as determining a form of punishment or penalty for guilt is judging! The last definition is the wrong kind of judging for Christians — it is playing God after a manner. A Christian’s judgment must always be by Bible Evidence — a spiritual discerning between right and wrong, clean or unclean, sin and godliness! Wrong judgment proceeds when as Jesus warned: “Whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.” Matt. 5:22.

An entire chapter of the New Testament is devoted to the subject of erroneous judging among true Christians. The Holy Ghost commands: No Christian shall judge his brother in meats and drinks, or in respect of a holy day, two Christian liberties that were regulated forcefully under the law of the Old Testament. “Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him. Who art thou that judgeth another man’s servant (i.e., in what he eats). . . . One man esteemeth one day above another; another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. . . . **Let us not therefore judge one another any more (i.e., in what we eat or what holy days we observe).**” Rom. 14:1-6, 13.

The complete epitomization of this subject is vividly detailed in this scripture: **“Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink,**

or in respect of an holy day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.” Col. 2:16-17. In these two practices of New Testament Christian liberties, spiritual saints of God are forbidden to judge or critically discern among themselves! These are matters of conscience and not of God’s Commandments to all who live in the true grace of God, having their consciences cleansed and sensitized by the blood of Jesus Christ. I Pet. 5:12; Heb. 9:14.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Rom. 12:2	Eph 4:22-24	Matt. 7:1-5	Ezek. 23:45
Rom. 16:17-18	Phil. 2:5	Luke 17:3-4	II Kings 2:23-24
I Cor. 8:8-9	II Thess. 3:6	Acts 13:6-12	II Kings 5:27
I Cor. 10:29	John 7:24	Gal. 5:7-12	Matt. 23:19, 29, 33

PART A. HOW TO BE SAVED.

I. BELIEVE IN CHRIST.

a. "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. . . But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness." I Cor. 1:21-23.

b. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." John 20:31.

c. "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness;** and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:9-10.

d. "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever **believeth in him** should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

e. "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, **and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life;** and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." I John 5:10-12.

"**To believe**" means to take as true or real; to have confidence in a promise of." Believe is a transitive verb that always requires an object, and, it is a strong verb of action, for the scriptures reveal: "Even so faith (i.e., believing), if it hath not works (i.e., obedience to God's Word), is dead, being alone. . . **But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith (i.e., believing) without works (i.e., obedience) is dead?**" James 2:17, 20.

DISCUSSION.

- (1) What must a person believe to be saved? Is the object of belief simply Christ? The answer is YES, and NO! Christ and His whole Word is the object of real believing from the heart of a man. Rom. 10:9-10. Many millions, world-wide, believe with intellectual assent that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Believing unto salvation is quite another matter. Jesus as a Saviour, a Forgiver of sins, A Rescuer, etc., alone is not the Author of Eternal Life — He must become "our" Lord and Master instantly upon believing. What do penitent sinners believe — just Jesus? NO! His Word must be believed, accepted, and obeyed! **What did Jesus com-**

mand every sinner to do for salvation — to receive eternal life? Answer: Repent or Perish. “(He) commands all men everywhere to repent.” Acts 17:30. Also: “Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish,” said Jesus. Luke 13:3. The first message as God’s messenger to a lost world, steeped in superstition and spiritual darkness, by Christ was: “Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent ye, and believe the gospel.**” Mark 1:14-15. This is a vital part of Christian Evidence — this is what counts! The apostles of Christ preached this gospel which they received from their Lord and Master: “**Repent ye therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.**” Acts 3:19. “(Paul testified) both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.**” Acts 20:21.

- (2) Remember, the only way to study God’s Word inerrantly and by Holy Ghost direction is not by the original Greek or Hebrew, nor a chapter at a time, but in this manner: “Knowing this first (i.e., the primacy of learning), that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation (i.e., no one verse stands alone).” II Pet. 1:20. **Now here is God’s direction in the study of His Word further:** “Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept (verse upon verse, verse upon verse, i.e.); line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.” Isa. 28:9-10. **Herein lies the proof of true Christian experience with Bible Evidence that is valid in determining every “professed” spiritual experience of the new birth.**
- (3) **The Word of God is what God really is.** “Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me (God the Father). I am come a light into the world. . . He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment what I should speak. **And I know that his commandment is life everlasting.**” John 12:44-50. Jesus also proclaimed this condition for acceptance to receiving Eternal Life: “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, **and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life,** and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” John 5:24. God the Father sent Christ His Son with His conditions for Redemption to Life Eternal. So it is manifest that eternal life is in obeying God and His commandments as Jesus proclaimed — not in just “**Believing**” that Jesus is a Saviour or Benefactor or Forgiver of Sins. **Jesus is what God’s Word is, for**

He is the Word of God, and, His whole revealed will as vividly set forth in the Bible must be accepted and obeyed for Christ to receive an individual as a Son of God. **"They profess that they know him; but in works they deny him**, being abominable, **and disobedient**, and unto every good work reprobate." Titus 1:16. Also: "And hereby we do know that we know him, if (conditional) we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, **is a liar**, and the truth is not in him. (Now continuing, notice carefully) **But whoso keepeth his word**, in him verily is the love of God perfected: **hereby know we that we are in him.**" I John 2:3-5. This is vital and judicial Bible Evidence that a true saint of God should invoke on mimickers and professors of the marvelous, traumatic, spiritual Bible experience called the new birth!

II. WHERE DOES ETERNAL LIFE BEGIN?

a. FAITH IN GOD'S WORD.

DISCUSSION:

Every true convert to Jesus Christ is saved by grace through faith. Eph. 2:8-9. However, faith must take the right object — i.e., in the blood of Jesus and all that the Word of God demands of a sinner, lost, and guilty of breaking God's laws. "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace." Eph. 1:7. Jesus came to a lost world, not just to present Himself for man's acceptance as a prerequisite to receiving eternal life, for God's prophet foretold the purpose of His coming: "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth: I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. . . . He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law." Isa. 42:1-4; also fulfilled in Matt. 12:17-21. Jesus came to teach lost humanity God's Words and Laws — therefore His condition for receiving eternal life is: "Repent ye, and believe the gospel." Mark 1:15. Remember this vital fact: "For all have sinned (past tense), and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. However, what is the sin that all have committed before true repentance and conversion? **Answer: Breaking God's Commandments!** "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:4. This is God's definition of sin!

b. OBEDIENCE.

DISCUSSION:

True Christian evidence is epitomized in one word, even this: **Obedience!** Jesus established this fact: Believing is more of obedience to God's Word than just giving mental assent to a fact of history — His death and resurrection. "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If (conditional) ye continue in my word (i.e., obey my word consistently), then are ye my disciples indeed. And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (i.e., obedience to God's Word gives an individual freedom from sin, and victory over sin)." John 8:31-32. This is true Bible, Christian Evidence. God's grace is given through faith **only** to those who repent and obey the gospel — i.e., as Jesus commanded: "Go, and sin no more." John 8:11; 5:14; 8:36.

c. BELIEVING ALONE IS DEAD.

DISCUSSION:

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone (i.e., faith without obedience to God's Word is dead and is of no effect)." James 2:17. **There is the law of faith that a sinner must act upon to be saved** — "By the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is

justified by faith without the deeds (or works) of the law (i.e., the law of Moses)." Rom. 3:27-28. Where is the source of "saving faith?" "How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent. . . So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:14-17.

Why are there so many thousands of church members and professing Christians who are not truly born-again? Answer: They have never been given Bible Evidence of what the new birth experience really is by the soothsaying preachers and teachers which they hear and trust.

GOD DOES NOT REWARD DEAD FAITH

"For he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6.

Jesus declared: "But that (the Word of God) on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience." Luke 8:15. **Bible Evidence of True Christian Discipleship — Hearing God's Word and Obeying It! There is no Salvation, No New Birth, No Eternal Life to a person who does not fully Trust and Obey God's Word — all of it!**

d. TRUST IN CHRIST'S ATONEMENT. DISCUSSION:

"That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation." Eph. 1:12-13.

To Trust means: "To rely on; to hold a firm belief in the honesty and reliability of another; faith in the one trusted." To trust Christ for his reliability or honesty to forgive and save does not absolve the penitent sinner from his responsibility to believe and obey all the Word of God. "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, (or you're) deceiving your own selves" (Jas. 1:22), says the Apostle who was the brother of Jesus Christ. And further: "He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth (i.e., God's Word) is not in him." I John 2:4. Remember this warning from the Holy Ghost: "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him." Nahum 1:7. Also II Tim. 2:19.

It brings a reproach upon a newly born-again Christian to truly put his complete trust in Christ: "**For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.**" I Tim. 4:10; Heb. 10:32-33. **Read also II Cor. 1:8-10 for further Bible Evidence of True Christianity.**

This reproach is vividly manifested in Christ's sufferings on Calvary for our atonement — our reconciliation back to God through the blood of His Cross: "And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying. . . If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said. . . He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God." Matt. 27:39-43. This epitomizes true trust in God!

**e. RECEIVING CHRIST.
DISCUSSION:**

- (1) "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born (i.e., born-again), not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:12-13. Also Jesus has declared: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door (i.e., to his heart), I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:20.
- (2) **An individual sinner cannot receive just Christ alone — he must accept His Word, His life-style, His Holiness!** Zaccheus, the fraudulent tax collector, "received Christ joyfully." Luke 19:6. However, he repented and made his paths straight: "Zaccheus stood, and said unto the Lord; 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. And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house." Luke 19:8-9. This is true Christian Evidence.
At Ephesus as Paul preached, "So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed." Acts 19:20. **The results:** "Many of them that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds (i.e., their sinful lifestyles). Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together and burned them before all men (i.e., publicly)." Verses 19-20. This testimony of obedience was of far greater worth as a witness to unbelievers than their big mouth boasting about a phony born-again experience as abounds in our Sick Christian Culture. **They truly repented and manifested it!** Showed it openly!
- (3) **The scriptures warn:** "Wherefore come out from among them (i.e., the worldly crowd of idolaters), and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And I will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." II Cor. 6:17-18. **Any individual who claims to be born again yet does not and has not met these conditions of salvation and sonship, is a phony and a hypocrite.** God has no double standards for salvation

through Christ unto eternal life. Without Repentance and Holiness — i.e., Full Obedience to God's Word — no man, woman, boy, girl, or preacher shall see the Lord. Heb. 12:14; Acts 17:30; I John 3:6.

- (4) **OUR EXAMPLE.** "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right." Prov. 20:11; Also Read Matt. 18:1-6. What a word of wisdom from the Holy Ghost. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away (do you hear this?); behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. **A wicked sinner can even tell the difference in a "new creation" of God's grace — why can't preachers and church folks?** Answer: Most of them are phony Christians; they are not really born again. God made Christ the example for every man by which to check his own personal, professed spiritual experience: "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, **leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin**, neither was guile found in his mouth." I Pet. 2:21-22. Christian Evidence! Also Phil. 3:17.
- (5) **Bible Evidence Unrefutable:** "And they that are (really) Christ's **have** crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." Gal. 5:24. A real Christian has (past tense) already crucified the lusts of the flesh and lives holy! Also: "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him." Col. 2:6. **Holiness of heart and lifestyle is always the results of the new birth — no exceptions!** "But God be thanked, that ye were (past tense) the servants of sin, but ye **have obeyed from the heart** that form of doctrine which was delivered you." Rom. 6:17. Bible and Christian Evidence of a true experience of being born again!

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Psa. 112:7
Psa. 22:4-5
Psa. 31:19

Psa. 37:3
Dan. 3:28
Prov. 3:5

Luke 18:9
Acts 6:7
John 2:23-25

I Pet. 3:5
I Tim. 6:17
John 6:28-29

PART B. BIBLE EVIDENCE OF TRUE DISCIPLESHIP

I. DIVINE NATURE.

DISCUSSION:

“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” II Pet. 1:4. A **“divine nature” in vivid contrast to “human nature” is as discernable as day from night.** Why all the objections to judging or spiritual discernment that are so adamantly expressed? A born-again person has a divine nature that is manifested in all his lifestyles: it is obvious to the 5 senses; it is clear; and it proves the authenticity or phoniness of the professing Christian’s experience — through Bible Evidence. A person with a new divine nature will not “have eyes full of adultery that cannot cease from sin.” II Pet. 2:14. **Most professing Christians cannot cease from sin.** A real Christian, possessing the divine nature, will not fulfill this scripture, “There is no fear of God before their eyes.” Rom. 3:18. He will fear God and keep his commandments. I Pet. 2:17; I John 5:3; Heb. 12:28-29. A truly born-again individual will cease from sin. Proof: I Pet. 4:1-4.

a. SAVED! THE INITIAL EXPERIENCE.

DISCUSSION:

Remember: a sinner is saved by grace through faith. Eph. 2:8. This is brought about by true repentance and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Mark 1:14-15; Acts 20:21; 3:19. This wonder constitutes the initial work of God’s grace unto salvation and being born-again. “It is not of works, lest any man should boast.” Eph. 2:9. However, the very moment that a sinner receives forgiveness and the Divine Nature, his responsibility to obey God’s Word begins immediately. **“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works,** which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them (i.e., obedience to the Word of God).” Eph. 2:10. “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently. Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.” I Pet. 1:22-23.

JESUS PAID OUR DEBT FOR SINS PAST

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more than, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.” Rom. 5:8-9.

“God set forth (Christ) to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness **for the remission of sins that are past,**

through the forbearance of God.” Rom. 3:25. Immediately after conversion, the contest with the flesh and the devil begins, hence this Holy Ghost warning: “Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye (i.e., all new born Christians) live after the flesh (i.e., like the world), ye shall die (i.e., spiritually): but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live (i.e., have eternal life).” Rom. 8:12-13. Bible Evidence cannot be ignored. The Eternal Security doctrine is a lie out of hell — that is, the poisonous teaching that perverts and misleads millions into believing that if they are saved at one time, no matter what kind of life they live after conversion, they are eternally secure, possessing eternal life. **This doctrine is leading millions into hell, because those who believe and practice “this sinning every day doctrine,” live like fools, and die like fools. Proof:**

- (1) **“Fools make a mock at sin.”** Prov. 14:9.
- (2) **“Whosoever abideth in (Christ) sinneth not.”** I John 3:8.
- (3) **“He that committeth sin is of the devil.”** I John 3:8.
- (4) **“Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin.”** I John 3:9.
- (5) **“In this the children of God are manifest (i.e., apparent to people’s 5 senses; obvious; clear; proves), and the children of the devil.”** I John 3:10.
- (6) **“He that saith, I know him (God), and keepeth not his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”** I John 3:10.
- (7) **“Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.”** I Cor. 15:34.
- (8) **“Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell severity: but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.”** Rom. 11:22.
- (9) **“Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin (i.e., commits sin daily or regularly) is the servant of sin (or slave to sin).”** John 8:34.
- (10) **“And every man that hath this hope in him (i.e., hope of seeing Jesus) purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”** I John 3:3.

These scriptures are valid Christian evidence that discern and manifest a true Christian from a counterfeit or hypocrite!

b. SAVED! CONTINUING IN CHRIST.

DISCUSSION:

God says: “The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways.” Prov. 14:14. **The new birth is just the beginning of the race to the ultimate: life eternal.** Read I Cor. 9:24-27; I Pet. 1:9; I Tim. 6:11-12. Every Christian has the same order for strict adherence to God’s Rule Book that qualifies him for the Christian race and warfare. Read II Tim. 2:5.

As Grantland Rice wisely wrote:

**“For when the one Great Scorer Comes
To write against your name,
He writes not what you won or lost,
But how you played the game.”
God’s Word Reveals the Same!**

Jesus warned: “If ye continue in my word (i.e., obey it), then are ye my disciples indeed.” John 8:31. Conditional salvation! The Holy Ghost also added further to this Bible Evidence of conditional salvation: “Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: **for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.**” I Tim. 4:16. The Apostle Paul warned the early church members that they would be saved, “If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel.” Col. 1:23. And again, this apostolic warning: “Brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand: **By which also ye are saved, if (i.e., conditional) ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.**” I Cor. 15:1-2. And many are yet believing in vain, and receiving the grace of God in vain by not continuing to obey God’s Word and live holy. The Apostle continues to admonish Christians: “We. . . beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.” II Cor. 6:1.

BACKSLIDING

“Take heed, brethren (i.e., Christians) lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. . . **For we are partakers of Christ, if (i.e., conditional) we hold the beginning of our confidence (i.e., faith and trust) steadfast unto the end (i.e., the end of our Christian race and warfare).**” Heb. 3:12-14. Remember: The backslider in heart is filled with his own ways, not God’s, and, God rejects him. A backslider is dead and lost. Luke 15:24, 32.

Here’s a solemn warning from the Holy Ghost on this very vital subject: “Brethren (i.e., Christians), if any of you do err from the truth (i.e., become filled with your own sinful ways — not God’s), and one convert him (i.e., turns him back to repentance); Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner (i.e., a sinning or backslidden brother) from the error of his way shall save a soul from death (i.e., eternal death or hell), and shall hide a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20. **Backsliding is a tragedy — not a trifle, because sin will send a “Christian” or a sinner to hell.** “The soul that sinneth, it shall die.” Ezek. 18:4; Heb. 12:14; But now: “Ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth (i.e., the whole truth).” I Pet. 1:22.

DECLARATION.

The greatest and most difficult part of true salvation is not conversion, although that experience is truly a trauma by virtue of Holy Ghost conviction — the greater difficulty lies in the race and warfare into which a truly born-again Christian enters — his enemies are now the flesh, the world, sin, and the devil; (Study I Cor. 9:24-27) And these enemies must be defeated or else!

Jesus warns His early disciples and all future would-be disciples: “Strive to enter in at the strait gate: **for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.**” Luke 13:24. Few out of many will survive the warfare in the pursuit of eternal life, warned Christ, again and again. “Wide is the gate, and broad is the way (i.e., religion with no restraints unto obedience to God’s Commandments), that leadeth to destruction, and many there be that go in thereat. Because strait (i.e., restricted) is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life (eternal), and few there be that find it.” Matt. 7:13-14. Bible Evidence is here given that the crowded way is the wrong way.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

John 6:63

Rom. 11:20-24

Gal. 5:4

II Pet. 1:4-11

Matt. 22:14

Gal. 4:19-20

Eph. 1:3-5

I Pet. 5:8-10

II. FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.

DECLARATION:

The Fruit of the Spirit manifested are the best of all Bible Evidence that an individual has been born again — that is, that he is now truly a new creature in Christ, possessing the Divine Nature of Jesus Christ. Proof: **“For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth: Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.”** Eph 5:9-10. **Real Fruit of the Spirit only grows out of an honest heart in the soil of goodness, righteousness and truth.** Read Luke 8:15.

DISCUSSION.

The primary and foremost purpose of the 9 Fruit of the Spirit, given by the Holy Ghost to be manifested in the lifestyle and behaviour of a truly born-again Christian is: To empower that Christian to live the holy life-style of Jesus Christ! The Gifts of the Spirit are given to empower a truly dedicated saint of God to perform the wonderful works of Jesus Christ. Proof:

“But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, **goodness**, faith, meekness, **temperance** (self-control).” Gal. 5:22-23.

“But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your **fruit unto holiness**, and the **end** everlasting life.” Rom. 6:22.

“No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless **afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness** unto them that are exercised thereby.” Heb. 12:11.

“Bring forth therefore **fruits** meet (worthy) for repentance.” Matt. 3:8. (Fruit of the Spirit)

Every spiritually mature Christian should be an expert fruit inspector, for Jesus proclaimed: “Either make the tree good, and **his** fruit good: or else make the tree corrupt, and **his** fruit corrupt: **for the tree is known by his fruit.**” Matt. 12:33. Every professing Christian is likened to a fruit tree — producing either all good or all corrupt fruit!

a. FRUIT ARE OUTWARD EVIDENCE OF TRUE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP.

DECLARATION:

Fruit are on the outside of the tree, therefore the Fruit of the Spirit are outward manifestations of what a professing Christian’s experience really is, because he is the tree whose fruit is all good or all corrupt. Jesus declared: “A good tree (Christian) cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree (phony Christian) bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down,

and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7:18-20.

Therefore, it is manifest (obvious, clear to the 5 senses, and proves) that truly spiritual saints of God can discern a phony or counterfeit among professing Christians by the outward behaviour and outward appearance — the real fruit!

b. THE TEMPLE OF GOD IS HOLY. DISCUSSION.

"If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Cor. 3:17. A Christian's body is God's "tree" and "temple" to manifest the Fruit of the Spirit through, that is, the holy life-style of Jesus Christ. The commandment: "As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation (i.e., your total behaviour); Because it is written, Be ye holy, for I am holy." I Pet. 1:14-16.

A Christian's body is the temple of the Holy Ghost in which He desires to dwell — but, He will not remain in a defiled and unclean temple! "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and **ye are not your own?** For ye are bought with a price (i.e., the precious blood of Christ): therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Cor. 6:19-20.

Can this Bible Evidence or Proof of being a real born-again Christian be scorned or ignored? Is a professing Christian genuinely saved even when his fruit is corrupt or his negative Christian evidence is ignored? Answer — NO!

In the Christian race and warfare, the apostle warns of the True Pilgrim's Progress and of the cost for victory: "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway (i.e., rejected of God)." I Cor. 9:27. **Self-control is the Ninth Fruit of the Spirit upon which the effectiveness, efficiency, and beauty of the other eight are dependent.**

c. FRUIT OF HOLINESS IN A REAL CHRISTIAN. (1) APPETITES ARE HOLY.

"Set your affections on things above, not on things (i.e., lustful or material) on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. . . Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupisci-

ence, and covetousness, which is idolatry. . . But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another; seeing that ye have put off the old man (i.e., old nature) with his deeds; And have put on the new man (i.e., Christ's divine nature)." Col. 3:1-10. Also: Eph. 4:28-29; II Cor. 7:1; Rom. 12:1-2.

(2) LIFE-STYLES ARE HOLY.

"I will therefore that **men** pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that **women** adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair (i.e., decorative hair styles), or gold, or pearls, or costly array (i.e., decorations); But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." I Tim. 2:8-10.

DISCUSSION.

A Real Born-again Christian will reject the life-styles of the world — he now has the appetite of a sheep, not a goat as Christ also taught. A born-again person will not love the world, its pride, its lusts of the flesh, nor the lust of his eyes. I John 2:14-17. **A Real Christian will dress modestly with shamefacedness** — not disrobing in public for bathing, sports, partying, leisure, or labor. **A Real Christian will abhor Alcoholic Beverages, Smoking, Cursing, Lying, and all Idolatrous Pleasures of the world.** A godly woman will abhor the wearing of make-up, jewelry, and all unisex (including pants suits) and pagan dress-styles. **These are Bible Evidence by which to discern True Christianity from the phony.** Proof: "If any man love the world (i.e., world-conformity) the love of the Father is not in him. . ." I John 2:15-17. Please study these verses carefully. Pride, lusts of the flesh, and lusts of the eyes produce corrupt fruits — not of the 9 Fruit of the Spirit!

d. FRUIT — MUCH FRUIT — MORE FRUIT.

(1) Jesus explained: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch (i.e., every Christian) in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh away: and every branch (Christian) that (1) **beareth fruit**, he purgeth it (i.e., sanctifies it), that it may bring forth (2) **more fruit**. . . I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth (3) **much fruit**: for without me ye can do nothing." John 15:1-6.

It is just as natural for a truly born-again Christian to bear the 9 Fruit of the Spirit as it is for apple or peach trees to bear apples and peaches. These fruit are all outwardly manifested — not inside the "tree". **God looks on the outward appearance — so should a truly spiritual Christian in judging another professing Christian's fruit.** Fruit

can be imitated — but you can't fool a real saint — by their fruit you shall know them.

All fruit of the Spirit are Christian Evidence of what? Answer: "You have your fruit (i.e., Fruit of the Spirit) unto holiness" (Rom. 6:22), whether 30-fold, or 60-fold, or 100-fold as Jesus ordained. Read Mark 4:20. Obedience to the whole Word of God determines the quality of a Christian's fruit — consecration to Christ's calling determines the quantity!

Only a "Foolish Virgin" (Matt. 24:3) will accept every person who testifies to being born-again into Christian fellowship without first examining their fruit. For heaven's sake, why should a "wise virgin" open his arms to every professing Christian? It's dangerous, unwise, and foolhardy — and, it will certainly lead to heartbreak and disaster!

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

I Sam. 15:7

S. of Sol. 2:1-3

Phil. 1:11

Jude 11-12

Prov. 11:30

S. of Sol. 4:12-16

II Cor. 9:10

Col. 1:10

Mark 4:7

Luke 13:6-9

Rom. 7:4-5

James 3:17-18

III. TRUE SIGNS OF THE REAL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST.

a. **Jesus declared:** “And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” Mark 16:16-18. Unbelieving preachers and theologians may distort and explain these signs away — but, this true Bible Evidence remains valid and irrefutable to a true Bible-believing saint of God — and, these signs **will** follow true believers of the Bible and of Jesus Christ. Proof: “And they (Christ’s disciples) went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.” Mark 16:20.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

John 20:30	I Cor. 14:22	Psa. 74:9	Dan. 4:3
John 14:12	Acts 2:22	Psa. 105:26-27	Heb. 2:4
Acts 4:30	Acts 2:43	Rom. 15:18-19	Acts 8:13

b. “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” Rom. 8:14. This is true Biblical, Christian Evidence. “I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead,” Jesus declared in His reprimand to an entire church congregation. Rev. 3:1-2. A dead church of dead saints either have no fruit or corrupt fruit.

The Holy Ghost leads (or guides) into all Truth, not just part of the Truth. John 16:13. The true Bible sign of a true Christian is to be led by the Holy Ghost into all truth without rebellion against any of God’s Word. No Christian can forget, that, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.” II Tim. 3:16-17.

PART C. RELIGIOUS ACTS THAT ARE NOT CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE.

I. WATER BAPTISM. DISCUSSION.

Water baptism is a vastly overrated virtue. However, obedience to God's Word and Christ's command cannot be ignored nor rejected — we must obey all of God's Word to be justified and to remain so. Water baptism is symbolic of salvation — not salvation itself, nor does baptism wash away sins — only the blood of Jesus, unto repentance. "Jesus Christ. . . Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." Rev. 1:5-6; Eph. 1:7.

The Figure or Symbol:

- (1) "The like figure (i.e.; Noah's deliverance by water) whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, **but the answer of a good conscience toward God**) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." I Pet. 3:21.
- (2) "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, **even so we also should walk in newness of life.**" Rom. 6:4.
- (3) "Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord." Acts 10:46-48. **These were baptized with water after their conversion** and subsequent infilling of the Holy Ghost. **What part did water baptism play in their justification and conversion? Answer:** "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbid him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer (allow) it to be so now! **for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness.** Then he suffered (allowed) him." Matt. 3:13-15. The purpose and effect of water baptism as an ordinance of God is: "For thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness (i.e.; to consummate the work of grace in regeneration unto complete justification and a good conscience toward God).
- (4) **Baptism Does Not Save — Baptism Cannot Be Equated with the New Birth! Millions of hypocrites are baptized!**

"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." Acts 22:16. "**Calling on the name of the Lord**" is the source of salvation — not baptism. **Proof:** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:13. Also: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, **that your sins may be blotted out.**" Acts 3:19. The

“washing away of sins” is by “the washing of water by the word.” Eph. 5:25-27. Read John 15:3.

“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” Acts 2:38. **Salvation and conversion are the results of Repentance — not water baptism.** Water baptism fulfills all righteousness unto complete obedience to God’s Word.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Acts 17:30	Matt. 28:19-20	Col. 3:17	Acts 2:41
Luke 13:3	II Pet. 3:9	John 15:3	Acts 5:13-20
Rom. 10:9-13	Acts 15:7-11	I Cor. 1:14-17	Acts 16:29-34

II. COMMUNION. DISCUSSION.

Partaking of the Lord’s Supper or Communion is not Christian Evidence. This participation can be a religious stint or stunt and not a true spiritual exercise in the Bible ordinance to the church for True Christians. There is no virtue in communion for a sinner, hypocrite, or rebellious Christian: For “He that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.” I Cor. 11:29. **The great purpose of Communion is:** “For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come.” verse 26. Communion is an obedient act — but, it is not Bible Evidence that attests to a person’s real spiritual experience of the new birth.

Salvation is a genuine spiritual experience that is manifested (clearly proved) by a person’s fruit — that is, of possession, not a profession! “By their fruit, ye shall know them.” — Jesus!

III. OTHER RELIGIOUS ACTS THAT MAY BE CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE.

a. TITHING & GIVING.

Jesus said of this important Christian obligation: “But rather give alms (offerings) of such things as ye have; and, behold, all things (i.e., all which remains) are clean unto you. But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint (money) and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: **these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other (i.e., tithing and giving) undone.**” Luke 11:41-42. Tithing and Giving to the true Work of God is a test of love and obedience to God’s Word, but this in itself may or may not be a true fruit of conversion.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Heb. 7:1-8

Mal. 3:6-12

Luke 6:38

Gen. 14:18-20

b.] CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

The Holy Ghost order: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day (i. e., coming of Christ) approaching." Heb. 10:25.

SUMMARY.

Church attendance is an order to a true Christian, but caution and restraint must be exercised in judging a Christian here, because Jesus said: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them (Matt. 18:20)," and, this comprises the simplest form of a church assembly. **The early church's strength was in their home and house assemblies.** Attendance to an organized church assembly does not constitute the fruit of Repentance, Conversion, or Holiness. Remember: The Fruit of the Spirit are the Fruit of Holiness (Rom. 6:22; Eph. 5:9-10), "Proving what is acceptable (i. e., accepted) unto the Lord!"

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Acts 20:7-8

Rom. 16:3-5

Acts 5:42

Acts 10:24

c.] OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY DAY.

"One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. **Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.** He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it." Rom. 14:5-6. This is plain enough. Christ's disciples under Grace, keep every day holy, not just a Sabbath day. This religious act of strict observance to the keeping of a holy day is not necessarily a fruit of repentance or of holiness even though it may be — **it is a matter of conscience! Proof:** "Hast thou faith (i. e., a conviction)? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth." Rom. 14:22. A hypocrite can observe the Sabbath or Sunday — but he can't live holy to produce the true fruit of the Spirit unto Holiness!

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Col. 2:16-17

Matt. 12:1-12

Acts 20:7

Matt. 23:23

John 5:17-18

Exod. 31:12-17

Matt. 15:7-9

Mal. 2:11-13

d. MIRACLES.

Jesus declared: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also: and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." John 14:12.

SUMMARY.

Jesus has warned of the malaise and dilemma among Christians over the seeming miraculous as a criterion for judging a professed "miracle worker." "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. . . Many will say to me in that day (i.e., day of Christ's judgment), Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you." Matt. 7:20-23.

Sorcerers and false prophets can produce signs and wonders, warned Christ, "to deceive if it were possible, the very elect." Matt. 24:24. Therefore for this cause Jesus forewarned His true disciples: **Look for the 9 Fruit of the Spirit, for if the Real 9 Fruit are not manifested, then the miracles, or signs, or wonders are phony!** So Beware of False Prophets and Counterfeit Christians! True Christian Evidence is in the Fruit — not the miracles, signs, or wonders of a "Prophet" or "Miracle Worker." Cf. Mk. 16:16-18.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Matt. 7:15-16

Gal. 3:1

Acts 8:9-11

II Pet. 2:1-3

II Cor. 11:13-15

Gal. 4:7

Rev. 13:11-15

Rev. 16:13-14

PART D.

SUMMARIZATION.

Ambitious arrogance is very often mistaken in religious performers among our Sick, Laodicean Christian culture for inspiration and anointing by the Holy Ghost — among preachers, teachers, gospel singers, and other professing Christians. **The life-style or Fruit is the real Bible Evidence of genuineness or phoniness — not their profession or signs or gifts!** If the Fruit or Life-Styles are not holy, the signs, gifts, and profession of faith in Christ is phony! Acceptance of half-truths do not save an individual. His beliefs may be 95% right, but, the 5% wrong (or poison) will eventually kill him spiritually.

BABES IN CHRIST.

A newly born-again Christian if rightly taught and disciplined will begin Fruit-bearing almost immediately. They will desire the sincere milk of the Word and grow thereby. I Pet. 2:2. Jesus taught that a tree (new convert) should have perfect fruit within 3 years. Study Luke 13:6-9; John 15:1-7; Luke 8:11-15. Don't pity and pet a newly born-again Christian — Teach and Reprove him by the Word of God which is profitable for correction, for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness, and, he will become perfect quickly, throughly furnished unto all good works. II Tim. 3:16-17; also II Pet. 3:18.

OF BAPTISM.

A newly born-again individual should obey the command of Christ and be water-baptized as quickly as possible. Then just as quickly and resolutely, he should forget the water and seek to be sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost, and strive for perfection. Read Heb. 6:1-8. **Don't boast or argue about Water Baptism.** The first Gentile converts of Christ's early church repented, were converted or saved, filled with the Holy Ghost and spoke in other tongues — **then, they were water baptized.** Acts 10:44-48. **Proof:** Peter rehearsed this experience to the other apostles thusly; "Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God? When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles **granted repentance unto life.**" Acts 11:17-18. **What was the manner of their Baptism? Answer:** Immersion in the name of or by the authority of Jesus Christ — for the scriptures declare: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus (i.e., **by His authority**), giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Col. 3:17; Read Matt. 28:19-20. But, they also obeyed Christ's command: "In the name of the Father. . . of the Son. . . and of the Holy Ghost (in His authority unto obedience)," in water baptism.

True Bible, Christian Evidence always lies in the Fruit of the professed spiritual experience of the New Birth, or of Sanctification, or of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, or of a spiritual gift, or of Holy Ghost anointing.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Matt. 3:16

Rom. 16:17-18

II Cor. 11:1-4

Phil. 3:17-19

PART E. MEMORIZATION.

John 8:31-32

I Cor. 15:34

Titus 1:16

I John 2:3-4

Matt. 7:15-16

John 15:1-7

Gal. 5:24

I John 2:15-17

Matt. 12:33

James 1:22

Rom. 11:20-23

I John 3:6-10

Lesson No. 5

The Bible School of Prophecy

This Lesson Prepared For

BIBLE SCHOOL OF PROPHECY

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Mailed from Jacksonville, Fla.

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