

GOD'S SALVATION—GOD'S CHURCH GOD'S HEAVEN—GOD'S BIBLE

In this message we shall consider God's Salvation, God's Church, God's Heaven and God's Bible. Now first, God's Salvation.

GOD'S SALVATION

The most wonderful and most important matter that has ever been presented to the human race to consider and experience is "SALVATION." Salvation has to do with the never-ending eternity, as well as with man's spiritual existence on earth. Like all other spiritual matters, the truth concerning eternal salvation is not primarily what man thinks and decides about it; but what God's Bible says about it. Down through the generations the people on this earth have heard the message, which the Holy Spirit led the wise man of old to write, "There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Proverbs 14:12). Another very wise man of God, more than one thousand years later, was led to write: "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God; neither can be." (I Corinthians 2:14 and Romans 8:7).

Seeming right and being right are not the same. Neither is a man right in his thinking and decisions, because he is sincere. It is possible to be sincerely wrong, as the natural man generally is, concerning spiritual matters.

If there is anything clearly taught in the Bible, anything that should be self-evident to man, if his heart were not deceitful and if he were not deceived by Satan, it is the truth that man cannot save himself; that salvation is God's work. There is an awful penalty that will be received by those who do not receive salvation. This is called "the wrath of God," "perdition," "the second death," "the judgment of God," "the damnation of hell." There is another aspect or phase of salvation. After a person is saved in God's way from the penalty of sin then God offers to that saved person salvation from the power and control of sin in this life.

There is no more wonderful, startling and glorious news that any person can hear, there is no one truth more vital and important that every individual should receive at full face value and believe with heart, mind and soul, than the truth found in God's Bible, that salvation from the wrath of God, the damnation of hell, is not by what man does, or can do, for God, but what God does for man. Pause long enough to take this in; and to believe that when God forgives and redeems the believing sinner, it is according to the riches of His grace, which no human philosopher can begin to measure. (Ephesians 1:6 and 7). With this great truth, hear this great question "how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" (Hebrews 2:1 to 3). Remember

that the GOSPEL OF CHRIST is the power of God unto SALVATION to every one that believeth. (Romans 1:16).

“All things are of God, Who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ.” “When we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son.” (II Corinthians 5:18 and Romans 5:10). One planteth and another watereth, “But God that giveth the increase.” (I Corinthians 3:7). “A man can receive nothing except it be given him from above.” (John 3:27). “According to God’s mercy, He saved us.” (Titus 3:5 to 8). “God, Who hath saved us and called us with an holy calling, not ACCORDING TO OUR WORKS, but according to His own purpose and grace.” (II Timothy 1:9).

In II Thessalonians 2:13 and 14 we read one of the clearest and most definite statements of the way of salvation to be found in all of the Bible. Hear it: “God hath from the beginning chosen you to SALVATION through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth” . . . “Whereunto He called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.” God, by the Holy Spirit, saves the individual who believes the truth of Christ and Calvary.

“For God hath not appointed us to wrath but to obtain SALVATION by our Lord Jesus Christ.” (I Thessalonians 5:9). “He that believeth on the Son of God hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” (John 3:36). “For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23). In Hebrews 5:9 we read concerning Christ: “He became the Author of ETERNAL SALVATION unto all them that obey Him.” In Hebrews 9:12 we read that Christ, by His own blood, entered Into heaven, “having obtained ETERNAL REDEMPTION for us.” SALVATION is ETERNAL LIFE, which cannot be earned by good works or religious endeavors. God surely desires and expects faithful, obedient service, spiritual worship, and practical Christian living from all who have been redeemed by His infinite grace and by faith in the shed blood of His only begotten Son. But here is God’s order: “By grace are ye saved through faith; and that NOT OF YOURSELVES; it is the gift of God: NOT OF WORKS lest any man should boast. For we are His (GOD’S) WORKMANSHIP, created in Christ Jesus, UNTO GOOD WORKS, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:8 to 10).

There is a great difference between SALVATION “not OF good works” and SALVATION by grace “UNTO GOOD WORKS, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:8 to 10).

There is a great difference between SALVATION “not OF good works” and rewards and crowns for good works. To those who have been saved, without good works, God’s Bible has this admonition: “Be careful to maintain good works.” (Titus 3:8).

Now, if you are willing to be saved with God’s Salvation, if you will let God save you in His way, God will accept you (grace you) in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and freely forgive every sin you have ever committed in all of your days of sin; and God will, by His grace, make you His child in Christ Jesus, and give you eternal life, the guarantee of everlasting glory. God will give you the Holy Spirit as an earnest. “This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.” (I Timothy 1:15). Will you let Him save you? He died on the cross, The Just for the unjust, to bring us to God. (I Peter 3:18). Christ died for our sins, was buried and raised again. This is the good news by which believing

sinner is saved. (I Corinthians 15:1 to 4). But Christ is alive forevermore. Because in God's presence in heaven Christ appears, and ever lives to make intercession for all who are redeemed by His precious shed blood, He is able to save unto the uttermost (all the way to the end) all who come unto God through Him. (Hebrews 9:24 . . . Philippians 1:6 . . . John 13:1 and Hebrews 7:25).

So in your own personal salvation you must consider and answer aright the question of Pilate, "what then shall I do with Jesus Which is called Christ?" (Matthew 27:22).

If you feel that the Holy Spirit has convicted you of the fact, that apart from God's grace you are a lost, condemned sinner, and has convinced you of the truth of I Timothy 2:4 to 6, "God will have all men to be saved, and come unto the knowledge of the truth, for there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the Man Christ Jesus, Who gave Himself a ransom for all," perhaps you would like to sign your name, in confession of the Lord Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour:

On this _____ day of _____ year of our Lord, 2____, I have received the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God as my personal Saviour, and on the authority of God's infallible and eternal Word, I have passed out of death into life, have become a new creature in Christ Jesus, and have received from God eternal life and eternal salvation. (John 5:24, John 10:28 to 33 and II Corinthians 5:17).

GOD'S CHURCH

There are many church buildings and church organizations on this earth. Many of the people, who are members of the different church organizations, are also members of God's Church. About 1900 years ago the apostle Paul instructed the spiritual leaders at Ephesus: "Feed the CHURCH OF GOD, WHICH HE HATH PURCHASED WITH HIS OWN BLOOD." (Acts 20:28). Very interesting is this statement concerning God's Church. Since the day that Paul spoke to those elders many members of God's Church have departed to be with Christ. (Philippians 1:23).

Concerning the apostles Peter and John, we read in Acts 4:23: "And being let go they went to their own company." This word "company" suggests their own private group. In I Corinthians 14:23 we read of the church coming together. In Hebrews 10:25 we read, "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together." So every member of God's Church should be identified with other such members of like precious faith and should have a regular meeting-place or assembly. But every member of God's Church, in the matter of "church membership" should faithfully obey II Corinthians 6:14, "be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." And every member of God's Church should faithfully obey Ephesians 6:18, and pray with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. Perhaps a saint has Scriptural authority for saying that his first responsibility is to pray for the local assembly to which he belongs, but it is more than doubtful that he has the Bible right to say that his first responsibility is to pray for his own denomination. Every member of the Body of Christ includes all of these saints and their

Scriptural duty and privilege is to pray for every fellow-member in that ONE BODY. (Ephesians 4:4).

Church officers may receive from the members of some particular local assembly the right to induct others into that membership. But only God Himself can receive a person into His Church; that is, cause a believer to be joined to the Body of Christ by being joined to Christ. "So we, being many, are One Body in Christ, and everyone members one of another." (Romans 12:5). This means, of course, that all saved Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists and Congregationalists are members one of another. But it certainly does not mean that all of the members of these denominations are members one of another. No intelligent student of the Bible believes that a person is a member of God's Church because that person has joined some denominational organization. But every such student knows that God's way of joining God's Church is told in I Corinthians 12:12 and 13: "For as the body is one and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body; SO ALSO IS CHRIST: For by one Spirit are we all baptized into ONE BODY."

No man can baptize his fellow-man into the Body of Christ. This can be done only by almighty God. However, it is true that faith cometh by hearing the Word of God and sinners cannot believe unless they hear and they cannot hear unless God's saints go to them with the saving gospel, to plant and water, so that God will give the increase, and add such as are being saved. (Romans 10:12 to 15 . . . Acts 2:47). "And believers were the more added to the Lord." (Acts 5:14).

In Hebrews 10:10 and 13:12 we are told how sinners become saints: "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ." "Wherefore Jesus also, that He might SANCTIFY the people with His own blood, suffered without the gate." Then note I Corinthians 6:9 to 11, how God makes living saints out of dead sinners, how God justifies and sanctifies believing murderers, drunkards, thieves, adulterers, which is the very same in the case of the believing self-righteous, moral, religious person. . . "Such were some of you; but ye are washed; but ye are SANCTIFIED; but ye are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God." In Titus 3:5 to 8 this is called "by the washing of regeneration," which God bestows.

The moment God saves the believing sinner that very moment that one becomes a saint and a member of the Church, Which is the Body of Christ. (Ephesians 1:23 . . . Ephesians 4:4 and 5 . . . Colossians 1:25 and 26). In II Corinthians 1:21 and 22 we read that God establishes the believer and anoints the believer, "God, Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts."

In Ephesians 4:9 to 13 we learn how God is building up the Body of Christ: "For the building-up of the Body of Christ, Till we all come in the unity (oneness) of the faith, unto a perfect man." God is very jealous concerning His Son and His Son's Body; so let us be careful that we are not trying to build up something in competition with God, instead of being labourers together with God in building the ONE BODY of Ephesians 4:4.

The word "CHURCH" is found more than one hundred times in the Books from Acts to Revelation; twice in Matthew 18:17. The Greek word is "EKKLESIA." In the Greek translation of the Old Testament Scriptures this word "EKKLESIA" is used quite frequently and is

generally translated “congregation,” as it is in Acts 19:32, 39 and 41, where the Greek word is used to describe an angry, lawless mob of heathen.

Where the Greek word “EKKLESIA” refers to God’s Church, it does not refer to an assembly-room or meeting-place, but to a company of people; for the word “EKKLESIA” means “CALLED-OUT.”

Therefore, God’s Church (Ekklesia) is composed of believers, or saints, whom God by the Holy Spirit and the gospel of Christ has called out of this condemned world to be joined to Christ, as one flesh, to make up the one new man of Ephesians 2:15 and 5:31 and 32.

Every member of Christ’s Body, God’s Church, should gather regularly with other members of the JOINT-BODY of Ephesians 3:6 but should be very careful as to what he joins.

In Ephesians 5:25 to 27 we learn that Christ is going to present THE CHURCH unto Himself, a glorious, spotless, blameless, holy Church. How sad it is to know that many members of church-organizations on this earth will not be there. Will you?

GOD’S HEAVEN

When Christians pray the “Our Father” prayer, they say, “Our Father Which art in HEAVEN.” (Matthew 6:9). Hear God’s own word in Isaiah 66:1: “The HEAVEN is My Throne and the earth is My footstool.” In John 6:38 the Lord Jesus Christ said: “I came down from HEAVEN, not to do Mine own will, but the will of Him that sent Me.” To His disciples Christ said; “Rejoice because your names are written in HEAVEN.” (Luke 10:20).

We read this very interesting statement concerning the exaltation of the Lord Jesus, in Ephesians 4:8 and 10: “He ascended up on HIGH” . . . “The Same also that ascended UP FAR ABOVE ALL HEAVENS.” Then note Ephesians 1:19 concerning the mighty power of God which He wrought in Christ, “when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the HEAVENLIES FAR ABOVE ALL PRINCIPALITY, AND POWER, AND DOMINION, AND EVERY NAME THAT IS NAMED, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.” Paul wrote to the saints at Colosse; “Knowing that we also have a Master in HEAVEN.” (Colossians 4:1). To His disciples the Lord Jesus said; “Great is your reward in HEAVEN.” (Matthew 5:12). The Lord Jesus spent several weeks on earth after His crucifixion, burial and resurrection. When he left this earth in His glorified body some heavenly messengers said to Christ’s apostles: “This same Jesus, Which is taken up from you into HEAVEN, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into HEAVEN.” (Acts 1:11).

“We have such a High Priest, Who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the HEAVENS.” (Hebrews 8:1). Christ has entered “into HEAVEN itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.” (Hebrews 9:24).

Thus we learn that Christ came down from HEAVEN, and that Christ went back up to HEAVEN. Before Christ came down from HEAVEN He was in the form of God. Now up in HEAVEN Christ is God in the form of Man, where He is the Head of the Church, Which is His Body. (Ephesians 1:20 to 23). Members of that Body say, “Our citizenship is in HEAVEN;” for they have been raised up and made to sit together in the HEAVENLIES in Christ’ (Philippians 3:20 and Ephesians 2:6).

Before Christ went back to HEAVEN He said to His disciples, "I go to prepare a place for you. If I go, I will come again and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:1 to 3). So we can understand something of the meaning of the statement of the apostle Paul to members of the Body of Christ: "For the hope which is laid up for you in HEAVEN." (Colossians 1:5).

To God's redeemed ones the Holy Spirit wrote these words, by the pen of that apostle whom Christ loved: "It doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." (I John 3:2). These redeemed sinners are to have bodies like unto His glorified body. (Philippians 3:21). "And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the HEAVENLY." (I Corinthians 15:49). "For this corruptible must put on incorruption." (I Corinthians 15:53). Then what? "When Christ, Who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory." (Colossians 3:4). "And so shall we ever be with the Lord." (I Thessalonians 4:17). Thus we learn that the prayer of Christ, in John 17:24, will be answered: "Father, I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am; that they may behold My glory which Thou hast given Me."

We have learned from these Scriptures, that Christ is now far above all HEAVENS; so there are other heavens between where we are and where Christ is in HEAVEN. We have learned that HEAVEN is the Christian's eternal home; that the Christian will have an incorruptible body for this incorruptible inheritance. Therefore, HEAVEN is something more than a state or condition of mind, soul or spirit. It is a place; and in that place the redeemed will have glorified bodies like unto Christ's body of glory. The hope of the Christian is an anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into the veil, whither the Forerunner is for us entered, Jesus. (Hebrews 6:19 and 20).

As believing sinners receive salvation and righteousness and eternal life, by grace, as God's free gift through Jesus Christ our Lord, they likewise receive the earnest of their eternal inheritance, the Holy Spirit, by Whom they are sealed unto the day of redemption, the very moment they believe God's Word and receive God's Son. (Ephesians 1:13 and 1.4 and 4:30).

When the Christian says with Paul, "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (Romans 8:18)," that Christian knows that he is not going to enjoy eternal glory in heaven because of what he suffers for Christ, but because of what Christ suffered for him. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." "If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward." (I Corinthians 3:11 and 15). "In the ages to come God might show the exceeding riches of His grace, in His kindness toward us, through Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:7).

Redeemed sinners will be in HEAVEN by God's grace and by faith in the perfect redemptive work of the perfect Christ. But these redeemed ones will be rewarded according to their works after they get into HEAVEN by grace "Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus." (Colossians 3:17). "Do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men: Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:23 to 25).

There is only one way to get to HEAVEN. That is God's way, and remember it is God's HEAVEN. The one way is by God's grace and by faith in God's Son. But so far as the

resurrection of the body is concerned, there are two ways. "The dead in Christ shall rise first; Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." (I Thessalonians 4:16 to 18).

"The dead in Christ" will be those whose bodies have gone to corruption, but whose spirits have departed to be with Christ; absent from their bodies, at home with the Lord. (Philippians 1:23 and II Corinthians 5:8).

So HEAVEN is a prepared place for a prepared people. HEAVEN means eternal bliss and everlasting glory with Christ. Hell (the lake of fire) is a prepared place for the devil and his angels, but those who refuse God's offer of eternal life through Christ will go there. (Matthew 25:41 . . . Revelation 20:14 and 15 and 21:8).

As we as Christians behold the great throng, which no man can number, on the way to eternal perdition, let us remember our responsibility (Romans 10:12 to 15) and remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: "I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." (Luke 15:10). "Joy shall be, in HEAVEN over one sinner that repenteth." (Verse 7).

GOD'S BIBLE

Concerning God's message to the human race, the Psalmist wrote: "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." "The entrance of Thy words giveth light." (Psalm 119:105 and 130). God's Word, in II Peter 1:19, is described as a "light that shineth in a dark place." And then in the verses that follow the writer added, "holy men of God spake as they were moved (borne along) by the Holy Spirit." This same truth is stated by the apostle Paul in this language, in II Timothy 3:16; "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God." This means that, all the Bible is God-breathed.

The human author used by the Holy Spirit to write Genesis, the first Book in the Bible, Moses, wrote four other Books, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. The human author used by the Holy Spirit to write Revelation, the last Book in the Bible, wrote four other Books, the Gospel According To John and John's Three Epistles. Moses died about 1450 B.C. John died about 96 A.D. All of the Books between the Books of Moses and the Books of John were also the works of men of God under the control of the Holy Spirit. Some of these messages were given by God the Father, and some of them by revelation from the risen Christ after His death and resurrection and ascension.

The Scriptures, whether given by inspiration or revelation, were given on the installment plan, as described in Hebrews 1:1 and 2: "God, Who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son." Then later on the apostle Paul offered proof that Christ was speaking in him. (II Corinthians 13:3).

In Hebrews 4:12 we read that God's Word is life-giving and powerful and is the discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart and in John 7:17 Christ on earth said, "if any man willeth to do God's will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God." Here then the Son of God offers the scientific proof that the Bible is God's Bible. This same Christ used the word fools"

when he referred to those who were slow to believe all that God's prophets had written. (Luke 24:25).

What is said of the Book, John's Gospel, is true of very much of the Bible: "These are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through Him." (John 20:31). Then this same beloved apostle of Christ wrote: These things have I written unto you that believe on the Name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life. (I John 5:13)." What profit is there in the reading and studying of the Bible if the individual does not receive Christ as Saviour?

The Lord Jesus Christ is called the Word Which became flesh and dwelt among us. (John 1:14). John called this Incarnate Word, "eternal life." (I John 1:1 and 2 and John 5:20). The same Christ is coming back to this earth as "The Word of God." (Revelation 19:13).

Concerning the Books from Genesis to Malachi, the 39 Books before Christ came down from heaven, Christ said, "these are they which testify of Me." (John 5:39). This is why it is recorded that the Lord's servant mightily convinced the Jews, shewing BY THE SCRIPTURES that Jesus was Christ. (Acts 18:28 and 17:2 and 3). After Christ was raised from the dead He met two of His disciples and began "at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself." (Luke 24:27). Then about 25 years later the apostle Paul said that what he had been preaching to the Jews was "none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come; That Christ should suffer and be the first that should rise from the dead." (Acts 26:22 and 23). When Christ died on the cross, they fulfilled all that was written concerning His first advent. Then they took Him down from the tree, put Him in the sepulchre: But God raised Him from the dead. (Acts 13:29 and 30). This wonderful truth is the gospel by which believing sinners are saved; and is according to the prophetic Scriptures and their fulfillment. (I Corinthians 15:1 to 4). Therefore, God says, in His Word, "receive with meekness the engrafted (implanted) Word, which is able to save your souls." (James 1:21). Christians are born again by the Word of God; for faith cometh by hearing the Word of God. (I Peter 1:23, James 1:18, Romans 10:13 to 15, Matthew 13:23). This hearing must be mixed with faith. (Hebrews 4:2).

Christ is mentioned by noun and pronoun about 6,988 times in the 27 Books, from Matthew to Revelation; and all of the promises of God are in Christ Jesus. Neither is there salvation in any other. (II Corinthians 1:20 and Acts 4:12).

Christ said to His disciples; "now are ye clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you." (John 15:3). According to Psalms 119:9, this is how the young man is to cleanse his way.

The Psalmist said, "Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." (Psalm 119:11). We have often heard the expression concerning the reading of the Bible: "This Book will keep you from sin: sin will keep you from this Book." "This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light lest his deeds should be reprov'd." (John 3:19 and 20).

The apostle Paul instructed the Ephesian elders to feed the flock, the members of the Church of God. (Acts 20:28). Concerning God's Word, Job said: "I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food." (Job 23:12). Jeremiah said concerning God's Word,

“Thy Words were found, and I did eat them: and Thy Word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart.” (Jeremiah 15:16). Christ declared that man lives by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. God’s Word is the Christian’s food, and there is no substitute for regular, systematic feeding on this Word, real, prayerful, spiritual Bible study.

God’s Word is forever settled in heaven. (Psalm 119:89). God’s Word will endure forever when man’s glory has faded away. (I Peter 1:24 and 25). Men may change their attitude toward God’s Word, but God’s Word does not change as to its infallibility and authority, although it must be interpreted and appropriated and applied according to God’s principle set forth in II Timothy 2:15.

The unregenerated, natural man, however religious or cultured he may be, cannot understand the Word of God, which is spiritually discerned. (I Corinthians 2:14). The eunuch said, how can I understand, unless some man show me? (Acts 8:31). This was before the New Testament Scriptures were written, including the truth of I John 2:26 and 27. In order that readers of the Bible might be saved from spiritual seduction, the Holy Spirit, by the pen of Paul, wrote: “I commend you unto the Word of His grace which is able to build you up.” (Acts 20:32). Peter wrote that new born babes, new Christians, should desire the sincere milk of the word to grow. (I Peter 2:1 and 2).

The writer of Hebrews wrote: “Every one that useth milk is unskillful in the Word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are full age.” (Hebrews 5:13 and 14).

So whether you feel that you are a “full-age” Christian or a babe in Christ, read and study your Bible, God’s Bible, prayerfully, regularly and systematically, depending upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Who is the only infallible Teacher. Respect those who have received the gift as teachers; but when you receive the Word from them with all readiness of mind, then search the Scriptures daily and see if these things be so. (Acts 17:11, Ephesians 4:8 to 12). In other words, be Bereans.