# The **Apostles**' **Doctrine**

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matt. 16:18, 19.

Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. Luke 24:46-49.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8.

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12.

As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine. 1 Tim. 1:3.

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone. Eph. 2:20.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Tim. 3:16.

As we said before, so say I now again. If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that which ye have received let him be accursed. Gal. 1:9.

# **FOREWORD**

This booklet is being printed and distributed with a sincere prayer that it may strengthen and establish the believer; and that it may enlighten the thousands of perplexed and bewildered souls who are earnestly seeking, amidst the maze of men's traditions, to find the one true doctrine of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With true sincerity we pray that God may grant the reader grace to accept the truth as it is in Christ Jesus.

We certainly do not want to miss heaven. Let us therefore heed the prophet's words: "Stand in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls" (Jer. 6:16).

#### THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE

# CONCERNING

#### THE BIBLE

THE BIBLE is the inspired Word of God, giving a true history of the creation of the heavens and the earth, and of mankind, and containing a correct prophecy of the ages to come regarding the heavens and the earth and the destiny of man. Furthermore, there is no salvation outside of that which is contained within its pages.

#### GOD

There is only ONE GOD: the Creator of the heavens and the earth and of all mankind, manifested to mankind as FATHER (Creator), SON (Saviour), and HOLY GHOST (indwelling Spirit) (Rom. 8:11).

#### **FATHER**

God is a Spirit (John 4:24), the Eternal One, the Creator of all things; and, of course, of all men, thus making Him their Father (through creation).

HE is the FIRST and the LAST and beside Him there is no God (Isa. 44:6).

There was no God formed BEFORE Him, neither shall there be AFTER Him (Isa. 43:10).

#### SON

Jesus is the SON of God according to the flesh (Rom. 1:3), and the very God Himself according to the Spirit (Matt. 1:23). Jesus is the Christ (Matt. 16:16), the Creator of all things (Col. 1:16, 17); God with us (Matt. 1:23); God made flesh (John 1:1-14); God manifested in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16); He which was, which is and which is to come, THE ALMIGHTY (Rev. 1:8; Isa. 9:6).

To this, Jesus Himself testified when He said: "He that hath seen

me hath seen the father" (John 14:7-11); and "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30).

Since it took shedding of blood for the remission of the sins of the world (Heb. 9:22), God as the Father, being a SPIRIT, had no blood to shed; so He prepared a body of flesh and blood (Heb. 10:5), that He might fulfill the prophecy of Isa. 43:11; "Beside ME there is no SAVIOUR"; and caused the angels to sing, "For there is born this day in the city of David, a SAVIOUR, which is CHRIST, THE LORD" (Luke 2:11).

#### HOLY GHOST

The HOLY GHOST is not the third person in the Godhead, but rather the manifestation of the Spirit of God (the Creator), and of the resurrected Christ, coming to dwell in the hearts and lives of all men, who will be obedient to the gospel, as the Comforter, Sustainer, and Keeper (John 14:16-26; Rom. 8:11).

So there are not three GODS, but three MANIFESTATIONS of the ONE God.

"These three are one" (1 John 5:7).

# SIN

Sin is the transgression of the law or commandments of God (1 John 3:4), the guilt of which has fallen upon all men from the sin of Adam until this present time, the wages and results of which culminate in **eternal death** (Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:14) to all those who refuse to accept salvation as set forth in the Word of God.

# **SALVATION**

SALVATION (deliverance from) consists of deliverance from **all** sin and unrighteousness through the blood of Christ; by **repentance** from sin, **water baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins, and receiving the **baptism of the Holy Ghost**, and the continuance of a godly life (Acts 2:36-41).

#### WATER BAPTISM

WATER BAPTISM is an essential part of New Testament salvation: and not, as some teach, "Just an outward form of an inward cleansing." Without **proper baptism** it is **impossible** to enter into the Kingdom of God (God's true church, the Bride of Christ), and, therefore, it is not merely a part of local church membership.

#### MANNER OF BAPTISM

WATER BAPTISM can be administered only by **immersion** (Col. 2:12). Note the following: Jesus mentioned being "BORN (to bring forth) of the water" (John 3:5); Paul said, "We are BURIED with Him (Lord Jesus Christ) by baptism (Rom. 6:4); Jesus "Came up OUT of the water" (Mark 1:10); Philip and the Eunuch "Went down INTO the water," and "Came up OUT of the water" (Acts 8:38-39).

Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection was a type of our salvation. "REPENT (death to sin), and be BAPTIZED (burial) 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" (resurrection).

Sprinkling, or pouring, or infant baptism of any kind, cannot be substantiated by the Word of God, but are only traditions handed down to us by our forefather from the dark ages.

#### FORMULA FOR WATER BAPTISM

The name in which baptism is administered is as important as immersion.

This name is LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Jesus' last command to His disciples was, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them (all nations) in the NAME of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matt. 28:19). You will notice He said NAME, not NAMES. As we have previously explained, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are not names, but TITLES of positions held by God. We see quickly that this is true as we hear the angel announce, "She shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His NAME JESUS: for he shall save his

people from their sins" (Matt 1:21).

This name the Apostles understood to be LORD JESUS CHRIST, and from the first day that the church of God was established on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:36-41), until the end of their ministry, they baptized all nations (Jews, Acts 2:38-41; Samaritans, Acts 8:16; Gentiles, Acts 19:5) in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Are you looking for SALVATION? "Neither is there salvation in any other, for there in NONE OTHER NAME under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Without this NAME, water baptism is void!

#### **BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST**

The baptism of the Holy Ghost is the birth of the Spirit (John 3:5); that spiritual baptism necessary to put anyone into the kingdom of God (God's true church; the bride of Christ), and is evidenced by speaking in OTHER TONGUES (other languages) as the Spirit of God gives utterance.

It was prophesied by Joel (Joel 2:28, 29) and Isaiah (Isa. 28:11); foretold by John the Baptist (Matt. 3:11); purchased by the blood of Jesus, and promised by Him to His disciples (John 14:26; 15:26); and first outpoured on the day of Pentecost upon the Jews (Acts 2:1-4); then upon the Samaritans (Acts 8:17); and upon the Gentiles (Acts 10:44-46; 19:6); and "The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to ALL that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:39).

# **TONGUES**

TONGUES (languages) have two classifications as follows:

- (1) Speaking in OTHER TONGUES (languages) as the Spirit of God gives utterance.
- (2) The GIFT OF TONGUES (languages) as mentioned in 1 Corinthians.

(1) Speaking in OTHER TONGUES as the Spirit of God gives utterance is the manifestation God has given as a definite, undisputable supernatural WITNESS or SIGN of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

It was prophesied by the prophet Isaiah as "the rest and the refreshing (Isa. 28:11, 12); foretold by Jesus as a SIGN that would follow every believer of the gospel (Mark 16:16, 17); and poured first upon the Jews at Pentecost (Acts 2:4)l then the Gentiles at Caesarea, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Joel, that it should be poured out upon ALL FLESH (Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:15-18).

(2) The GIFT OF TONGUES, or unknown tongues, mentioned by Paul in 1 Cor. 12:1, 10, and concerning which he gives regulations in 1 Cor. 14:1-40 is that GIFT given by God to only some believers to be used for self-edification (1 Cor. 14:4) except when there is an interpreter present (1 Cor. 14:27, 28), when it may be used to edify the church.

It is especially distinguished from speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance in that this **gift** can be self-operated; "For if I pray in an unknown tongue, **my spirit prayeth**, but my understanding in unfruitful." It can be misused (1 Cor. 13:1), and therefore needs proper regulation (1 Cor. 14:23-28).

This is entirely different and separate from that which God gives as a witness of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Paul said, "Forbid not to speak with tongues (1 Cor. 14:39), and, "I thank my God I speak with tongues more than ye all" (1 Cor. 14:18). Who dares to teach or preach to the contrary?

# **HOLINESS**

After we are saved from sin, we are commanded to "Go and sin no more" (John 8:11).

We are commanded to live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world (Tit. 2:12); and warned that without holiness no man shall see the Lord (Heb. 12:14).

We must present ourselves holy unto God (Rom. 12:1), cleanse

ourselves from ALL filthiness of the flesh and spirit (2 Cor. 7:1), and separate ourselves from ALL worldliness (James 4:4).

If the righteousness scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? (1 Pet. 4:18).

No man can do this by his own power, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8).

#### **DIVINE HEALING**

God has manifested Himself to making through the ages by miraculous HEALINGS, and has made special provisions under the dispensation of grace to heal all who will come to Him with faith and obedience. DIVINE HEALING was purchased for us by the blood of Jesus Christ, being especially specified by His stripes (Isa. 53:5; 1 Pet. 2:24).

Jesus went everywhere healing all that were sick (Matt. 4:23-24). He commanded His disciples to do the same (Matt. 10:8). He said concerning those that believe the gospel. "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" (Mark 16:18). Mighty healings and miracles followed the disciples wherever the gospel was preached.

There is no sickness or disease too hard for God. You, your children, or your friends, can be healed by the power of God.

"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up: and if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another that ye may be healed" (James 5:14-16).

#### SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ is coming back to earth in bodily form as He went away (Acts 1:11), to catch away a holy people (His bride, His church) who have accepted redemption through His blood by birth of water and of the Spirit, and who are found faithful when He comes.

"For the LORD HIMSELF shall descend from heaven with a shout,

and with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God; and 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: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 These. 4:16, 17).

"One shall be taken and the other left" (Luke 17:34-36). WILL YOU BE READY?

# SIGNS OF HIS COMING

The SIGNS OF HIS COMING are everywhere. The days of perils are here indeed; with forms of godliness, void of the power of God; society and politics corrupted; men's hearts filled with pride, blasphemies, unholiness, and love of evil and pleasures (2 Tim. 3:1-13). These things, together with multitudes running to and fro, the increase of knowledge (Dan. 12:4), the traffic of automobiles (Nah. 2:3), and the persecution of the Jews and their return to Palestine (Luke 21:24), and scores of other things, are STARTLING SIGNS that Jesus' coming draweth nigh.

Wars and rumors of wars, famines, earthquakes, storms, floods, distress of nations with perplexity, and men's hearts failing them for fear, are sounding the solemn alarm that **Jesus' coming is at hand** (Matt. 24:6); Luke 21:25-28).

"PREPARE (TODAY) TO MEET THY GOD" (Amos 4:12).

# RESURRECTION

There will be a resurrection of all the dead, both just and unjust.

"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:28, 29).

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God...And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them..." (Rev. 20:12, 13).

Please read, in connection, Dan. 12:2 and 1 Cor. 15:13-17.

#### JUDGMENT

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the JUDGMENT" (Heb. 9:27). It is for this reason there is a resurrection. "For we must ALL appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body., according to that he hath done, whether good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10).

The eternal destiny of every soul shall be meted out by a just God who knows the secrets of the hearts of men. "And before Him shall be gathered ALL nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats; and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say to them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Then shall he also say unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: and these shall go away into EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT; but the righteous into LIFE ETERNAL" (Matt. 25:32-34, 41, 46).

The LAW – The Word of God
The JUDGE – A righteous God
To be judged – YOUR SOUL
WHAT WILL YOUR SENTENCE BE?

Life's opportunities past!
Reaping day at last!
Two verdicts pendeth;
LIFE or DEATH!

THE FOLLOWING REFERENCES SHOW PLAINLY THAT SPEAKING IN TONGUES AS AN EVIDENCE OF THE HOLY GHOST HAS BEEN GIVEN OF GOD UNTO EARNEST GOD-FEARING PEOPLE DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS.

SCHAFF HERZOG-ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE, Vol. 3, page 2369, TONGUES, GIFT of, a phenomenon of the Apostolic age, technically know as the "glossalalia." In later time analogies have been found for it in the "speaking in tongues" of the Camisards, Prophets of the Cevennes, Early Quakers and Methodists, "Lasare" in Sweden (1841-1843), converts in the Irish revival of 1859, and particularly in the Catholic Apostolic (Irvingite) Church.

SCHAFF HERZOG-ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE, Vol. 2, page 1119, IRVING, EDWARD, "In 1830 the news was spread abroad of the strange speaking with tongues which occurred in widely separated parts of Scotland. In 1831 prophecy and tongues appeared in Irving's church and Irving fell in with the movement, heartily convinced of its spiritual basis and divine authority."

SCHAFF HERZOG-ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE, Vol. 1, page 422, CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH. "Pious Presbyterian men and women believed that their organs of speech were used by the Holy Spirit for the utterance of His thoughts and attentions."

ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITTANICA, NEW WERNER EDITION, Vol. 4, page 749, CAMISARDS-speaking in tongues, accompanied by all kinds of miracles, was common among the Camisards and Cevennes of Southern France in the 18th century. Children, under the influence of supernatural power, spoke and prophesied in languages unknown to them.

SCRIBERS ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION AND ETHICS, Edited by James Hastings, Vol. 7, page 424, "In 1831 the gift of tongues and prophecy appeared, it was believed in answer to fervent prayer, among the members of Irving's congregation."

BUTLER-CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS OF THE WORLD, UNITED SOCIETY OF BELIEVERS, or SHAKERS. "Mother Ann declared herself endowed with the gifts of miracles and tongues."

BUTLER-CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS OF THE WORLD, EDWARD IRVING (1792-1834). "He proclaimed his conviction that the gifts of the Holy Ghost, such as tongues, healing, etc., were withheld only because of the want of faith, and ere long there were several persons in his church who claimed the fist of tongues."

ABINGDON BIBLE COMMENTARY, page 1190, 1 Cor. 14, "Scottish peasants spoke in tongues."

WEBSTERS NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY, 2nd edition, page 1056, GIFT OF TONGUES—Sec. B "A phenomenon experienced by some of the Christians of New Testament times, the nature of which seems to have been a kind of ecstatic utterance usually unintelligible to the hearers and even to the speakers, therefore requiring interpretation; glossolalia. Similar phenomena have in modern times been experienced by some of the early Friends, Jansenists, Methodists, etc."

# WHAT THEN? By J. Whitfield Green

(John 3:16; Malachi 4:1)

When the great plants our cities
have turned out their last finished work;
When our merchants have sold their last yard of silk
And dismissed the last tired clerk;
When our banks have raked in their last dollar
And paid the last dividend;
When the Judge of the earth says: "Close for the night,"

And asks for a balance-WHAT THEN?

When the choir has sung its last anthem,
And the preacher has made his last prayer,
When the people have heard their last sermon
And the sound has died out on the air;
When the Bible lies closed on the altar
And the pews are all empty of men
And each one stands facing his record—
And the great Book is opened—WHAT THEN?

When the actors have played their last drama,
And the mimic has made his last fun,
When the film has flared its last picture,
And the billboard displayed its last run;
When the crowds seeking pleasure have vanished.
And gone out in the darkness again—
When the trumpet of ages is sounded,
And we stand up before Him—WHAT THEN?

When the bugle's call sinks into silence
And the long marching columns stand still,
When the captain repeats his last orders,
And they've captured the last fort and hill,
And the flag has been hauled from the mast head,
And the wounded afield checked in,
And a world that rejected its Saviour,
Is asked for a reason—WHAT THEN?

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"BUT THOUGH WE OR AN ANGEL
FROM HEAVEN, PREACH ANY
OTHER GOSPEL UNTO YOU THAN
THAT WHICH WE HAVE
PREACHED UNTO YOU, LET HIM
BE ACCURSED."

—Galatians 1:8

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