

Lesson 5

Christian Particulars for Thought and Study

I. The Consecrated Life

The key to the consecrated life is found in Hebrews 12:1. "Let us lay aside every _____
... and... _____ the race that is before us."

A. The Believer's Body

1. What is our reasonable and spiritual service? _____ (Romans 12:1)
2. What should we know about our body?
_____ and _____ (I Corinthians 6:19)
3. What should the aim be in use of our body? _____ (I Corinthians 6:20)
4. How can you know the will of God? _____ (Romans 12:2)

B. The Believer's Goals

1. Our affections should be set on things _____ (Colossians 3:2).
2. Whatever we do ought to be in the name of _____ (Colossians 3:17).
3. List the three-fold goal of Paul in Philippians 3:13-14. _____,
_____, and _____
4. What is essential in order to be fruitful in our Christian lives? _____ (John 15:4-5).
5. Explain Galatians 2:20 in your own words. _____

6. If we are to know the truth, we are to continue in _____ (John 8:31,32).

II. The Local Church

- A. The church is to be the _____ and _____ of the _____ (I Timothy 3:15).
- B. What offices were given to the local church? _____ and _____ (I Timothy 3:1-8)
- C. Who are given to be the overseers of the local church?
_____ (Acts 20:17-28; Ephesians 4:11,13; I Timothy 3:1-5; 5:17)

Notice the words found in these verses – Elder, Bishop, and Pastor – all referring to the same office. This is the one man who is in charge of the local church.

III. Separation

The doctrine of separation is not a popular doctrine among many Christians. We must base our belief not on that which is popular, but on the Word of God.

- A. What is our highest service for Christ? _____ (I Corinthians 4:2)

The Bible claims that we are a *separated people* (II Corinthians 6:17).

1. Separation is to be from the world.

- a. "What fellowship has _____ with _____ or what communion hath _____ with _____" (II Corinthians 6:14).
 - b. God says, "_____ not the world" (I John 2:15).
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- c. What does God say about friendship with the world? _____ (James 4:4)
 2. Separation is to be from false preachers, their churches, and their organizations (Galatians 1:6,9; II John 7-11).
 3. Separation is to be from believers who live sinful lives (II Thessalonians 3:6-15).
What is the purpose of this separation? _____ (II Thessalonians 3:14-15)
 4. Jude tells us to _____ for the faith (Jude 3).
- B. What three things ought to be true of the blessed, upright person of Psalm 1:1.
- _____

IV. What Makes one a Baptist?

A Baptist, first of all, is a person that has been regenerated, or saved by the blood of Jesus Christ. Second, the person has been baptized by immersion in a local church and is a member of a local, independent, separated, soul-winning, Bible-believing, Baptist church. Third, his beliefs regarding the Bible and its teaching differentiate him from all other denominations, sects, and organizations, including some other Baptists. These beliefs are the gauges by which our lives and our churches are governed. Strictly speaking, Baptists are not Protestants. Our spiritual forefathers were in existence before the Reformation ever began.

The Distinctions:

- A. Inspiration of the Bible – The Bible is our only rule of faith and practice.
- B. Baptism by Immersion – Baptism is for believers only and is a pre-requisite for church membership.
- C. Priesthood of the Believer – The believer has direct access to the throne of God and is responsible directly to God. This access is through Jesus Christ and Him only (I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:16).
- D. The autonomy, or self-government, of the local church – The local church is God’s establishment and able of handling its affairs.
 1. It is to be an indigenous, independent, self-governing body of believers.
 2. It is to elect its own officers (Acts 6:5,6).
 3. It is to discipline its own members (I Corinthians 5:13).
 4. It is to conduct regular worship services (Acts 20:7).
 5. The pastor is to be the *under-shepherd* of the flock (I Peter 5:1-3).

We believe that the local church is governed by that local body. Hence, it is to solve its own problems and manage its own affairs rather than being subject to a Bishopric hierarchy.

F. Separation of Church and State (Mark 12:17)

The state stays out of the church and the church stays out of politics. Romans 13:1-7 and I Timothy 2:1-4 teach that human government is a Divine appointment. But, as we find in Acts 5:27-32, when the laws and decrees of men are in direct contradiction and disobedience to the Word of God, as with Peter, we are to obey God rather than man.
