

THE EXAMINER

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OLD TIME RELIGION ---- By J. D. Tant - Part 1

If a man knows how to study the Bible, and studies it; learns what he must do to be saved, and does it; learns which church he should be added to, and lets the Lord add him to that church; finds out what name he should wear, and wears it, will not that man have "Old Time Religion?" If not, why not? If you have a few minutes to devote to the most important tiling in your life, please read these pages and learn the truth .concerning "that Old Time Religion" about which so many sing so much, and know so little.

Lesson Number 1 - HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

If you are sick and the doctor tells you to take medicine, yet fails to tell you the kind to take to benefit your disease, he has done you little good. If you are in trouble and the lawyer tells you that you have violated the law and must suffer the penalty, yet does not tell you the law violated, nor the penalty to be exacted, nor how you may correct your mistake or mitigate the penalty, he is not your friend. If the teacher tells you that

you must study grammar or arithmetic, but does not tell you how to learn the difference between addition and subtraction, or how to tell a noun from an adverb, you would consider him a very poor teacher.

It is even so with our study of the Bible. We must not only be encouraged to STUDY the blessed Book; but must often be helped to know HOW to study it so as to get its true teaching.

In medicine one kind may be good for small pox, another for fever, and still another for some other disease. If a doctor gives only one kind of medicine for every disease', he will soon be a failure. The same is true in law. Each crime has its own penalty; and no one has so little understanding as to suppose that a man will suffer the same penalty for each and every crime. When I come, therefore, to a study of the Bible, I must use this same simple approach. This is a large book; it has been man's guide for many generations, and tells us of God's dealing with the human race from

the very dawn of creation. The things God ordained one man, or one nation, to do at some specified time, and under a certain set of circumstances, are by no means necessarily applicable to you and me.

God ordained that Noah should build an ark; that Abraham should sacrifice his son Isaac; that Moses should make a brazen snake; that the Jews should burn animal sacrifice. But never did he ordain that you and I should do these things. This brings us to the great question: How must I study the Bible to understand it?

Taking the Bible as a whole, there are 66 books combined into One Book. Thirty-nine books are in the Old Testament, and 27 in the New Testament. When Jesus was on earth mankind did not have the New Testament written down, but did have the Old Testament he divided it into three divisions, and said: "All things must needs be fulfilled, which are written in the law of Moses, and the prophets, and the psalms, concerning me." (Luke 24: 44.)

Thus the Son of God subdivides the Old Testament into three sections, and calls one part Law. I ask myself, "What is law?," and find that it is a rule of action given from one party to govern another. I then go to the Old Bible, I read carefully through every chapter from Genesis through the Book of

Esther, seventeen books in all. I find that all of these books come under the heading of Law. Yet not one of them tells you and me what we must do to be saved. They were given to a different people, in different ages, and for different purposes. A man can no more find the plan of salvation in these seventeen books than an American citizen can find his duty to his nation by reading the law of Germany. Again, I take up the second department of the Old Bible which Jesus calls Psalms, and find that in this section there are at least five books of sacred poetry, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. I read through these poetical books and find many valuable lessons on moral deportment, and learn much of how men worshiped God in ages of the past. But not a single one of these books, nor all of them combined, will tell me what I must do to be saved. I can no more find the plan of salvation in these five books than I can find a cure for small pox in a book that is written only to give remedies for whooping cough and asthma. I turn once again to the Old Bible, and read the third department, the Prophets, seventeen books in all, commencing with Isaiah and closing with Malachi. Thus I close the Old Bible. No man has found, or can find, the of salvation there

for you and me. The Old Bible points to the future, but that is all. This brings me out of the Old Testament and into the New Testament in my search for that "Old Time Religion" the people sing about, and in my search for the plan of salvation as taught by the Son of God. I read the first four books of that New Testament, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. As I near the close of John's Gospel I find these words; "Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name." (Jno. 20: 30) So in these four books I learn what a man must believe in order to be, saved.

Next in the New Testament comes the **Book of Acts**. This book tells me what a man must DO in order to be saved. It shows me by a great many examples exactly how God's plan of salvation applies to many individuals. I turn to **chapter 15: 7**, and find Peter's statement that, "God made choice among you that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel, and believe." I then turn to **Acts 16: 31**, and find Paul telling the Philippian Jailor to, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house." I find the same Paul

teaching (**Acts 17:30**) that God now "comandeth men that they should all everywhere repent." From **Acts 8: 36** I learn that men had to confess Christ as the Son of God; and in **Acts 2: 38** I find Peter's answer to sincere men who had asked what they must do. He replied, "Repent ye, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins."

In **Acts 22: 16** Ananias told Paul to "arise and be baptized, and wash away thy sins."

So far in this Book of Acts we have learned that in order to be saved a man had to:

1. Hear the gospel - **Acts 15: 6-9**
2. Believe the gospel - **Acts 16: 31.**
3. Repent - **Acts 2: 38; 17: 30.**
4. Confess Christ - **Acts 8: 36-37.**
5. Be baptized for the remission of sins - **Acts 2: 38.**

These items, faithfully obeyed, made a man a Christian.

We continue our study of the New Testament, turning to the letter to the church at Rome; we read right on through the next twenty-one letters. In these epistles we have instructions to Christians telling them how they should act and live in this world, how they should work and worship as members of the body of Christ in order to reach heaven as their eternal home after death.

This brings us to Revelation, the last book in the New

Testament. I read it and learn many things of the beautiful home God has prepared for those who love him. I learn of the eternal city of fadeless day where sickness, sorrow, pain and death are unknown. And in the last chapter I learn that if that wonderful home is ever to be mine, I must neither add to nor take from the word of God.

Thus I find the New Testament to be a complete and perfect guide. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John tell me what I must believe to be saved. Acts tells me what I must do to be saved. The next twenty-one letters tell me how I must live after being saved. And Revelation tells me of the Eternal Home after the judgment day. **via "Truth In Love" – March 1965 – Vol 25 Number 48**

GOD'S PLACE FOR YOU

NOT IN DARKNESS JO. 12:46
SIN ROM. 6:23
WAY OF FLESH ROM. 8:5-8
WAY SEEMS RIGHT PROV. 14:12
ERROR ACTS 26:9-10
DISOBEDIENCE EPH. 2:1-3
UNFAITHFULNESS LK. 16:10-12
POLLUTIONS OF WORLD 2 PET. 2:10-22

2 PET. 3:9

ACCOUNTABLE

IN CHRIST - 2 COR. 5:17-1 JO 5:11- ROM. 6:3-5

IN RIGHTEOUSNESS - TIT. 2:11-12

IN FAITHFULNESS - HEB. 10:25-REV. 2:10

SUBJECT TO POWERS - ROM. 13:1-1 PET. 2:13-16

MAN

HONEST WORK - 1 THESS. 4:11-12

SOBER-TEMPERATE-SOUND - TIT. 2:2-6

HEAD OF FAMILY - EPH. 5:23, 25-1 PET. 3:7

FAITHFUL TO WIFE - MT. 19:3-6-1 COR. 7:3-5

PROVIDER - 1 TIM. 5:8

EXAMPLE - EPH. 6:4

CHILD

OBEDIENCE TO PARENTS - EPH. 6:1-3-COL. 3:20

REMEMBER THY CREATOR - ECCL. 12:1

KNOWLEDGE OF SCRIPTURES - 2 TIM. 3:14, 15

WOMAN

MODEST - 1 TIM. 2:9-10-1 PET. 3:3-4

SUBJECT TO HUSBAND - EPH. 5:22-1 PET. 3:1, 2

FAITHFUL TO HUSBAND - ROM. 7:3-4-1 COR. 7:3-5

KEEPER AT HOME - TIT. 2:3-5

TEACHER - TIT. 2:3-5

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL - MAY WE BEGIN BY LISTENING TO WHAT GOD SAYS

You Say... God Says...

You Say	God Says	Bible Verses
I can't figure it out.	I will direct your steps.	Proverbs 3:5-6
I'm too tired.	I will give you rest.	Matthew 11:28-30
It's impossible.	All things are possible.	Luke 18:27
Nobody loves me.	I love you.	John 3:16
I can't forgive myself.	I forgive you.	Romans 8:1
It's not worth it.	It will be worth it.	Romans 8:28
I'm not smart enough.	I will give you wisdom.	I Corinthians 1:30
I'm not able.	I am able.	II Corinthians 9:8
I can't go on.	My grace is sufficient.	II Corinthians 12:9
I can't do it.	You can do all things.	Philippians 4:13
I can't manage.	I will supply all you needs.	Philippians 4:19
I'm afraid.	I have not given you fear.	II Timothy 1:7
I feel all alone.	I will never leave you.	Hebrews 13:5