

“PASSAGES” # 2

The “**all**” in II Cor. 9:13 has been presented as the church’s benevolence is to all, **saint and sinner!** The text of II Cor. 8, 9 states clearly that the benevolence being discussed is to “**SAINTS.**” Notice 8:4, “**Saints,**” Also 9:1, “**Saints.**” In I Cor. 16:1-2 it is designated the benevolence was to the “**Saints.**” In Rom. 15:25 again it is stated the benevolence was to “**Saints.**” In every place this benevolence is spoken of, it is designated, “**to the saints.**” The “**all**” of II Cor. 9:12 are to any and all saints that are of like kind, in need. In this the scriptures give its meaning.

Take a close look at Lk. 1:6, “*And they were both righteous before God, **walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.***” This passage is explaining what it is to be righteous before the Lord – “*Walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.*” If then I want to explain what it is to be “**righteous,**” I cite Zacharias and Elisabeth, and make the point: to be righteous is to “*walk in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.*” In this the scriptures give its meaning.

“*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God,*” (KJV), Rom. 10:17. This passage tells us how “**Bible faith is acquired.**” If one reads something in the Bible, that then becomes “Bible faith.” From this I learn there are many things that are believed which cannot be found in the Bible, and thus is **not “Bible faith.”** This eliminates the idea of someone saying, “My faith is That is what it is, the persons own idea. If it is not taught in the Bible it cannot be “**Bible faith.**” In this the scriptures give its meaning.

Did you notice “**idolatry,**” in Col. 3:5, “*Put to death therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness, which is idolatry.***” You note from this statement that, “**covetousness, which is idolatry.**” This defines to us what “covetousness,” is. This is important because this is what he Bible says about “covetousness,” It is idolatry! In this the scriptures give its meaning.

“*16 If any man see his brother sinning a sin not unto death, he shall ask, and God will give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: not concerning this do I say that he should make request,*” 17 *All unrighteousness is sin and there is a sin not unto death,*” I Jno. 5:16-17. According to I Jno. 1:9 if we “*confess our sins,*” ***we shall be forgiven our sins.*** The **unconfessed sins** are the ones that **are not forgiven.** The difference between sins being forgiven and not forgiven is the difference between children of God **confessing** and **not confessing** their sins. In this the scriptures give its meaning.

Jas. 1:27 is very interesting: “*Pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father is this, to visit he fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.*” The proof in this passage that James is discussing the individual is found in the last statement, “***keep oneself unspotted from the world.***” If I can pay someone to take care of the orphan for me, why cannot I pay someone to keep me “unspotted from the world?” This is teaching the individual has a responsibility to take care of the orphan and widow as, ability, opportunity presents itself. So, you see, the passage itself is discussing individual action as well as the context. In this the scriptures give its meaning. Caa

Note: As you read the Bible, look for passages explaining: words, ideas, or, other passages of scripture.

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