(With What Do You Walk Away) Continued from Pg. 1
Clergy: Turning the interpreting over to a clergy, i.e., "group or body of ordained persons in a religion, as distinguished from the laity"

- 3. Pulpit: Turning the interpretation over to the pulpit, i.e., the preacher.
- 4. The Mystical Method: "It was maintained that no man could interpret the communications from the deities unless be was en rapport with said divinities."
- 5. The Allegorical Method: "This method treats the word of God as if it had only been intended to be a kind of combination of metaphors--a splendid riddle."
- 6. Spiritual Interpretation: "It regards such power to be within the reach of everyone."
- 7. The Hierarchical Method: "It affirms that the church is the true exponent of the Scriptures...and was appointed as their guardian, it has, therefore, the right to interpret them."
- 8. The Rationalistic Method: "It is very nearly the rule of unbelief...they compel the Bible to harmonize with the latest philosophies than anything else."
- 9. The Apologetic Method: "It maintains the absolute perfection of all statements in the Bible...This view finds its adherents to everything, and anything that can be found in the Bible, and regards it all as from God."
- 10. The Dogmatic Method: "This method is noteworthy for two things: first it assumes the doctrine to be true; and, second, it regards it as certainly true by being proven. It proceeds by assumption and proof."
- 11. The Literal Interpretation: "This is most commonly employed by dogmatists, in order to maintain a view that cannot be supported in any other way."
- 12. The Inductive Method: What is it? A leading or drawing off a general fact from several instances or summing up the result of observations and experiments. In the uses of this method of interpretation, all the facts are reported, and from them the conclusion is to be reached.

Without a standard of Biblical Hermeneutics there will be no consistence of belief. (Continued Page 3)



With What Do You Walk Away? III

In the last installment the subject was concluded with a comment made "when I stated that the "church of Christ" is non-denominational (another term utilized is un-denominational), and not a part of a council, synod, and/or convention, the gentleman with whom I was speaking said, "so you make your own rules."

In essence, every member of a religious organization: Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Assembly of God and/or church of Christ, "affirm that they follow the Bible as their only rule of doctrine and practice," and hold to the doctrine of "sola scriptura." Why is that the case? The apostle Paul indicated that "God is not a God of confusion, but of peace" (1 Cor. 14:33).

The discrepancies in doctrine that exist among individuals and churches have a common thread, i.e., their source of Biblical interpretation: D. R. Dungan's Hermeneutics: A Text-Book: Chapter IV

1. Creeds: Some will read the scriptures considering what their religious creeds dictate. If they read the scriptures based upon a creed, the interpretation will reflect what the reader had already determined the outcome.

(Continued Page 4)

Strength of a Leader

Part I

I. Cycle of Life:

- A. Gen. 2:24; 3:20; 49:31 The home
- B. Dan. 4:17 Secular kingdoms
- C. Matt. 16:18; Eph. 5:23 The church
- D. Homes, nations, and churches run in cycles:
 - 1. Gen. 1:27; Eccl. 7:29 Rest, "rest, remain, be quiet" (Vine's).
 - 2. Judg. 2:6-8; 11; 1 Sam. 15:23 Rebellion
 - 3. Ezek. 14:6-11; Rom. 1:18 -Retribution
 - 4. 1 Kg. 8:46-53; 1 Jn. 1:5-10 Repentance
 - 5. Psa. 130:1-8; Eph. 1:3-7 -Redemption
 - 6. Jer. 6:16; Matt. 11:29 Rest

II. When Righteousness is Sought After:

- A. In the home:
 - 1. Gen. 6:8; 7:7; 2 Pet. 2:5 Noah and wife
 - 2. Gen. 18:11, 17-19 Abraham and Sarah
 - 3. Gen. 24:67 Isaac and Rebekah
 - 4. Lk. 1:5-6 Zacharias and Elisabeth
 - 5. Matt. 1:18-19 Joseph and Mary
 - 6. Acts 18:2; 1 Cor. 16:19 "Aquila and Prisca salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house."

- B. In the nation:
 - 1. Psa. 33:12 Through a national recognition of Jehovah as God
 - 2. Prov. 14:34 Wherein is a national righteousness.
 - 3. 2 Chron. 15:2-9 Asa was a strong leader and took courage to put away the abominations of the land (The prophet Azariah/Obed).
 - 4. 2 Chron. 17:3-10 Under the reign of Jehoshaphat, and his endeavors to teach Judah the laws of Jehovah, the nation flourished.
- C. In the church:
 - 1. Matt. 16:18; Eph. 5:23 Universal: Christ as head
 - 2. 1 Cor. 12:27, 28 Local
 - 3. Acts 9:31 "So the church…had peace, being edified."
 - 4. Rev. 3:7-13 Philadelphia (Vs. 8 "I know thy works (behold, I have set before thee a door opened, which none can shut), that thou hast a little power, and didst keep my word, and didst not deny my name."

(Continued from Page 4)

Make your own rules? Not by a long shot!

When you engage another person in conversion, With What Do You Walk Away? "Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that which he thinketh he hath" (Lk. 8:18). Better yet, with what do you want the hearer to Walk Away? "But let your speech be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: and whatsoever is more than these is of the evil one" (Matt. 5:37), and "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer each one" (Col. 4:6).

(For an expanded view of the Methods of Interpretation go to...) www.jonescoc.org "Working Files: 2024 All Files"