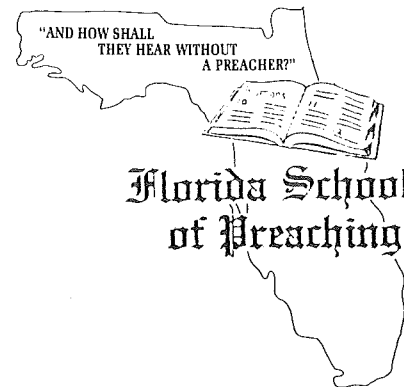


THE HARVESTERS



VOLUME XI

DECEMBER 1990

NUMBER 5

A Critique of Some Degrading, Unreasonable And Unnecessary Statements

By
Wallace E. Maxwell

This writer is continually concerned by the phraseology emanating from some preachers and members of the church. Must one degrade one facet of Christianity to emphasize another? To degrade is "to deprive of standing or true function." A preacher, in trying to show the importance of brotherly love and togetherness, said, "Doctrine does not really matter if there is no love and togetherness." Sound doctrine always matters! By their conduct, men may adorn sound doctrine (Titus 2:10) or they may live contrary to its message (I Tim. 1:9-10). Their conduct cannot diminish the "true function" of sound doctrine, "love out of a pure heart . . . a good conscience . . . and unfeigned faith" (I Tim.

1:5-11). Sound doctrine according to the glorious gospel of God always stands in opposition to all error.

These unreasonable statements are disturbing. One brother said, "I'd rather be a member of a congregation that is doing evangelism in the wrong way than to be a member of a congregation that is not evangelistic." This is

an unreasonable statement because it contrasts two unnecessary and unacceptable options. You can be a member of a congregation which does evangelism and does it in a scriptural manner. Another said, "We do not have enough fulfillment in love and hospitality." One's attitude toward love and hospitality is often determined by whether he is a giver or a receiver. One who is a giver never has any lack of fulfillment.

Such statements are not only degrading and unreasonable—they are unnecessary! There are no necessities for doing the right thing in the wrong way. One does not need to lessen the importance of doctrine in order to heighten the importance of love and togetherness. Doctrine and love

"Doctrine does not really matter if there is no love and togetherness."

"I'd rather be a member of a congregation that is doing evangelism in the wrong way than to be a member of a congregation that is not evangelistic."

"We do not have enough fulfillment in love and hospitality"

are not antagonistic concepts. Biblical doctrine is the conduit through which love flows. First John 5:3 reads, "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:" How do we know we have the fulfillment of love toward our brethren? "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments" (I John 5:2). The practice and presentation of the right doctrine is essential to salvation. "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee" (I Tim. 4:16). These degrading, unreasonable, and unnecessary propositions veil the truth and condone error. [This article appeared in the Wesconnett Church of Christ Bulletin dated October 28, 1990. Brother Maxwell is the preacher as well as one of the elders. He also serves on the board of directors for the Florida School of Preaching. Some changes in formatting have been made for this publication, editor.]



STUDENT DAY

November 11, 1990

By
B.C. Carr

Sunday, November 11, 1990, was another busy day for students of the Florida School of Preaching. Five students were able to preach as four different congregations were visited.

LAKE FOREST, JACKSONVILLE

Sunday morning Joseph Sejour preached at 10:00 and

Graham McDonald spoke at 11:00 at the Lake Forest Church in Jacksonville. B.C. Carr gave a brief report on the school at this time. J.H. Blackman preached that night. This good congregation supports our work each month. They gave an extra \$1,000.00 on this occasion. **Glenn Lee** is the preacher here and serves on the Board of Directors at the Florida School of Preaching.

DEAN ROAD, JACKSONVILLE

At this time other students were meeting with the brethren at Dean Road in Jacksonville. Neil Lopez spoke at the Bible study hour and Brian Kenyon preached at 11:00. This is another very friendly congregation. These brethren greatly encouraged the students and sent money to aid them. **James Medlin** is the preacher there and he also serves as one of the elders. Brother Medlin is a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida School of Preaching.

WESCONNETT, JACKSONVILLE

On Sunday night a group of the students met with the Wesconnett Church. Jim Hickox another of our students preached at this time. All were treated royally here. This church supports the school on a regular basis. **Wallace Maxwell** is the long time preacher here and he is also one of the elders. Brother Maxwell has served on the Board of Florida School of Preaching for a number of years.

BEVILLE ROAD, DAYTONA BEACH

B.C. Carr and two of the students traveled to Daytona

Beach for Sunday night services at the Beville Road Church where brother Carr preached and gave a report on the school. He also met with a group of the brethren prior to services in reference to funds for students attending school. **Gentry Stults** one of their beloved preachers has in the past served on the Board of Directors at the school. Many members expressed appreciation for the school and the good work being done.

After traveling more than 400 miles all arrived home late Sunday night, tired, but with a feeling we had a wonderful day. We look forward to other visits with our brethren.



Special News

Following the Florida School of Preaching Lectureship in January, 1991, there will be a **GOSPEL MEETING** with the **North Lakeland Church of Christ**, 5100 US 98 North.



This will be the first gospel meeting of this congregation. Brother Stearsman preaches for this congregation.

Speaker B.C. Carr
Date January 25-27, 1991

The Harvesters

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TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

FLORIDA SCHOOL OF PREACHING
SIXTEENTH ANNUAL LECTURESHIP
JANUARY 21-24, 1991

THEME: UNDERSTANDING THE WILL OF GOD

MONDAY—January 21

- 9:00 **"Rules of Bible Interpretation"**
 Roy Deaver, Austin, TX
- 9:45 **"Understanding the Sayings of Jesus"**
 V.P. Black, Chickasaw, AL
- 10:45 **"Can We Understand the Bible Alike"**
 Chris Steele, New Port Richey, FL
- 11:30 **LUNCH**
- 1:30 **"Some Things We may Never Understand"**
 Daniel Denham, Eagle Lake, FL
- 2:30 **"Understanding The Grace of God"**
 Eugene Clevenger, Abilene, TX
- 3:30 **"Difficult Texts Explained"**
 Jackie Stearsman, Lakeland, FL
- 4:30 **DINNER**
- 7:00 **"Understanding Providence of God"**
 Ted Wheeler, Englewood, FL
- 7:45 **"Understanding The Love of God"**
 Wendell Winkler, Montgomery, AL

TUESDAY—January 22

- 9:00 **"Rules of Bible Interpretation"**
 Roy Deaver, Austin, TX
- 9:45 **"Understanding the Sayings of Jesus"**
 V.P. Black, Chickasaw, AL
- 10:45 **"Understanding The Mission of the Church"**
 Demar Elam, Madison, AL
- 11:30 **LUNCH**
- 1:30 **"Understanding Gods Attitude Toward Sin"**
 Jack Tittle, Rocky Mount, N.C.
- 2:30 **"Understanding the Indwelling Godhead"**
 Bobby Duncan, Adamsville, AL
- 3:30 **"Difficult Texts Explained"**
 Wendell Winkler, Montgomery, AL
- 4:30 **DINNER**
- 7:00 **"Perverting The Doctrine"**
 Larry Williams, Bradenton, FL
- 7:45 **"Revelation and Inspiration of The Will of God"**
 Jim Laws, Memphis, TN

WEDNESDAY—January 23

- 9:00 **"Rules of Bible Interpretation"**
 Roy Deaver, Austin, TX
- 9:45 **"Understanding The Sayings of Jesus"**
 V.P. Black, Chickasaw, AL
- 10:45 **"Hindrances to Proper Understanding"**
 Bobby Liddell, Pensacola, FL
- 11:30 **LUNCH**
- 1:30 **"Understanding Book of Philemon"**
 Winfred Clark, Athens, AL
- 2:30 **"Understanding Gods will for the Work of Preachers"**
 Curtis Cates, Memphis, TN
- 3:30 **"Difficult Texts Explained"**
 Eugene Clevenger, Abilene, TX
- 4:30 **DINNER**
- 7:00 **"Understanding Leads to Unity-Not Diversity"**
 Bruce Harris, Garden City, MI
- 7:45 **"Understanding the Greatness of God"**
 Demar Elam, Madison, AL

THURSDAY—January 24

- 9:00 **"Rules of Bible Interpretation"**
 Roy Deaver, Austin, TX
- 9:45 **"Understanding the Book of Jude"**
 Winfred Clark, Athens, AL
- 10:45 **"Understanding Gods Will in Caring For the Needy"**
 Cletus Stutzman, Mount Dora, FL
- 11:30 **LUNCH**
- 1:30 **"Passages of Scripture Misapplied"**
 Paul Eubanks, Orlando, FL
- 2:30 **"Proper Attitudes Aid Understanding"**
 Tom Blewett, Vinton, VA
- 3:30 **"Difficult Texts Explained"**
 Curtis Cates, Memphis, TN
- 4:30 **DINNER**
- 7:00 **"All Men Are Amenable to The Will of God"**
 Harold Rodriguez, Sarasota, FL
- 7:45 **"Understanding the Severity of God"**
 Bobby Duncan, Adamsville, AL

Registration Schedule

Florida School of Preaching

Spring Semester 1991

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check Classes Desired

Hours	Course	Instructor	Credit
Monday __ 8:30 to 12:00 __ 1:00 to 4:30	English Grammar Denominational Dogmas	Newell Stearsman	3 3
Tuesday __ 8:30 to 12:00 __ 1:00 to 4:30 __ 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.	Greek Marriage and the Family New Testament Survey	Stearsman Davis Blackman	3 3 2½
Wednesday __ 8:30 to 12:00 __ 1:00 to 4:30	Restoration History Preparation and Delivery of Sermons	Stearsman Newell	3 3
Thursday __ 8:30 to 12:00 __ 1:00 to 4:30	Minor Prophets Scheme of Redemption	Newell Stilwell	3 3
Friday __ 8:30 to 12:00 __ 1:00 to 4:30	The Life of Paul Introduction to the New Testament	Stearsman Newell	3 3

FLORIDA SCHOOL OF PREACHING

1807 SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE
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