

## Have You Heard? - cont.

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I Corinthians 6:9-10 reads, “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.” We cannot practice sin and expect to inherit eternal life. Despite what we may feel about the practice of such things, or what others may tell us about the practice of such things, to inherit the kingdom of God, we must turn from unrighteousness. “All unrighteousness is sin...” (I John 5:17a). “...The unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God...” (I Cor. 6:9).

Dear friend, do you believe the Bible and the righteousness that is taught therein, or do you believe what you have heard about the Bible? We can't control what people teach about the Bible, but we can and must be like the Bereans; we must be fair-minded, and “receive the word with all readiness, and search the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things are so” (Acts. 17:10-11).

- Doug Roush -

## - Scripture of the Week -

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*“Thou shalt not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people; but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: I am Jehovah.”*  
- Leviticus 19:18 -

A simple biblical rule to live by: Treat others the way you want to be treated. See if you can do this each day this week.

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# THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

## Guest Article: What Have You Heard?

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Although the Bible is readily accessible to any person who desires to follow its teachings, too many people's knowledge of the Bible is formed based upon what they have been told about the Bible; they never investigate it for themselves. The danger is that what we have been told may not have been an accurate portrayal of the truth. On any subject that is as important as those addressed in the Bible, we must investigate and be certain that we have all the correct the information. Incomplete knowledge is just as bad as inaccurate knowledge.

Why would someone not accurately represent the teaching of the Scriptures? Actually, there are a number of reasons. We are going to consider just a couple fundamental reasons that someone might misrepresent the truth that is revealed in the Bible.

One reason could be that the erroneous teacher made an honest mistake in their study. If the mistake is made in an important area, such as salvation, the error that is taught, trusted, and practiced will have devastating eternal consequences for both the teacher and the people who trust and practice the error that was taught; as Jesus reasoned, "Can the blind lead the blind?

Will they not both fall into the ditch?" (Luke 6:39b).

For example, the apostle, Paul, stated that he had always lived in good conscience toward God (Acts 23:1). Therefore, even when he was putting Christians to death, he was confident he was doing God's will. Clearly, we can't always trust our conscience. Our conscience must first be educated in the truth and the way of righteousness that is revealed in God's word (Rom. 1:16, 17). Even then, it is possible to suppress the warnings of an educated conscience. The Scriptures teach that we can harden our heart through the deceitfulness of sin (Heb. 3:13). When Paul, formerly known as Saul, acknowledged his mistake, he obeyed Christ. However, if he had continued in his error, he would have been lost, despite having a good conscience. Jesus said, "If you do not believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins" (John 8:24). Again, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father, except through me" (John 14:6). Saul previously did not believe Jesus was the Christ. His conscience was clear. But if he had not repented and obeyed Jesus, he would have been lost.

Another reason someone may not accurately represent the Scriptures is be-

cause the Scriptures teach something that disagrees with what they believe. It's not that they don't understand what the Scriptures teach; they just don't agree with what the Scriptures teach. Whenever we try to make the Scriptures fit us, rather than conform our lives to fit the truth that is taught in the Scriptures, we have started down a road that is going to lead to our destruction.

Example: consider how many people treat the teaching of Jesus found in Mark 16:16. Here, Jesus plainly says, "He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that does not believe shall be condemned." Anyone can understand these plain words: For one to be saved in Jesus Christ, they must believe and be baptized. Nevertheless, many people contend – "you must believe, but you are not required to be baptized in order to be saved." They often present many actual or hypothetical situations to support their arguments against the necessity of baptism for salvation. However, regardless of the situational justifications that are often cited, the words of Jesus still ring clearly, "He that believes and is baptized will be saved . . ." The honest soul will acknowledge the truth of this plain statement and obey it. - *cont.*