

# TEACHING GOD'S WORD

By: Bill Richardson      Edited by: Fay Camp

The requirements for obedient duty in doing the will of The Father and Lord Jesus Christ can by one word be expressed, "Profound". It is my prayer that as we study together the named subject, that it will have the affect which causes our hearts to be profoundly blessed and grateful. That should be the attitude of the Christian's heart any and every time we exercise our stewardship responsibility. It is my prayerful heart's desire that in my commentary, if there be any of the scriptures, that it will be to the glory of GOD, and will be motivating to you and me, and that we will truly have a greater appreciation for the needs of each of us, which are supplied by GOD, and explained to us, as much as we are willing to be taught by HIS word, and in accordance to HIS will.

Let me now put together some selected words which will help us. I pray for us to have a more appreciative heart toward anything which could have a profound effect upon us. In research it was found that the word "*Profound*" is used only one time in the scriptures and that's in Hosea 5:2. The meaning in that instance was "deeply involved". It is in that interpretation that I want the use in this study and discussion of our subject, "Teaching God's Word". I want also to give some good and strong dictionary words in defining "Profound", which I am sure will help and give us a greater appreciation for the word.

PROFOUND: 1). Intellectually deep or penetrating; 2). Unfathomable; 3). Deep. Here are some synonyms for profound: 1.) Great; 2). Learned; 3). Wise; 4). Feeling; 5). Serious; 6). Intelligent; 7). Knowledgeable; 8). Solemn; 9). Penetrating. All of these are strong words. They are helpful I am sure. Now, are not those words descriptive of GOD'S word? Strong teaching of GOD'S Word is the way to go... don't you think?

## 1. TEACHING HAS BEEN ENJOINED UPON GOD'S PEOPLE IN EVERY AGE.

A. Teaching of GOD'S word in the dispensation of the Law. In Deuteronomy 4: 9, 10, we are warned as it says, "*Take heed to yourselves, and diligently keep your soul lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of you life. And 'teach' them to your children and your grandchildren . . .*" See also Deuteronomy 6: 4-9; 11: 18-20. A warning from GOD is like a command. Best we take heed.

B. Teaching of GOD'S word in the time of the Prophets. Note what is recorded in Ezra 7: 10, 25, "*For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach Statutes and Ordinances in Israel and Ezra according to your God-given wisdom, set magistrates and judges who may judge all people . . . all such as know the laws of your GOD; and 'teach' those who do not know them.*" Note also, Isaiah 54: 13: "*All you children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.*" A command and a great promise, applicable to us today also.

C. Teaching of GOD'S word during the personal ministry of Jesus. Let's look at Matthew 5: 1, 2, "*And seeing the multitude, HE went up on a mountain, and when HE*

was seated HIS disciples came to HIM. Then HE opened HIS mouth and 'taught' them." If you continue to read in chapter 5, you would be reading the Beatitudes. In John 6: 45 we are told by Jesus, ". . . they shall all be 'taught' of GOD." And in Acts 1: 1, we are told, ". . . Jesus began both to do and teach." There's a whole lot 'taught' in that scripture! In Matthew 7: 29, it is said, "Jesus taught as one having authority" We must teach the Word with authority . . . GOD'S word is authority.

D. Teaching of GOD'S word after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Notice the situation in Matthew 28: 16-18, ". . . the eleven disciples went into Galilee, to a mountain which Jesus had told them to go. Jesus came and spoke to them saying, all authority has been give unto ME in heaven and on earth. HE said to them, 'go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.'" We know what the disciples did . . . We must go and do likewise. That's scripture. It's our duty, it's our responsibility and it's GOD'S will.

E. Teaching of GOD'S word provided for in our own Christian dispensation.

1. ". . . and some, . . . teachers", Ephesians 4: 11.
2. ". . . teachers" 1 Corinthians 12: 28 .
3. ". . . faithful men. . .", 2 Timothy 2: 2, ". . . faithful men who shall be able to teach others also."

Romans 12 explains to us about man using GOD'S gifts in Christlike ways and verse 7 tells us that he who has the gift to teach should use that gift in teaching. Now that same principle is in effect today. All Christians are responsible to teach GOD'S word. It's our duty to teach GOD'S word. We must learn, we must know GOD'S word, we must develop our own technique, that would be our gift, and we must use it. I've heard it said, "I can't," and to be truthful, I've said that myself. Be it you or me, we must, it's required by our Lord that we teach. I remember back in my very young days, I'd tell Mother when she would ask me to do something, "I can't do it." You know what she always said to me? "W.T.", "Can't never did do anything. Then she would ask me to try. You know what? I then would give it a try, and I'd do it. I thank GOD for my Mother's teachings.

## II. WHAT GOD WANTS TAUGHT.

A. Whatsoever Jesus commanded is what we must teach. GOD is teaching us. Listen to GOD'S words in Matthew 17: 5, "*This is MY beloved son, (Jesus Christ) in whom I am well pleased. Hear HIM!*" What do you do when you hear Him? What do you hear when you hear the WORD? "Word" is a name for Jesus, (John 1:1; 1 John 1:1; Revelation 19:13. Jesus, the full self-expression of the God-head, is the LIVING WORD, John 1:1-5, 14.

1. Teach the Word of the LORD. Yes, we are to teach the word of God, called: (a) "Book", (Psalms 40:7; Revelation 22:19) (b) "Book of the LORD", (Isaiah 34:16). (c) "Book of Law", (Nehemiah 8:3; Galatians 3:10). (d) "Word of God", (Luke 11:28; Hebrews 4:12). (e) "The Word", (James 1:21-23; 1 Peter 2:2). (f) "Word of Christ", (Colossians 3:16). (g) "Word of Life", (Philippians 2:16). (h) "Word of truth", (2 Timothy 2:15; James 1:18).

2. Teach the oracles of GOD. Listen to (1 Peter 4:11), "*If anyone speak, let him speak as the oracles of GOD. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which*

*GOD supplies, that in all things GOD may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and the dominion forever and ever. AMEN.*” Hey, read that Scripture again and again. Think on it. Pray about it. Then use the ability supplied by GOD through HIS blessed Son, and teach Jesus and HIM crucified.

3. Teach things becoming (befitting) sound doctrine. Yes, we must teach such and we are admonished to do so in Titus 2: 1 as the Apostle Paul said it this way, *“But as for you (us) speak (teach) the things which are proper for sound doctrine.”* Teach the truth. Truth is the best antidote to error. There are false doctrines out there and are being taught by false teachers. Truth will get ‘em! Guaranteed!

4. We should teach things such as Timothy received from Paul. 1 Timothy 4: 11-16, lists several things which Paul admonished Timothy, as a young minister, to exemplify, in fact Paul said, *“These things command and ‘teach’ ”*. Note some of them which I cite here: *“Let no one despise your youth; be an example to believers, in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity; attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine; do not be negligent in your abilities; take heed to yourself and unto the doctrine, persevere in all things and you will save yourself and those whom you teach and hear you.* Is not that befitting to sound doctrine? YES. . . and Amen!

B. Teach NOT anything NOT commanded by Jesus.

1. Teach NOT as precepts of men. Teach, preach and live only Jesus. Looking at Matthew 15: 9, Jesus said, *“And in vain they do worship ME, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.”* Here Jesus quotes Isaiah 29: 13, but in Matthew 7: 21, note what Jesus says, *“NOT everyone who says to ME, LORD, LORD, shall enter the Kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father in heaven.”*

2. Teach NOT fables. 1 Timothy 4: 7, *“But reject profane and old wives fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness.”* 2 Timothy 4: 4, *“ . . . they will turn aside to fables.”*

3. Teach NOT a perverted gospel. The church at Galatia had a problem, note in Galatians 1: 6-10, that Paul warned them of their turning away to a different gospel and some want to pervert the Gospel of Christ. Paul even warned them twice about preaching only the Gospel of Christ, and not to seek to please men. Be a bondservant to Christ was the admonishment.

### III. CONCERNING THE “HOW OF TEACHING.”

#### A. The Manner of Teaching:

1. With authority. Yes, we must teach the truth with the authority of Christ. In Matthew 7: 13-27 Jesus had given a lengthy dissertation on *“Doing the will of the Father”*. Jesus gave warning of the dangers of discipleship, telling them to use the narrow gate that leads unto life, that few be that find it. HE tells of the wide gate and the broad way that leadeth to destruction and many go thereat. Jesus warns against false prophets and the fact that the tree is known by its fruit . . . Good fruit and evil fruit, concluding by telling of the two foundations, one built upon sand and one upon a rock. In Matthew 7: 28, 29, when Jesus ended HIS teaching, in that instance, the people were astonished at HIS doctrine: for HE taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

2. Accurately and effectively. We are taught by “The Word” how to accurately and effectively teach GOD’S word. Let’s study the scriptures and learn. 2 Timothy 2: 15 tells us *“to be diligent to present yourself approved of GOD, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* We must always remember, 2 Timothy 3: 16, 17, *“ALL scripture is given by inspiration of GOD, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instructions in righteousness, that the man of GOD may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”* That tells the story of accuracy, effectiveness, pure, and unadulterated HOLY SCRIPTURE that was provided by the Holy Spirit to the glory of GOD for us to know, to learn, and to teach.

3. Continuously . . . is for sure a manner of teaching. We must adopt the manner of teaching continuously and never fail to teach. Note 2 Timothy 4: 1-4, as we are charged before GOD to preach the word and to be ready to preach when convenient and when not convenient. All of which has great purpose . . . to the glory of GOD and for the salvation of men. We know the worth of a soul, (cf. Matthew 16:25-26). May GOD bless the teaching of HIS word continuously. Always!

B. Methods and place of teaching.

1. In the home. (Proverbs 22: 6; Ephesians 6: 4, 2; 2 Timothy 3: 15)

a. Supplementing and extending the work of the home. Ephesians 6: 4, *“Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the LORD.”*

b. Lord’s Day and week day Bible classes planned by Elders who are apt to teach. Note, 1 Timothy 3: 2.

c. Elders directing properly prepared and authorized teachers in using prayerfully arranged lessons from GOD’S word. (Ephesians 4: 11, 12; Titus 2: 1-8; 1 Timothy 4: 13).

2. In private dwellings. In Acts 18: 7, 8, it is recorded where Paul taught Justus, whose house was next door to the synagogue. Paul then taught Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, who believed, and all his household and many Corinthians hearing believed and were baptized. Read also Acts 28: 30, 31, it will bless you, it will revive you! Also, Paul taught in his own house. Don’t you love it?

3. From house to house publicly. Acts 5: 42; 15: 35; and 20: 20. There was teaching daily in the temple and in every house, teaching and preaching Jesus Christ. Amen!

IV. ENDS OR OBJECTIVES OF EFFECTIVE TEACHING.

A. That children may be properly nurtured or brought up. Proverbs 22: 6, *“Train up a child in the way he should go . . .”* See again Ephesians 6: 4.

B. That individuals taught of GOD may learn, and come to Jesus, and be blessed. Jesus HIMSELF said in John 6: 44, 45, *“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the Propheets, ‘And they shall all be taught of GOD.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned of the Father cometh unto ME.”*

C. That babes at first requiring milk may come to be full-grown capable of discerning good and evil, 1 Peter 2: 1, 2. Hebrews 5: 14 tells us that, *“strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”*

D. That all may be built up unto, *“The inheritance among all them that are sanctified.”* We all need to be built up. In that way we grow, and growth is necessary. Building up is necessary so that we may *“lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickendess, and receive with meekness the implanted word which is able to save our souls,”* James 1: 21. It is *“wrapped”* up this way in Acts 20: 32, *“So now, brethren, I commend you to GOD and to the word of HIS grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”*

In finishing up this study on *“TEACHING GOD’S WORD”*, I want to try as best I can, to motivate us even more by making some additional comments on TEACH, TEACHER, TEACHING, to say:

TEACH: To cause to learn.

TEACH: To instruct.

TEACH: To guide the studies of the subject.

TEACH: To impart knowledge.

TEACH: To make aware by information.

TEACH: CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED.

TEACHER: One who Teaches. What an honorable responsibility.

TEACHING: The act of instruction. A blessing to ALL.

As used in the New Testament, teaching usually means instruction in the faith, and is to be distinguished from preaching, or the proclaiming of the gospel message to the non-Christian world. *“Teaching”* is thought of or refers to moral, ethical, and doctrinal instruction to those who are already Christians.

“CONSEQUENCES OF LOVE” is the title of the following article which has thought in this study. It was written by, Bill Irby, Minister, West Hobbs Street Church of Christ, Athens, AL. I’m sure you will agree that LOVE must be the basis for all that we do. I’M sure that you will enjoy Bills’ study!

*“Peter encouraged his readers to embrace holiness: “But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.” Because it is written, “Be holy as I am holy” (1 Peter 1:15-16 NKJV, quoting Leviticus 11:44). Peter identifies the church as a priesthood of believers (1 Peter 2:5 and 9). Much of the content of his letter is given to defining holiness in the lives of Christians. Just as the tribe of Levi was set apart for its particular work, we are to be set apart from the world to do God’s will in our time. Peter helps us understand the power, practice and purpose of holiness in daily life of the Christian.*

*“An important aspect of holiness is love. Peter wrote, “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit into unfeigned love of the brethren, see that you love one another with a pure heart fervently” (1 Peter 1:22 KJV). He also wrote, “Love the brotherhood” (1 Peter 2:17 KJV). It is impossible to over emphasize the importance of*

loving one another. We remember Jesus' words in John 13:34: "*A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another*" (KJV). Peter had received spiritual instructions on this subject from the Lord; we can be sure that he never forgot it (John 21:17). Love as a concept and teaching was important to Jesus and His apostles; it cannot be less important to us.

"It is clear that God wants us to love one another and thus to love the church. If God wants it, it must be good. And indeed it is good...just think of the consequences of love for and in the lives of Christians. What will happen if we do a better job of loving one another and the brotherhood?

"Conflict will diminish. It is well known that human beings have a tendency to fuss. Families fuss. There are fusses at work. And, yes, there are church fusses'. Brothers and sisters get agitated with each other and say all manors of things they should not say. We want to fuss about politics and money. We fuss about our kids. We let envy and jealousies get a hold of us and turn us into children of the devil (1 Peter 5:8) instead of children of God. But and if we allow love for each other to grow and get stronger everyday, these petty conflicts will diminish, perhaps even go away.

"The church will expand. In John 13:35, Jesus said that this love for one another would be a signal to people who are not Christians that we are Christians. Our world is not a happy place. Folks are looking for answers, they want satisfaction and they are not able to find either where they are looking. They look to pleasure, money, and power...but these are all pitiful and empty dead-ends. Everybody needs spiritual satisfaction whether they know it or not. And the only place to find that is in the love of God. It is up to us to manifest this love for each other so most people can see it in us, desire it, and obey the truth to attain it (1 Peter 1:22).

"We will keep our children. It is common to bemoan the church's loss of young people. Some will be lost because free-will moral agents make wrong decisions. But we "help" some to be lost because they see a lack of love in us. Young people need to be loved and need to love somebody. They must see this love at home. And if they do not see it at church they will likely go elsewhere. Love will help us to keep them. A lack of love will run them off.

"Jesus Christ will be exalted. This is the purpose of holiness. We live so as to praise and honor God (1 Peter 2:5, 9). When we love one another and when we love the brotherhood, we are doing just as Jesus would have us do (John 13:34). And we are following his example (1 Peter 2:21-24).

"Without love life is a hopeless mess. With love everything is just fine. Such are the consequences of Love."  
**Bill Irby**

God bless you for studying with me on this beautiful and challenging subject. Let's pray about this study together and give thanks for the blessings which come to us through teaching and studying together. The teacher is the one who, not only receives the greatest blessing, but also gains much knowledge. Do you know that the blessings never cease, and they always multiply. Isn't God great and good to us? I know your answer. Oh, praise the LORD! I solicit your prayers on my behalf . . . I need them!

The scriptures and commentary that have been set forth in this study have been of great benefit to me. These wonderful scriptures and principles which we studied have been motivating to my conscience, and it is my prayer that you who read and study will accept all truth presented and detailed will be a conscience server to you also.

You know that the well-trained conscience is equal to the knowledge, abiding faith, and love that we expose or submit to our mind. With confidence I say that you studied this lesson in faith and love knowing that it will be of great blessing and benefit to you.

With confidence I also say, that you desire to be blessed, to gain more knowledge, true abiding Biblical knowledge, which is associated with responsibilities, which creates a desire to seek, to search diligently, to accept when found, to associate with, and be an active part of, and that you will abide faithfully in the Lord's Church until death.

The church that I am speaking of cost the blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is His Body, His Kingdom, which is His Church. Please be an obedient dedicated part of the church of the Bible—Christ's church. The church we read about in the Bible. You cannot pass through Heaven's gate if you are not in His Body, (His Church), and it is the church that we read about in the New Testament. That is the truth. That is what the Bible teaches. Therein taught and thus we can and must learn.

I invite you to view other writings on my Website [www.geocities.com/dubbyt](http://www.geocities.com/dubbyt) you may choose other studies along with this one. There is a writing posted that I am sure you will want to view and copy. The writing title is, "The Church of The Bible, Christ's Church." It has a two-page enclosure, which has the title, "What Must I Do To Be Saved." Please study both of these writings with an honest and receptive heart for truth and obedience. You will be blessed!

I also recommend for use on the subject of this study to check the writings entitled "The Silence of God" and "The Lord's Church Is Different" They are under the Section of the Website titled "Consecrated Writings", click and make your choice.

God bless you for studying with me on the subject of "Teaching God's Word" in this lesson. My prayer is that we have been stirred-up (provoked) in our thinking. And what we related to and the scriptures reviewed and analyzed were the most needed on the subject. And that we have been challenged to let the truth of God's Word have its proper place in our lives. God loves you...and I do too! Your servant in the Lord.

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