

INSTRUCTION GOD'S PEOPLE OBEY

2 Timothy 2: 19:....And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Paul must have in mind what God said to Moses and Aaron when Korah, Dathan and Abiram arose speaking lies against Moses. God sent Moses to speak his word, *“And he spake unto the congregation, saying, Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, lest ye be consumed in all their sins.”* (Nu 16: 26) God separated them so as not to destroy the whole congregation. Then God opened the earth and swallowed up those wicked men. So Paul speaks God's word to us, *“Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”*

It is very hard to depart from those preaching lies, especially, when it is someone you love. But we stand for the truth best by departing from them for the place where we can hear the gospel of Christ preached in truth or when the church puts away the preacher preaching lies. God people shall obey this word—*“If a man therefore purge himself from these [vessels of dishonor], he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.”* Just as the Spirit of God purged us from freewill, works religion so he will also purge us from men who arise speaking perverse things. Christ alone is able to make his vessels to be vessels of honor. He alone is our Sanctifier who sanctifies us. He is our Master and he alone makes us meet for the Master's use and prepared for every good work. We shall be made to depart and we give Christ all the glory for working it in our hearts.

Through it all know this, the only thing heresy does is bring Christ's sheep closer together focused more on Christ! That is why God sends the trial of heresies. *“For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.”* (1 Cor 11: 19) Therefore, *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* (2 Tim 2: 15) We know the messenger God has approved and the people he has approved because his messenger preaches *the message* God has approved and his people will only hear that message, which is *the glory of God in the face of Christ Jesus*. God will not allow his messenger to become taken up with attempting to prove profane, vain, irrelevant

things. Those things would make God's preacher ashamed. So as long as God has his hand on his preacher, God's preacher shuns such things. And so do his people.

Brethren, be strong in the LORD! Christ is our banner—our ensign—our flag! *“Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah. That thy beloved may be delivered;”* (Ps 60: 4-5) Therefore, believer, rally to that place where you hear this Banner flying high! God will be with you! There will be plenty of sheep to take you in! Do it with this assurance *“the foundation of God standeth sure!”*