

Where Is the Page?

John Isaac Edwards

There are many things I see and hear about in the religious world today that I have not been able to find anywhere in the Bible. Perhaps you can help me. Would you turn to the page in the Bible and show me? Where is the page...

1) That Says We Are Justified By Faith Only?

Many today teach that men and women are justified by faith alone. It is written in most of the creeds of men. Where is the page in the Bible that says it? I read where Romans 5:1 says, "...justified by faith...", but I've not found the passage that says justified by faith only. If we are justified by faith only, then nothing more justifies. It is solely or exclusively by faith. Yet I read, "Much more then, being now justified by his blood..." (Rom. 5:9). If we are justified by the blood of Christ, then it cannot be true that we are justified by faith only. One must either affirm that we are justified by the blood of Christ and deny that we are justified by faith only or affirm that we are justified by faith only and deny that we are justified by His

blood. Which is it? Where is the page that teaches justification by faith only? There is a page that says, "...by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" (Jas. 2:24).

2) That Mentions a Church Other Than the Church Built by Christ? I see printed in the newspaper and drive by the meeting places of a lot of churches that I have not been able to find mentioned on any page in the Bible. I read of but one church predicted in the Old Testament and revealed in the New Testament, built by Christ (Mt. 16:18), purchased with the blood of Christ (Acts 20:28) and headed by Christ (Eph. 1:22-23). The Bible says, "There is one body..." (Eph. 4:4). The church is the body (Eph. 1:22-23) and the body is the church (Col. 1:24). Christ "...is the saviour of the body" (Eph. 5:23). Where is the page that mentions the church of which you are a member? Can you find it? Will you turn to the page and show me?

3) That Teaches the Law of Moses Is Still

Binding As a System of Law and Practice? Many appeal to the Old Testament law of Moses to cite authority for their religious practices today. Where is the page that says this law is still in force? I find pages that say, "...dead to the law..." (Rom. 7:4), "...delivered from the law..." (Rom. 7:6), "...done away" (2 Cor. 3:7, 11, 14), "abolished" (2 Cor. 3:13; Eph. 2:15), "no longer under" (Gal. 3:24-25), "cast out" (Gal. 4:30), "Blotting out...took it out...nailing it to his cross" (Col. 2:14), "under the law to Christ" (1 Cor. 9:21), "fulfil the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2) and "A new covenant" (Heb. 8:13).

4) That Authorizes the Church to Use Mechanical Instruments of Music in Worship unto God Today? Most churches use them, but where is the page that authorizes them? I find pages that mention the disciples "sung" (Mt. 26:30; Mk. 14:26), Christians "sang" (Acts 16:25), that say "sing" (Rom. 15:9; 1 Cor. 14:15; Heb. 2:12; Jas. 5:13), command "singing" (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16), and talk

about “the fruit of our lips” (Heb. 13:15). Where is the page in the New Testament that says play and mentions the mechanical instrument to be played? Someone thinks they found it in the words “making melody” of Ephesians 5:19. The melody is made in the heart; not on a mechanical instrument. Also, if this passage includes a mechanical instrument, then we would be obligated to use it. It would be wrong not to. And we would all have to play it. Whatever the page teaches me to do, it teaches you to do. Right?

5) That Teaches a Christian Cannot So Sin As to Be Eternally Lost?

Sometimes called impossibility of apostasy, once saved - always saved or perseverance of the saints, the doctrine holds that a child of God cannot possibly fall from grace and can do nothing that would cause his soul to be lost eternally. Where is the page that teaches it? I read of

Christians in New Testament days who sinned. Remember Simon? He was told, “...Thy money perish with thee...”, “...thy heart is not right in the sight of God”, “...thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity” (Acts 8:23). This language is very strange if this doctrine is true. I also read of those who were said to have fallen from grace. Paul told the Galatians, “...ye are fallen from grace” (Gal. 5:4). Why would he say that, if such is impossible? I further find pages that tell the Christian what to do when he sins. “Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee” (Acts 8:22). “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 Jn. 1:9). There are also many pages that warn us about falling away (1 Cor. 10:12; 1 Tim. 3:6-7; Heb. 4:11; 6:4-6; Jas. 5:12; 2 Pet. 1:10; 3:17). Why would there be pages that warn us about sinning and

falling, record examples of those who did sin and fall, tell us what to do when we sin and fall and give instruction to prevent us from sinning and falling, if this teaching is true?

6) That Allows Same-Sex Marriage? I have read from Genesis through Revelation and have not found where God made provision for same-sex relationships. Have I overlooked something? If so, where is the page? I read where ancient cities were turned into ashes for such (Gen. 19; 2 Pet. 2:6; Jude 7), where the law commanded, “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination” (Lev. 18:22), where God “made them at the beginning...male and female” (Mt. 19:4), and where such is “uncleanness”, “vile affections”, “against nature”, “unseemly”, “error”, “not convenient” and “unrighteousness” (Rom. 1:24-32).

Can you find the page?

The Terre Haute **SPEAKER** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:
4017 E Margaret DR
Terre Haute, IN 47803
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,
West on Margaret DR 1 mile]

Assembling Times:
Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
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