ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP.

Heb.12,28--Therefore,we receiveing a Kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably,with reverence and Godly fear;For our God is a consuming fire. Ro.12.1&2 I beseech you brethren,by the mercies of God,that ye present your bodies,a living sacrifice,holy,acceptable to God,which is your reasonable service.And be not conformed to this world,but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind,that ye may prove what is that good,what is that good, and acceptable,and perfect will of God.-- When a person is converted,his out lock on life after death,A change of heart,intentions,thoughts and act ions.Eph 5,~~21~~ 9For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness,and Righteousness and truth,proving what is acceptable to God. Verse 21 Prove all things,hold fast that which is good.-The things we can prove by the scriptures,is of faith ,That which we cannot prove is not of faith is sin Ro.14,23.That which is not of faith is sin,and is not acceptable. Without faith it is impossible to please God.-Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing,by the word of God.

When we conduct our worship according to the example and commands of Christ and the apostles,we are worshipping by faith,and our worship will be acceptable.

Whatsoever ye do in word or deed,do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.When we do,our worship and private life is in harmony with commands,or example,we are safe,- But if we do things contrary,or in addition to His will,we are on dangerous ground. According to 2 Pe.1,3 He has Given us all things that pertain to Life and Godliness,through a knowledge of Him who hath called us to glory and virtue.And also 2 Tim,3,16 All scripture is Given by inspiration of God,and is profitable for reproof,for doctrine,for correction,for instruction in righteousness:that the man of God may be perfect,thoroughly furnished unto every good work.When a person is thoroughly furnished unto every good work,does he need more?What would we do with more if we had it?If our car is running perfectly, wouldd we add to or take from the operating parts?If we were building a house and had all the material on hand to make it just as we wished,what would we do with more material if we had it?--Paul says he kept back nothing that was profitable to us,that the scriptures will make us PERFECT.

Do we find any instructions for using instrumental music,or individual cups,in our worship? We are forbidden to add ,or take away from Gods word.-Neither do we have any instructions for dividing the assembly into classes for teaching Gods word.--They are additions of men,to the plan God hassaid is perfect.

Gen.4 Relates the sacrificial offerings of Cain and Abel,Cain offered that grown from the ground,& Abel offered from his flock,and it is revealed in Heb.11,4 By faith Able offered a more excellent sacrifice than Cain--Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.--God said to Cain,If thou doest well thou art accepted,but if not,sin lieth at the door.--Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire before the Lord,fire came out of the altar and devoured them--God required offerings to be made,and gave instructions for carrying them out,but they offered differently,and God consumed themLev.10,1.--Other examples of Changing Gods plan Num.20,11--1Saml5--2.Chron.26.

Phil.4,16 Paul commending the Phillipians,Ye sent once and again to my necessities-A sacrifice acceptable,wellpleasing to God.

1 Tim.2,1 I exhort therefore,that,first of all,supplications,prayers intercession and giving of thanks,be made for all men,for kings,and for all that are in authority;that we may lead a quiet and peaceable lifves in all Godliness and honesty,for this is good and acceptable,in the ~~sig~~ sight of God our saviour.

1 Pe.2,5 Ye also as lively stones are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood,to offer up Spiritual sacrifices,acceptable to God.

1 Pe.2,20For what glory is it,if,when ye be buffeted for your faults,and ye take it patiently?But if when ye do well,and suffer for it, ye take it patiently,this is acceptable to God.--Ac.10,35 But in every nation he that feareth God and doeth righteousmess,is accepted with Him

God is a Spirit,and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and truth.--Mind, heart,and Spirit.

Mk.12,31 Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,and with all thy soul and with all thy mind,and with all thy strength. Eph.4,23 And that ye put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true Holiness,Verse.22 That ye put off according to t the former conversation the old man which is corrupt according to the former lusts,and be renewed in the spirit of your mind.Ro.12,2 That ye prove what is that good,and acceptable and perfect will of God.Phil.2-5 Let this mind be in you,which also is in Christ.--1 Pe.1,13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind.--Col,3,12 Put on--humbleness of mind, meekness,long suffering.Ro.8,6 For to be carnally minded is death,but to be Spiritually minded is Life and peace. Ro.14,18 For he that in th these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God.--He.12,28 Wherefore we receiveing a kingdom which cannot be moved,let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably,with reverance and Godly fear.

Turn to Page 2.

When we conduct the teaching and worship,as also our daily life,~~we~~ as God has directed,we reverance Him,we honor Him,and our worship is ~~acc~~ ceptable to God. 2 Cor.5,9Wherefore we labour,that,whether present or absent,we may be accepted of Him.

VAIN WORSHIP

Mt.15,8 This people draweth near unto me with their mouth,and Honour me with their lips;but their heart is far from me.But in vain d do they worship me,teaching for doctrine the commandments of men.So we learn that teaching is worship,and wrong teaching is vain worship.

Phil.2,3 Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory.Gal.5 26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory. Jas.1,26 If any man among you seemeth to be religious and bridleth not his tongue,this man's religiOn is vain.27 Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father, is this,to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction,and keep himself unspotted from the world. Ro.1,21 Because that when they knew God,they glorified Him not as God,neither were they thankful;but became vain in their imagination ,and their foolish heart was darkened.22 Professing themselves to be wise,they became fools.23And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image like unto corruptible man.24Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts,to dishonor their own bodies between themselves. 28 And as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge,God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not conveneint.Col.2,18 Paul warns us,Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility,and worshipping of angels,intruding into those things which he hath not seen,vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.

Ac.17,Beginning with the twenty third verse,Paul preaching to the people of Athens,Ye men of Athens,I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious,For as I passed by and beheld your devotions,I found this inscription,TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship,Him declare I unto you.Read to the 32 verse--Verse 30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at,but now commandeth all men every where to repent,because He hath appointed a day in the which He will judge the world by that man whom He hath ordained (Christ). Ac.18,13 The Jews accused Paul of worshipping God contrary to the law of Moses, Jn.4,20 The Samaritan woman said to Christ,Our fathers worshipped in t this mountain; and ye say that in Jerusalem is the place to worship, 21 Jesus said,Ye know not what ye worship;We know what we worship,24 God is a spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and truth.IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH.

Jn.6,63 It is the Spirit that quickeneth,the words that I speak unto you,they are Spirit and they are Life.When we worship Him as He has directed us by His word,we are worshipping Him in Spirit and in ~~tr~~ truth,as we read in another place " The word of God is Quick and powerful,sharper than any two edged sword,piercing even to the dividing asasunder the ~~joints and the marrow~~ soul and the spirit,and the joints a and the marrow,and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart--When weconsent not to wholesome words,even the words of the ~~Lor~~ Lord Jesus we are proud,1Tim.6,3&4.--If we divide the cup before passto the disciples,we are disobeying His command when He gave it to the disciples and commanded them to divide it among themselves,the discip ples were to do the dividing by drinking of it,Mk.14,23-And they all d drank of it.

No word of the Lord Jesus indicates that we are to divide the ~~con~~g congregation into classes to teach them,Parents are told to teach thei children,Bring them up in the nurture ~~of the Lord~~ and admonition of the Lord.We are commanded to one speak at a time,Let your women keep silent in the churches-Let your women learn in silence--But I suffer not a woman to teach or to usurp authority over man ,but to be in ~~sil~~e silence.

Finally,brethren let us go back to Col 2,18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility,and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen,vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.Which things have indeed a shew of will worship. Verse 20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world,why,as tho living in the world ,are ye subject to ordinanees? Touch not ,taste not,handle not,Which things are to perish with the useing;after the doctrines and commandments of men.Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship,and humility;and neglecting of the body;not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

Let us take God at His word and worship Him acceptably,with reve erance and Godly fear.

J.H.Lackey.