

IS THE LORD PARTICULAR?

INTRODUCTION

I. We learn about Supreme Being from 2 sources—NATURE and SCRIPTURE.

A. NATURE reveals the **work** of a Supreme being. Ps19:1; Rom. 1:20

B. scripture reveals several things **about** this Supreme Being.

1. 1st, the scripture reveals the existence and identity as Jehovah God. Gen. 1:1

2. 2nd, the scripture reveals the state of man without God. Rom. 3:23

3. 3rd, the scripture reveals God's savior to man—JESUS. Matt. 1:21

II. A PARTICULAR LORD. Some folks love the "idea" that the Lord is SO FULL of love that He really doesn't care what man does, as he lives a good life, and punish the extremely wicked people of the earth, and He will punish only the extremely wicked people of the land. THE LORD WAS PARTICULAR: **(1)** In the kind of food Adam was to eat; **(2)** The kind of sacrifice Cain and Abel were to make; **(3)** The kind of wood Noah was to use in building the ark; **(4)** In the construction of the tabernacle by Moses; **(5)** In the kind of wood used in sacrifice by the priests; and **(6)** how Moses obtained water for Israel in the wilderness in O.T. times was written, to warn us that He is STILL particular in the church age, or the age of grace and love. Cf 1 Cor. 10:11

I. 1st, the Lord WAS particular about His church in the first century.

A. He planned the **one** church from eternity, to include both Jews and Gentiles. Eph. 3:10-11; 2:16; 3:6

1. This one church could ONLY be paid for by Jesus' **blood**. Matt. 26:28; Acts 20:28

2. This one church consisted of ALL who were saved BY the blood of Christ.

B. The Lord was particular about what was **taught** in the 1st century church.

1. The law of Moses was not acceptable for the church. Gal. 1:2-3; 5:4

2. The teaching of John the baptizer was unacceptable for the church. Acts 18:24-26; 19:1-5

3. The doctrines of men were not acceptable for the church. Matt. 15:9

4. ONLY the scripture was acceptable for the church. 2 Tim. 3:16-17; John 12:48

II. 2nd, the Lord IS concerned about His church in the twenty-second century.

A. The Lord is particular as to the **standard of authority** IN RELIGION today. Matt. 28:18-20; John 12:48

1. This means that manuals and human creeds are inadequate today.

2. This means that the American Constitution is inadequate.

3. This means that the conscience of any church leader or individual believer is inadequate.

4. This means that ONLY the word of God as revealed is acceptable.

B. The Lord is particular as to how one **enters His church** in the 22nd century.

1. He does not add an unbeliever to the body of the saved. John 8:24

2. He does not add the impenitent to the body of the saved. Luke 13:3

3. God does not add the un-immersed to the body of the saved. Mark 16:16; Acts; 2 : 38, 47

CONCLUSION

I. This lesson has dealt primarily with the Lord's desire for the church and the matter of salvation.

A. This being true regarding true, there are other matters relating to "worship" and the conduct of "worshippers" that are revealed in God's holy book, the Bible.

B. Perhaps these can be explored at a later time.

II At this time, we extend the invitation to any to obey the gospel and be added to the Lord's church

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