

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor:

Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

E-mail: kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.haysmillchurchofchrist.org

*“Retain the standard
of sound words which
you have heard from
me, in the faith and
love which are in
Christ Jesus,”*

—2 Timothy 1:13

**Servants during October/November:**

Songleader: Larry (3), Dwight (10),
Stanley (17), Larry (24)

Reading: Larry

Announcements: Marty

Table: Marty, Stanley, Larry

Wednesday Lesson: Kris (6), Larry (13),

Stanley (20), Kris (27)

Lawn Mowing (week starting): I assume
we can stop for the season. Let me know
what you think.

Area Meetings:

Hwy 157 (Cullman), 3-6, Lowell Sallee;

Helton Drive, 3-7, Steve Klein

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road

Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

“Examine everything carefully...” 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

Volume 7

November 3, 2024

Number 22

How to Tell What the Lord Requires, Part 1

By Keith Sharp

The New Testament is a binding pattern of authority, 2 Tim 1:13. Yet, those who deny this fact are quick to point out that Christians generally do not deem it necessary to follow many New Testament examples. For example, every time the Scriptures record where the Lord’s Supper was observed, it was in an upper room, (cf. Lk 22:7-20; Acts 20:7,8). Yet virtually no one believes it is necessary to meet in an upper room for the purpose of observing the Lord’s Supper.

But the same possible confusion we face relative to the authority of approved examples applies to declarations and implications. The

apostle Paul commanded Timothy to bring his cloak, books and parchments, 2 Tim 4:13. Must we obey this apostolic command? It is necessarily implied that the apostle Peter was a married man, Mt 8:14. Must a preacher of the gospel be married (as some brethren seem to think)?

It will not do to simply say, “We’ve always recognized these passages are not binding,” for that is simply following human tradition, Mt 15:1-9. Nor will it do to throw the baby out with the bath water and simply deny we must follow the New Testament as a binding pattern, for the Scriptures plainly

teach we must follow apostolic doctrine and not deviate from it, 2 Jn 9. We must find inspired teaching that will lead us to determine accurately what in a passage is binding and what is not.

This leads us to the question this lesson will answer. How can we tell what details of a passage are authoritatively binding and must be followed and which are not?

The General Approach

The Scriptures demand that we follow declarations, approved examples, and implications, Phil 4:9. Thus, our approach must be that all New Testament declarations (commands and statements), examples, and implications are binding unless we can prove otherwise. When in doubt, follow the inspired information as authoritative.

General Rules

There are important, universally recognized rules of Bible study, rules which actually apply to the understanding of all language and which we use to determine the meaning of a passage, which we must also employ to determine what in a passage is authoritatively binding. These rules can be posed in the form of questions the answers to which determine both the meaning and authority of specific details.

We should ask, “**Who is the speaker?**” For example,

Acts 26:28,29 records two statements, one we must follow and one we must not follow. King Agrippa said he was almost persuaded to be a Christian. He was an impenitent sinner, and it would be sinful to adopt his statement as a guide. Paul, an inspired apostle, replied that he wished all who heard him were as he is except for his chains. Paul was an inspired apostle, and we must be Christians as he was.

We should ask, “**To whom is the passage addressed?**” 1 Cor 14:27 is a rule for those who exercised the miraculous gift of tongue speaking in the public worship assembly, and, since miraculous spiritual gifts have ceased, 1 Cor 13:8-13, the specific injunction does not apply today.

We should inquire, “**What is the subject?**” 1 Cor 3:16,17 is often misapplied by brethren to teach we should not harm our physical bodies, whereas the context, verses 5-15, indicates the apostle is forbidding harming the church by following human wisdom.

We should ask, “**Is the language literal or figurative?**” Brethren who bind the use of just one drinking vessel for the Lord’s Supper should realize we cannot literally divide a drinking vessel, Lk 22:17, and that Jesus, by metonymy, was referring to the contents, the fruit of the vine, not the container.

We should also ask, “**Why is this**

said (or done, or implied)?” In Jn 13:1-15 Jesus washed His disciple’s feet and then taught, “I have given you an example that you should do as I have done to you,” v15. He was not teaching them a ritual to employ in the worship assembly. He was teaching them to humbly serve each other, and this principle of humble service to one another is the authoritatively

binding principle.

*God willing... having asked these questions, in the conclusion of this article we’ll consider five rules of interpretation that will help us determine where we have liberty, and where we do not: **when are examples binding?***


—via TeachUsLord.com, August 15, 2004 

The Clock of Life

The Clock of Life is wound but once,
And no man has the power
To say just when the hands will stop—
At late or early hour.

To lose one’s wealth is sad indeed,
To lose one’s health is more;
To lose one’s soul is such a loss
That no man can restore.

Now is the only time you own,
So live and toil with will;
Place no faith in your tomorrow,
For the clock may then be still.

—Anonymous 

Remember in Prayer

Marie is dealing with chronic illness; **Mike B** continues to recover from heart surgery; **Kathy Mitchell** and **Donise** are both recovering from cataract surgery. **Mark Horton**

may begin treatment for prostate cancer in December. Pray also for **Betty**; **Carolyn**; **Hazel**; **Barbara**; **Joshua V**; **Faye**; and the **Pollard Family**. 