

1. What Is the Subject of Acts Chapter Two?

2. What Is the Subject of 1 Corinthians 11:1-16?

3. What Is the Subject of Paul's Letter to the Churches in Galatia?

4. What Is the Subject of 1 Corinthians 14:26-40?

5. What Is the Subject of Colossians 3:16 and Ephesians 5:19?

6. What Is the Subject of 1 Corinthians Chapters 1 through Chapter 4:7?

7. What Is the Subject of Colossians 2:8-23?

Answer Key / Explanation

STOP! Before you read the answers, please write your own answers to the questions to the left. In this way you will learn best.

Why I have asked you these questions? It is because we easily get confused between (1) **the main subject** of a passage and (2) **the points and** (3) **the illustrations** related to it. And therefore, we can misinterpret, misapply, or misteach it. We can fail to understand the overall meaning and purpose of it [By the way, I have done this!]. And so we can misunderstand and misteach the will of God. Instead we teach our own will. We fail to discern a theme of a passage. We fail to understand why a passage was written. We place **more importance** on a (2) point or an (3) illustration in a passage than on the (1) subject of a passage. We make a point or an illustration the main subject of the passage. We teach the points over the subject. We get things out of order. We hypocritically take a verse out of its context, out of its setting, or remove it from its governing principle or thought, and therefore it becomes a loose cannon, if you will, we become a loose cannon, destroying the things which God had intended for us to understand. For example, below, consider my answers to the questions.

Q1. The [main] subject is **not** how people were added to the church, as the "Church of Christ" teaches and emphasizes. It is **not** the start or the beginning of the The Christian Age (please see my tract on *The Church or the Christ?*). The subject is **not** the baptism of the Holy Spirit, as the Pentecostal church teaches and emphasizes. The subject is salvation, for example, "And with many other words he [Peter] solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, 'Be saved from this perverse generation!' So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls" (Ac 2:40, 41). "And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved" (Ac 2:47). So the subject is getting saved through Christ, and therefore, as God concluded, they were added to the number of "those who were being saved".

Q2. The subject is **not** hair, coverings, harlotry, angels, etc. These are all points or illustrations within the subject, within the context. The subject is who is the head of whom and how to honor, respect, and acknowledge that head, that authority. For example, during worship, a man must take off his head covering and a woman must put on one. The subject is **headship authority**, according to the apostle of Christ. For example, Paul said, "But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ" (1 Cor 11:3). To be "head of" someone is to be the authority, the leader of someone. Acknowledge it in the way that God and the angels specified.

Q3. The subject is **not** about how it is a sin to require or teach or adhere to religious laws or commandments (even Christian ones). The subject is **not** about "Legalism" (see my tract on *A Very Important Vocabulary Lesson for Christians*). The subject is that we cannot be saved by keeping Moses' Law. For example, "You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified [made right] by law [referring to Moses' Law, like circumcision / see vs.3]; you have fallen from grace" (Gal 5:4).

Note: A man once said to me, "If we have to be baptized, then Christ died for nothing". Evidently, he was referring to this verse in the book of Galatians: "If righteousness comes through the Law [i.e. The Law of Moses], then Christ died needlessly" (Gal 2:21). Do you see how he misapplied this verse in his statement about Christian

baptism? He used it to cancel out a commandment of Christ! This is because he obviously did not understand the main subject of the book of Galatians. He seems to think that the meaning and purpose of it is to cancel out adherence to religious laws, even Christ's laws and commandments, like baptism. He misapplied a point in the book because he did not understand the subject of the book. He did not even apply the point correctly!

Q4. The subject is **not** whether the gifts of the Holy Spirit still exist or no longer exist. The subject is the regulation of the gifts during a worship service. For example, tongues are forbidden, women must keep silent, two or three people are to speak (the word of God), Etc.

Note: Study this subject further. Get a free copy of my Bible Study on *Spiritual Gifts, "When He Ascended on High He Gave Gifts to Men"* (Eph 4:8).

Q5. The subject is **not** whether we should sing with or without instrumental accompaniment. The subject is singing *spiritual* songs for edification (Christian or Christ-like songs) as opposed to sensual songs (worldly, irreligious, irreverent, etc.). For example, "teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" (Col 3:16). Psalms and hymns are spiritual songs.

Note: Understand the difference between a spiritual song and a sensual song. Get a free copy of my Bible Study on *True Worshipers, "For Such People the Father Seeks to Be His Worshipers"* (Jn 4:23). For so called "Acapella" singing, get my tract on *A Very Important Vocabulary Lesson for Christians*.

Q6. The subject is showing partiality towards names and how it is divisive, not unifying. For example, some were saying, "I am of Paul" and "I am of Apollos" (1 Cor 1:12). We must not name ourselves or our churches after men!

Note: For a complete teaching on this, see my Bible Study on *True Worshipers, "For Such People the Father Seeks to Be His Worshipers"* (Jn 4:23).

Q7. The subject is **not** about Christ canceling all religious laws and commandments or the keeping of commandments or being "Legalistic". The subject is twofold: (1) That we are not to keep the traditions of men (vs. 8), and (2) That Christ canceled the Old Testament Law of Moses (vs. 14), and therefore, we do not have to keep or teach or enforce that specific Law, rule, or part of the Scripture, such as the Sabbath(s), food laws, festivals, etc. (vs. 16, 17).

Note: There are more examples of how we can misinterpret a passage of Scripture. I have written about some of them in the following tracts: "Plates & Cups or Body & Blood?" and "The Church or The Christ?". There are more passages of Scripture which we could study to determine the main subject from the points and illustrations. For example, Jesus and the lawyer discussed the supreme subject of the Law of Moses, the Old Testament (Lk 10:25-37). There are other main subjects in the Old Testament (See Gal 3:24). What is the subject of 1 Timothy (Read 3:14, 15)? What is the subject of 1 Peter (See 5:12)? What is the subject of the Bible? Etc.

Now, What Is the Point of This Lesson? It is to help us understand the difference between the subject and the points or illustrations of a passage of Scripture. And thereby we will be able to more easily interpret it properly. Examine your understanding of a passage! Jesus said, "You fools and blind men! Which is more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold?" (Mt 23:17). Brethren, do not be foolish! Which is more important? The subject of a passage or its points and illustrations? **First** understand what is most important in a passage, and then **second**, place the supreme importance on it, while at the same time learning or teaching the points related to it. What is the subject of a passage? **In Jesus' name, Rick David, an Evangelist & Author of FreeBibleStudy.org**

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What Is the Subject of Galatians?

What Is the Subject of Colossians 2:8-23?

What Is the Subject of Revelation?

What Is the Subject of 1 Corinthians 11:1-16?

What Is the Subject of Ephesians 5:19?

What Is the Subject of Revelation?

What Is the Subject of the Bible?

What Is the Subject of the Old Testament?

What Is the Subject of the New Testament?

What Is the Subject of 1 Peter?

What Is the Subject of Acts?

What Is the Subject of The Parable of the Sower?

What Is the Subject of This Passage?

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