

Glad Tidings

"And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers..." (Acts 13:32)

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The Salvation Army

(David Pettus)

Christians are at liberty to support many things other than the church of our Lord, but false doctrine is not one of those things. You may have had someone come to your door selling this or that for a certain denomination.

You might go to a store and be approached by someone outside its doors, asking you to buy something for a particular religious body. You may go to yard sales, but we have all learned to be careful, and avoid those sponsored by false religions.

This article is not written out of any hatred whatsoever as an attack upon the Salvation Army. My heart's desire is that they be saved. My purpose in this article is to help us, as members of the body of Christ, to become aware of who and what we can support.

There are many organizations a Christian can aid and help. There are many we cannot support. We must always ask ourselves: "Will good be done with the money we give?" We must also ask: "Will we be supporting

and aiding the teaching of error or truth" (I Timothy 6:3-5)?

It has been my observation that several in the Lord's church have helped support the Salvation Army, not knowing it is a denomination. Every Christian I know, who has given to this denomination, has stopped helping as soon as they learned what they were supporting.

Why did they stop? Because John said, "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds" (II John 10-11).

The Salvation Army is a denomination which split off from the Methodist in 1861. They preach their doctrines in 89 countries, and have one and one-half million members. Their denominational headquarters in the United States is in Verona, New Jersey.

Their creed book (I have the 1969 edition) says on page 6, the Salvation Army is an integral

part of the new Israel, the church. This is the same thing taught by most denominations, that is, each denomination is a part of the one church.

On July 9, 1993 the Birmingham News ran an article titled: "Salvation Army Eyes Change In Militarism." The article mentioned how several of their members are wanting to start calling their officers "pastors," instead of "lieutenants, captains, and majors." These members in this denomination want to make the public aware that the Salvation Army is a church.

Notice carefully some of the many doctrines this church teaches. In doing so, you will be able to easily see why members of the Lord's body cannot support this cause. Yes, they do a lot of good, but yes, they also teach a lot of error to those they help.

(The Lord willing, part two of this informative article will be printed. We will learn the specific doctrines of the Salvation Army... editor-jbf)