

# Reading Or Writing?

(Matthew 5-7)

- Introduction:
1. The Bible declares for itself that it is sufficient to save the soul (Ps. 19:7).
  2. In spite of this truth, men have through the ages felt compelled to re-write and revise the Bible (Matthew 5-7; 23).
  3. Let us examine some rather popular beliefs today and determine if people are reading or writing the Bible.

## I. One Church Is As Good As Another

- A. When someone says this, are they reading or writing the Bible?
- B. (Matthew 15:13).
- C. (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 2:16; 4:4; 5:23).

## II. Baptism Is Not Essential For Salvation

- A. When someone says this, are they reading or writing the Bible?
- B. (John 3:3-5).
- C. (Mark 16:16).

## III. A Sinner Can Pray For Salvation

- A. When someone says this, are they reading or writing the Bible?
- B. (John 9:31).
- C. (Acts 9:11; 22:16).

## IV. You Don't Have To Go To Church To Go To Heaven

- A. When someone says this, are they reading or writing the Bible?
- B. (Acts 2:47).
- C. (Ephesians 5:23).
- D. (Hebrews 10:24-26).

## V. Christians Should Tithe

- A. When someone says this, are they reading or writing the Bible?
- B. (1 Corinthians 16:1-2).
- C. (2 Corinthians 9:7).

## VI. Jesus Is Coming Soon

- A. When someone says this, are they reading or writing the Bible?
- B. (Matthew 24:36-44).
- C. (2 Peter 3:10).

- Conclusion:
1. Remember John's admonition — "Believe not every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God..." (1 John 4:1).
  2. Let's "Test all things; hold fast what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).