

# **“NOT!”**

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

## Introduction:

- A. Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:5-6; Rev. 22:18-19; Matt. 24:35
  - 1. The Bible commands us not to alter the word of God.
  - 2. Our lives must be changed to conform to His eternal word.
- B. The smallest of words carry profound meanings.
  - 1. “Not” is a small word, but carries with it great importance: The difference between right and wrong.

## **I. BY WORKS A MAN IS JUSTIFIED, NOT BY FAITH ALONE**

- A. James 2:20-26 (read it without the “not”)
- B. We are justified by faith - Rom. 5:1
- C. We live by faith - 2Cor. 5:7
- D. We are saved by faith - Acts 16:31
- E. But not by faith alone.

## **II. NOT EVERYONE WHO CALLS JESUS “LORD” WILL BE SAVED**

- A. Matt. 7:21-23 (read it without the “not”)
- B. We must be more than moral - Matt. 5:20
- C. We must be more than religious - James 1:26-27
- D. We must be obedient - Heb. 5:9; Luke 6:46

## **III. BUY THE TRUTH AND SELL IT NOT**

- A. Prov. 23:23 (read it without the “not”)
- B. The truth is absolute, more certain than any person, place, material thing; it is not subject to anything in this world; it is from God.
- C. John 8:32; James 1:25; John 13:17, 17:17

## **IV. BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD**

- A. Rom. 12:2 (read it without the “not”)
- B. James 4:4; 1Peter 4:1-4
- C. Different from the world does not mean distant from the world; it means changed and unlike; new creatures of the spirit, not new creatures of flesh.

## **V. NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING**

- A. Heb. 10:22-25
- B. Worship is emphasized because of its vital importance to Christian survival.

## **VI. I KNOW YOU NOT**

- A. Matt. 25:12

## Conclusion:

- A. Someday we will all stand before the judgment seat of God and give an answer for how we treated the least of God’s words, including the “nots.”
  - 1. Are we living with them, or trying to untie them?