

## HOW TAUGHT

<sup>18</sup> That there is a difference in the matter appearing in *The Watchtower* since 1922 from that which appeared prior thereto is quite manifest; but those who oppose the work of the Society have assigned entirely the wrong reason for such difference. There is no change or difference in any of the fundamental truths, but the difference relates to a clearer vision God has given his people. Those who oppose *The Watchtower*, but who still claim to serve God, insist that about 1875 the Lord began to teach his people by the words of Brother Russell, and that with the death of Brother Russell the revelation of truth to the people on earth came to an end; that *The Watchtower* is now publishing things that were not published by Brother Russell, and hence is wrong; and they claim that there is a studied effort made to discredit Brother Russell; and that such change is due to the fact that men other than Brother Russell control the publication of *The Watchtower*. For the purpose of illustrating the position of the opponents the following words are quoted from an announcement of a convention to be held by them in London in April, 1931, in which appear these words: "A number of brethren have been invited, known to be well grounded in the basic features of the truth as expounded by Brother Russell"

<sup>19</sup> Such opponents of *The Watchtower* show that they are confused and they are very wrong. Brother Russell did not claim the truth to be his. Jesus Christ taught that the truth is that of God's Word and that the truth does not belong to any man. There is no effort on the part of *The Watchtower*, nor is there any desire, to discredit Brother Russell. No good could be accomplished by such a course. *The Watchtower* recognizes the truth as belonging to Jehovah, and not to any creature. *The Watchtower* is not the instrument of any man or set of men, nor is it published according to the whims of men. No man's opinion is expressed in *The Watchtower*. God feeds his own people, and surely God uses those who love and serve him according to his own will. Those who oppose *The Watchtower* are not capable of discerning the truth that God is giving to the children of his organization, and this is the very strongest proof that such opposers are not of God's organization. Of a certainty no one can cite an instance in which *The Watchtower* during the past few years has attempted to laud or magnify any man's name; but at all times it has diligently sought to give honor to Jehovah's name.

<sup>20</sup> One may say that all Christians are taught of God, and that would be true so far as God's children have believed and followed the truth; but the text under consideration, namely, Isaiah 54:13, clearly and specifically applies to a special class. Prior to the coming of the Lord to the temple the holy spirit operated as a teacher of God's truth. The promise

of the text is not to any individual, but it is made to the *children of Zion collectively*. If one is not born in Zion the text could not apply to him. Zion is God's organization, and it follows that those who are not of his organization could not be the recipients of the promise made to that organization. Those who deny that God has an organization on earth surely could not be of God's organization, counted as the children thereof, nor be taught by Jehovah.

<sup>21</sup> Zion, the city or organization of God, was not built until the coming of the Lord to the temple of Jehovah in 1918. Prior to that time those who are in Christ Jesus and his followers were on the way to Zion, but were not children of Zion and could not be until God's due time came to build up Zion. When Christ Jesus came to the temple of Jehovah for judgment, that determined who were the children of Zion; and the ones whom he found faithful and brought into the temple, and made a part of God's organization, constitute the faithful "servant" class, and the promise is to such that these shall be taught of God; and these are taught of Jehovah.

<sup>22</sup> From 1875 to 1918 was a period of restoring to the church the fundamental truths, which work was foreshadowed by Elijah the prophet. These fundamental truths were not new truths, but those that had been obscured by reason of the promulgation of false doctrines. They were not any man's truths; and the fact that the Lord used a man or men to bring them to the attention of others is no evidence that they were truths of men. Those who were taught then were taught by the spirit of the Lord. Some of the main features of truth then brought to light and taught were of and concerning the high calling of God, and the restoration of the obedient ones during the reign of Christ to perfect humanity. Without a question of doubt the Lord gave Brother Russell light upon these truths and instructed him by his spirit, but why give to the creature the honor that is due to the Lord? Such a course would be no evidence of real love for Brother Russell concerning those who want to honor him and not the Lord, because it is written: "That which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God." (Luke 16:15) Manifestly Jesus was conveying the thought here that if men honor creatures and give them the credit that is due Jehovah their course of action is abominable in his sight. Sincere love for a brother means an unselfish desire to do good to that one; but to exalt his name is not doing him good. Promotion or exaltation comes from the Lord, not from man. (Ps. 75:6,7) The Lord knows that those who want to exalt the name of a man are not honest and sincere and do not possess real love for their brother. Those who really love Brother Russell delight to acknowledge that they are privileged to be in the same class with him in serving God, but they do not want to be foolish and give the honor to the