

# **The Great Christian Quadrilateral**

**A Lesson Prepared for**

**The Old Union Baptist Ministers' School  
Twenty-Eighty Annual Session**

**and**

**Presented on  
Thursday, March 30, 2000**

**by**

**Elder Stephen Skinner**

**Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 71:1-24

**Text:** Jude 1:20-21

### **Introduction**

The pitfalls of life (e.g. childhood, war, etc.).

The potential and responsibilities of leadership (a great multiplier).

Definition of Quadrilateral: four-sided polygon

polygon--a simple closed figure made up of straight-line-segments

simple closed figure--divides a plane into two subsets of points.

The same idea is presented in:

**Ephes. 6:11**

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

### **I. Edification--"Ye beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith."**

1. Sceptics and heretics prey on the ignorant and unestablished.
2. Must be built and stand upon "our most holy faith."  
Ministers must also build Christians up by imparting the knowledge of Christ.
3. Should be established in the doctrines of grace so as to recognize their holiness and to imitate it in our own lives.  
2 Peter 3:18  
2 Tim. 3:16-17
4. Scholarly knowledge alone is not sufficient.  
1 Cor. 8:1-3
5. Personal and mutual edification should be zealously maintained as one of the valuable defenses against the invasion of error. (Diversity of gifts necessary).  
Ephes. 4:11-16

### **II. Devotion-- "Praying in the Holy Ghost."**

The weapon with which the hosts of the Lord will put to rout the armies of the alien. The prayers--the artillery; Supplication--the cannon.

Praying in the Holy Ghost--

1. This is the test of prayers--the crucible.
2. The Spirit helps to pray--a cordial.  
We can't "see" to pray except the Spirit does it for us.
3. The Holy Ghost is a chart to help in prayer:  
There is no need of instruction as to posture, place, or time in prayer, but "in the Holy Ghost."  
The carnal mind knows nothing about prayer.  
Knowledge of what to pray for is by the Spirit.  
Knowledge of how to pray is by the Spirit.  
Fervency in prayer depends on the Spirit.  
Perseverance in prayer depends on the Spirit.

Prayers should be prayed in holy frame of mind, humbly, lovingly, and in faith.

4. The Spirit is a Cherub to proclaim success in prayer.
5. The Spirit conveys souls onward toward prayer--a chariot.
6. Scriptural hints to "successful" prayer.

Contrition

2 Chron. 7:14

Pride is detrimental to prayer and service to God in general.

Proverbs 11:2

Proverbs 21:4

Proverbs 28:25

Whole-Heartedness

Jeremiah 29:13

Psalms 66:18

Ezekiel 14:3

Faith

Mark 11:24

Righteousness

James 5:16

Obedience

1 John 3:22

John 15:7

Steadfastness

James 1:6-7

**III. Affections-- "keep yourselves in the love of God."**

1. Motives to keep yourself in the love of God.
  - A. It is commanded.  
Matthew 22:37-38
  - B. Everything that leads to desire God's love at first should lead to keep in it.
  - C. Continuance in God's love is His due.
  - D. The love of God is the spring of all Christian graces.
  - E. Love is all there is to be given, though it is very little.
  - F. If love (affection) is not given to God, it be go elsewhere.
  - G. In loving God lies happiness.
  - H. Loving God will make you like Jesus.
2. Means for carrying out this exhortation.
  - A. Love though obedience.  
John 14:15
  - B. Endeavor to be full of the that love at this moment.
  - C. Avoid everything that would damp love to God.
  - D. Avoid as much as possible the company of those who deaden spirituality.
  - E. Meditate much upon what He is, and what He has done for you.  
1 Peter 1:13

- F. Commune with Him.  
Rev. 3:20
- F. Work for God.  
Matthew 6:19-21

**IV. Expectancy-- "Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."**

1. Expect that Christ will come.  
Luke 12:37
2. Expect that He will come with blessings undeserved which shall display the mercy of God toward us.  
Romans 8:18-23
3. Expect then to be the end of our conflicts.  
Rev. 3:11
4. Expect Him then to perfect that eternal life He has already given us.  
1 John 3:1-3

If these four points are diligently maintained, the servant of God shall be perfectly safe against the cunning assaults of the arch enemy.