

Step Up to the Plate in 2008
Playing by the Rules



1. How do we know what the rules are? The Bible is complete. 2 Timothy 3:16
2. Who made up our spiritual rules & what right did they have to do so?
 - a. Christ's sacrifice saves us. Romans 5:6-11, Romans 3:21-25, John 10:14-15
 - b. Jesus' words are not his own, but his Father's. John 14:23-27
 - c. God revealed his message of wisdom by his Spirit. 1 Corinthians 2:10
 - d. Paul was commissioned by God. Colossians 1:25
 - e. God's teachings were taught by men with help from the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21
3. How should we view rules (as a good thing, or a bad thing; why are they necessary)?
 - a. His commands are not burdensome. They help us overcome the world. 1 John 5:3,
 - b. We receive rest when we obey God's word. Matthew 11:28
 - c. We should always be prepared to give a reason for our hope. 1 Peter 3:15
 - d. Not everyone goes to heaven, only those who do God's will. Matthew 7: 21
4. Rewards for those who follow the rules.
 - a. Receive crown of life. Revelation 2:10
 - b. Jesus-Each person rewarded according to what he has done. Matthew 16:27
 - c. Narrow road leads to life. Matthew 7:14
5. Consequences for those who don't follow the rules.
 - a. Lukewarm Christians have no place with God. Revelation 3:15-16
 - b. The path to destruction is wide. Matthew 7:13
 - c. Angels will throw "sons of sin" and the devil into the "fiery furnace" Matt. 13:37-43