

-----7-----

TO: GEORGE TAYLOR and JAMES PITTMAN
Wilkes County, State of Georgia
By Favor of Mr. John Richardson
FROM: JAMES TAYLOR

Henry County, Virginia
17 of October, 1790

Dear George,

I let you know I received your letter by Richardson. Am glad to hear of your healths. We are all well as common. Your mother is much decrepit and weaker this fall than formerly. George Franklin left my house 14th of last month, for home. He told me he left home the 14th of July. Been to see all his kindred.

You say something about going to Meredith's. I think, as you are in such circumstances, if Pittman would trade some cows for the note it would be the best way, as I shall say something to him by letter.

George, it lies on my mind to say something to you and Pittman. You seem to write hard sentences, judging me of prejudice and perverting the right way of the Lord. The scripture informs me that His way is past your finding out. I would willingly speak a few words if I knew whether they would be like pearls cast before swine, or received in the true sense. However, as a father I warn you, Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees which is hypocrisy, also of false teachers. I meant to enlarge. Remember Satan was transformed as Ministers of Righteousness.

Now, I have two sons in Georgia. Can I say that one, or both of them are free, or are they both in bondage to the rudiments of the world of formality and the traditions and doctrines of men? You both appear to me, by your writings, to favor water baptism. I warn you to search the Scripture lest you should be made to cry out as Peter did, "What was I that I should withstand God?" I would ask you what made Peter say, "Can any man forbid water?" John's disciples were baptised with water to repentance. I say that there is no water baptism for the remission of sins and as Christ leaves one baptism it must be the baptism mentioned at His ascension. And as Paul said to the Galatians, "O, foolish children, who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth?" Search the Scriptures and earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints, and think not to receive honor of man. If any lack wisdom let him ask of God, but remember, nothing wavering, for he that wavers is nought, and carried after every wind of doctrine. Search the Scriptures, and reason and conscience having fair play, should think it enough.

I have two daughters in Georgia, I hope both of them free women, therefore, I speak a word of comfort to Hannah Taylor and Patty Pittman. I tell you the greatest command on you