

Q

Questions Often Asked

Lesson Commenced: _____

Lesson Checked: _____

This series of Bible studies in the *ABC's Of Christian Growth* program is specifically designed to teach you the basics of the Christian life. But as with most things in life, we never stop learning, and you will most certainly find yourself asking questions like, "What does the Bible say about...?" or "How may I...?"

Answers to many questions will be found in the studies you have already done — or will be doing. It is strongly recommended that you review your past work from time to time, and especially anytime you have a question.

In this particular study, you will find Bible answers to a number of commonly-asked questions which are not covered in this series. This is one study which will no doubt expand as different questions are asked — so don't hesitate to ask your Older Brother (Older Sister) or the pastor about anything you want to know from the Bible!

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE.

- A. The Bible is God's **complete** revelation of Himself to man.
- B. **The Bible has the answer** — sometimes it requires diligent and searching study to find it, not because God wants to make things difficult, but because we are sinful, weak, finite, or perhaps just spiritually immature. Read: *Hebrews 5:11-14*.
- C. There are some things we may never really understand, especially when it comes to His workings in our life and those around us. Most believers have a "list" of things they want to ask when they get to Heaven — but they know God already has the answer, and it's the right one.
- D. We are to avoid _____ and _____ questions, (*II Timothy 2:23*) along with _____ and old _____ fables (*I Timothy 4:7*).

This really means our questions should pertain to faith, personal growth, godliness, and helpful Bible study. If all you want to do is "nail the preacher"

or “stump” your Older Brother/Older Sister, you will more than likely succeed, but will not be profited or benefit anyone.

- E. Be very careful you do not *MAJOR ON THE MINORS* and *MINOR ON THE MAJORS*. One of Satan’s traps is to get a believer to run off on some incidental hobby horse to the neglect of soul-winning, real Bible study, sweet fellowship, faithful Christian living, etc. Read: *I Timothy 6:3-5a*.
- F. When you discover a Bible answer, put it into practice. Some answers you (your old nature) will not like. Nevertheless, put it into practice. Read: *James 1:22*.

NOW TO SOME QUESTIONS



WHAT HAPPENS TO INFANTS AND LITTLE CHILDREN IF THEY DIE?

- A. Read: *Acts 13:22* and *II Samuel 23:1,2*. Was King David saved? _____
- B. Read: *I Kings 2:10* and *Psalms 23:6*. Where did David go when he died? _____

- C. Read: *II Samuel 12:23*. When the child of David and Bathsheba died at just one week old, David said, “I shall _ _ _ _ him.”

This is Bible proof that little ones are safe in Jesus and will go to Heaven should they die. How sad that so many people have their babies sprinkled shortly after birth because they have been taught to fear dying “unbaptized.”

WHAT IS THE “AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY”?

- A. This is a non-Biblical term used to express the Bible teaching that a child is **safe** in Jesus until it reaches an age of understanding and moral responsibility. It is the time of life when a child comes to understand right and wrong and is able to make deliberate choices in actions. At this point, a child can and needs to be saved — and a child can understand how to be saved.
- B. There is no set age for this “age of accountability,” but the Bible indicates there is such an age for each child.

1. Read: *Deuteronomy 1:39*. Children are “innocent” who have no K _____ between _____ and _____.
2. Read: *Ezekiel 12:2*. People are accountable for their actions when they have _____ to _____ and see _____, etc. See also: *Nehemiah 8:2*.
3. Read: *Genesis 8:21*. The imagination of a man’s heart is evil from his _____.
4. Read: *II Chronicles 36:9*. The eight-year-old king Jehoiachin did _____ in the sight of the LORD.
5. Read: *Matthew 19:16-20*. The rich young man was able to understand and keep the Ten Commandments from his _____ on up.

Note: NEVER force or pressure your children into making a profession of Christ. ALWAYS pray for their salvation and guide them along spiritual paths – and be ready to lead them to Christ.

According to *II Timothy 3:15*, young children can learn the Scriptures which will lead them to salvation.

According to *I Samuel 3:1,7*, young children can even serve the Lord and be faithful. Great training for when they are saved!!

According to *Mark 10:13,14*, Jesus welcomes little children and taught the necessity of “child-like faith” – *verse 15*.

IS ABORTION RIGHT OR WRONG?

The act of terminating unwanted pregnancies is in epidemic stage around the world. The basic issue in this ‘debate’ is whether life exists before birth; that is, in the womb.

A. Pro-abortionists argue that an embryo is just a mass of cells and tissue – simply a part of the mother’s body. To them, abortion is nothing different than a tonsillectomy.

1. Read: *Psalm 139:13-16*. When did God take a vital interest in David?

2. Read: *Psalm 51:5*. When did David receive his sin nature? _____

3. Read: *Jeremiah 1:5*. When did the Lord first know Jeremiah? _____

4. Read: *Luke 1:44*. When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, her baby expressed the emotion of _ _ _ within her womb.
5. Read: *Genesis 25:22,23*. Here we read of twins squabbling before birth, and the Lord God giving promises concerning unborn children.

B. The conclusion of Scripture is that life begins at conception.

Medical science supports this fact — an embryo has a separate heartbeat, brainwaves, and makes its own red and white cells.

Abortion is murder. Abortion is wrong!

IS HOMOSEXUALITY A TRAIT OF BIRTH, OR A SINFUL PERVERSION?

“Alternate lifestyles” are being openly promoted in today’s society. As nations increasingly forget God and turn their ears from the Truth, we are seeing behavior which was at one time never tolerated now being flaunted. Homosexuals and lesbians are demanding total acceptability by, and integration into, the community, claiming they were born that way and as such are normal, though different! What does God say?

A. Look up: *I Kings 14:24; 15:12; 22:46; and II Kings 23:7*. What does the Bible call these so-called “Gays”?

B. This Bible designation of the homosexual comes from the name of the city of _____ . (*Genesis 18:20*)

C. What was God’s judgment upon Sodom and Gomorrah? (*Genesis 19:24*)

D. Read: *Genesis 19:4,5*. The crowd which gathered outside Lot’s home consisted of both _____ and _____ and people from every _____ .

This indicates that the sodomite corruption had extended to all ages and all stratas of society.

E. What does God call homosexuality? (*Leviticus 18:22*)

An A _____ .

F. What punishment does God decree for homosexuality? (*Leviticus 20:13*)

G. Read: *Leviticus 18:22-24*. What is the effect upon a nation when sodomites are tolerated?

H. Read: *I Timothy 1:9,10*. This passage is the basis for using the Mosaic code as the foundation for righteous government of any society.

I. Read: *Romans 1:26,27,32*.

1. God calls this behavior "against _____" (verse 26) — that is, unnatural, and therefore not a fact of birth or heredity).
2. God calls this practice "_____ affections" (verse 26) and burning "_____" (verse 27).
3. God says those who practice this "unseemly" behavior will receive "in _____ *that recompence of their error which was meet [fitting]*" (verse 27) AIDS is one example of this!
4. God says those who commit such acts are worthy of _____ (verse 32).

J. Study: *I Corinthians 6:9-11*.

1. Verse 9 refers to sodomites as "E _____" and "A _____ of themselves with mankind."
2. Verse 11 says: "And such _____ some of you..." (i.e. members of the church at Corinth.) This clearly teaches that sodomites can be saved. Notice the *past* tense, however.
3. How is a homosexual saved? The same way you were saved — through repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!
Verse 11 goes on to say: "...but ye are _____, but ye are _____, but ye are _____ in the name of the Lord Jesus and _____ the _____ of our God."
Note the present tense.

Clearly, homosexuality is a perverted sexual practice and one which the Bible strongly condemns. It is destructive to any nation which tolerates it (let alone promotes it) — *Proverbs 14:34* — and eternally damning to anyone who practices it.

DOES GOD PREDESTINATE PEOPLE TO SALVATION?

There is a very popular theory in religious circles which says that salvation is a matter of predestination. That is, you are saved because God predestined you to be saved. The logical, and often-stated corollary, is: "If some are predestined to Heaven, the rest are predestined to Hell." This teaching, which began with Augustine (354-430 A.D.) and was systematized by the Protestant reformer John Calvin (1509-1564 A.D.), is usually called "Calvinism." It affirms that we have no choice in the matter of salvation; it was all settled long before the world was created.

- A. Calvinism teaches you are predestinated to receive Christ.
- B. The Bible says the moment you receive Christ — as a Christian — you have a great (pre-determined) destiny.
 - 1. According to *Romans 8:29*, the believer is predestined to be:
----- to the ----- of Christ.
 - 2. According to *Ephesians 1:5*, the believer is predestined to the:
----- of children; i.e., we become the sons (and daughters) of God.
 - 3. According to *Ephesians 1:11*, the pre-determined destiny of each believer is called an I ----- .

Note: The moment Charles Philip Arthur George Windsor was born into this world — he was predestined to become the King of England. No one would say he was predestined to be born!

IS HELL A REAL PLACE?

The doctrine of Hell and everlasting punishment is an unpopular subject today; and most cultured 'churches' along with the cults, reject it.

- A. Read: *Luke 16:19-31*.
 - 1. Is this ever referred to as a parable? _____
 - 2. Was the rich man conscious in Hell? _____
 - 3. Could the rich man ever leave Hell? _____
- B. Read *Matthew 25:41*.

1. Hell was prepared for _____.
2. Some say Hell means "annihilation."
Matthew 25:46 calls it _____ (unending)
 _____.

C. Read: *Revelation 20:11-15*.

1. The eternal region of the lost is called the _____ of _____.
2. Who are to be cast into this awful place? _____

D. Read: *Matthew 5:22; 10:28; 13:40-42,49,50; 23:33; Mark 9:43-49*.
 Who spoke these words? _____

WHAT DID JESUS LOOK LIKE?

Nobody knows! The religious artists centuries later portrayed Him as a pale-faced, long-haired, effeminate 'hippy'; this is nothing but wild imagination.

- A. Read: *Isaiah 53:2*. This prophecy of Christ says he would have no _____ nor _____ and no _____ that we should desire Him. He was not an "adonis" – there was nothing physically attractive about Him.
- B. Read: *Matthew 26:48*. He did not stand out from the crowd. See also: *John 8:59* and *Luke 24:15-18*.
- C. Read: *I Corinthians 11:14*. Did Jesus have long hair? _____
- D. It is certain Jesus looked like an average Jew. Olive complexion, short, dark hair, and a beard – *Isaiah 50:6* – are more probable descriptions.

The fact that no Biblical description is given of our Saviour is no doubt meant to prevent idolatrous worship of images and pictures. See: *Romans 1:23* and *I John 5:21*.

SHOULD CHRISTIANS OBSERVE CHRISTMAS?

The Christmas season has become a time of revelry and fleshly indulgence, and no Christian ought to join in such things – *Galatians 5:19-21; I Corinthians 5:11*.

Christmas is also a time given over to many religious customs and ideas which have absolutely **nothing** to do with the Word of God. Thus this is another area of danger for a Bible-believing Christian – *Colossians 2:8*.

In our Church we encourage God's people to use this season for evangelism. According to *John 3:16* the central message of the birth of Jesus Christ is "God seeking the salvation of man," so there are two things we strongly suggest:

- A. Use the opportunities that arise in visiting with family and friends to share with them the greatest of all Gifts. At least place a Gospel tract with every gift or card given.
- B. Give sacrificially to missions at this time. If you feel at liberty to give gifts, why not take up the challenge of giving to the Lord at least as much as you spend on others?

When you think about Christmas, keep in mind the following Bible facts:

1. Jesus was *NOT* born on December 25. This was in the middle of winter, and shepherds would not have their sheep out in the snow!
2. There were *NOT* three wise men! Three men riding on camels over such a long distance through inhospitable country infested with thieves and wild animals would have been fools!! There was a *company* of Magi — they brought three kinds of gifts.
3. The wise men did *NOT* meet with the shepherds in the stable.
 - a. According to *Matthew 2:11* they came to a H _ _ _ _ and saw Jesus as a Y _ _ _ _ C _ _ _ _ .
 - b. *Matthew 2:16* indicates the young child was almost _ _ _ years old at this time.
4. Involving our children in the *myth* of Santa Claus is not wise. We are in fact telling them a lie! Moreover, the Santa Claus (named after the Roman Catholic cardinal 'Saint Nicholas') most often portrayed is a substitute for our Heavenly Father.

SHOULD CHRISTIANS OBSERVE EASTER?

Easter is the most solemn religious observance in Christendom. The question is, does the Lord want us to set aside **one** time each year to remember His death and resurrection?

- A. According to *John 20:1*, Jesus rose from the dead on the _ _ _ _ day of the week.
- B. According to *Acts 20:7* and *I Corinthians 16:2*, churches began meeting on the _ _ _ _ day of the week.

Thus we remember our Lord's resurrection every Sunday!

C. We remember these events when we meet to observe the _____
_____. I Corinthians 11:24-26

D. We remember these events when we witness Scriptural _____
Romans 6:4

Please keep in mind that the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on a WEDNESDAY, and He rose from the dead on a SUNDAY. See: Matthew 12:40. (This is the reason we never observe "Good Friday.")

HOW CAN I KNOW GOD'S PARTICULAR WILL FOR MY LIFE?

A. Every believer ought to pray, "L _____
_____." Acts 9:6

B. The Lord reveals His will for our lives through the following means:

1. The BIBLE. — Psalm 119:105

God will NEVER, EVER lead you contrary to His Word.

2. The HOLY _____ . Acts 8:29; 16:7; John 16:13

This is through a firm witness in our hearts.

3. The C _____ of others. Proverbs 11:14

a. Your Parents. Ephesians 6:1; Proverbs 3:1-4; 4:1-4; 13:1 The insight, wisdom, and advice of parents should always be sought and considered.

b. Your Pastor. Hebrews 13:17. Always feel free to talk to your pastor about anything.

c. Your Church. Acts 15:25,28a. In areas of major decision making, especially for Christian service, the advice of your church should be sought.

4. The PROVIDENTIAL LEADINGS of God — that is, through circumstances.

See: Psalm 27:11.

When these four things all harmonize and point in the same direction, we may be certain of God's guidance.

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO REACH A STAGE OF "SINLESS PERFECTION"?

- A. According to *Galatians 5:17*, each believer experiences an inward battle between the _____ and the _____.
- B. According to *I John 1:8-2:1*, anyone who says they no longer sin has _____.
- C. One of the most victorious Christians of all time, the Apostle Paul, said that within his old nature (the flesh) dwelleth _____.
(*Romans 7:15-21*)
- D. The only time a Christian will be sinless and perfect is when delivered from the _____.
Romans 7:24
- E. Nevertheless, according to *Titus 2:12* and *I John 3:3*, what kind of life should a Christian strive to lead by God's grace? _____

WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT MY WORRIES?

- A. According to *Psalms 127:2*, it is V _____ to worry.
- B. According to *Romans 8:28*, God works in A _____ T _____ for our good.
- C. Worry is a lack of faith or trust in a Great God. Lack of faith is UNBELIEF! According to *Romans 14:23* and *Hebrews 3:12*, unbelief is S _____.
- D. What are we to cast upon the Lord? *I Peter 5:7* _____
- E. We are to be careful ("full of care," anxious) for _____, but to bring everything to the Lord in _____.
Philippians 4:6,7.
When we do this, God gives us the _____ of God which passeth all _____.
- F. Read: *Matthew 6:25-34*.

WHY DO I SOMETIMES GO THROUGH TRIALS?

All believers will pass through various trials in their life on earth. Some trials come from Satan, some from other people, some from our own doing, some from life in general, and some from the Lord.

- A. According to *I Peter 4:12*, we are not to think such things S _ _ _ _ _ .
- B. According to *I Peter 1:7*, trials are P _ _ _ _ _ events in our lives because they purify our faith in God.
- C. According to *James 1:2,3*, trials help us to be P _ _ _ _ _ .
- D. Study: *I Corinthians 10:13* and *II Peter 2:9*. In your own words explain the promise God gives you when trials and temptations (testings) come.

- E. Read: *Hebrews 13:5,6*. Why can we fear not what men may do to us?

- F. According to *II Timothy 3:12*, what is one reason we may suffer the trial of persecution or ridicule? _____
- G. What did the apostles feel when they were persecuted? *Acts 5:41* _____

- H. According to *John 15:18-22*, the S _ _ _ _ _ is not greater than his _ _ _ _ _ .
- I. What does Jesus give to the Christian that the world cannot know, understand, or have? _ _ _ _ _ *John 14:27; John 16:33*
- J. What are we to do in times of trouble? *I Peter 5:7*

QUESTIONS I WISH TO ASK