

**IMPORTANT
QUESTIONS
ANSWERED
FROM THE
BIBLE**

Edited & Compiled by
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Foreward

The material for this book was given to me in 1963 by Bro. Garner, pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Paducah, Kentucky. At that time I was a missionary on my way to Okinawa, Japan. I was first on Okinawa in 1945. At that time, I was in the Marine Corps with the 1st Marine Division. I was wounded on the island May 2, 1945. At that time, I was not a Christian. I was 19 years old and the Lord saved me by his grace on November 20, 1958. He called me to preach and later called me to go to Okinawa as a missionary.

When we arrived on Okinawa, while studying the Japanese language, I had this book translated into the Japanese Language. Bro. Tajima, a pastor in Hiroshima, Japan, did the translating.

God has wonderfully blessed this book. When Bro. Tajima took the manuscripts to be put into type, the Japanese lady who did the typing got under conviction, came to his church and was saved.

I have distributed hundreds of copies of this book in English and Japanese. Thousands of copies have been distributed around the world by churches, individuals and missionaries. Recently, the book was translated into the Hungarian language. I have received testimony after testimony from people who have been blessed by reading and studying this book.

It is my prayer that God will continue to bless it and if anything is accomplished, may God get the glory from it.

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Chapter I

The Bible

1. What is the Bible?

The Bible is God's Word...A letter from God to people.

2. Who wrote the Bible?

2 Peters 1:21

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Timothy 3:16

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

3. How do we know the Bible is God's Word?

The Bible itself says so...both in the Old Testament and New Testament.

Isaiah 40:8

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Psalms 119:89

Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

2 Peter 1:21

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

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Matthew 24:35

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Other proofs:

- a. Its unity...written by about forty different people, over about 1600 years, yet it makes one book with perfect unity.
- b. Its theme...there is one theme throughout...God's plan of redemption through Jesus Christ.
- c. Its indestructibility...People have tried to destroy it many times. Bibles were gathered and burned in separate campaigns to destroy the Bible. Many infidels have tried to destroy it. Today there are more Bibles sold throughout the world than any other book. It is the "best seller" every year.

- d. Its universal appeal... All people, rich or poor, educated or uneducated of every race and nation, find that it fits their needs.
- e. Its timelessness... It does not get old or out of date. Its truths are just as applicable today as the day it was written.
- f. Its exhaustibleness... No matter how many times it has been read or studied, there are always new meanings, new truths for the earnest reader.
- g. Many of the prophecies in its pages, made hundreds of years before the event, have already been literally fulfilled.
- h. Personal experiences of many individuals through the centuries have confirmed the truth of its message.
- i. From a very small, insignificant beginning, Christianity has steadily grown through 2000 years of history.

4. To what is the Bible likened?

1. A devouring flame:

Jeremiah 5:14

Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them.

2. A crushing hammer:

Jeremiah 23:29

Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

3. A life giving force:

Ezekiel 37:7

So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

4. A saving power:

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

5. A defensive weapon:

Ephesians 6:17

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

6. A piercing sword:

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Chapter II

God

1. Who is God?

God is a Spirit. We cannot see Him with our physical eyes, but He can see us.

John 4:24

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

2. How many Gods are there?

There is only one true God, and He is a living, loving God.

1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Matthew 22:32

I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

Isaiah 44:6

Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

Luke 20:38

For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him.

3. How can God take care of all the world?

Because He has all power. Just as there is one sun in the sky, so is there one God who rules the whole world. The sun in the sky does not belong to any one country, and neither does God belong to any one country. He is the God of all, but many do not recognize Him.

Acts 17:24

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands.

4. Where did God come from?

God has always existed and will continue forever. He has no beginning, and will have no end. This is a truth that we cannot understand, but the Bible tells us that it is true.

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Isaiah 44:6

Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

Revelations 22:13

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

5. How can God see me and know what I do and how can He take care of me?

He is a living God and He has all-power and all knowledge.

Hebrews 4:13

Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Genesis 17:1

And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

Ecclesiastes 12:14

For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Romans 1:20

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

6. What kind of a God is He?

He is holy, a righteous and a just God, who hates sin.

Psalms 145:17

The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Ephesians 2:4-5

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved:)

I John 3:1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

Isaiah 6:3

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

7. How may I know God's power?

He created the world and all things in the world. He created man. By the things that He has created we may know His power and Godhead.

Romans 1:20

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

8. What is meant by God in three persons?

Although God is one God, yet there are three persons. This is hard for us to understand yet the Bible tells us that it is true.

The illustration of the sun in the sky may help us to understand. The sun is one sun, but it gives light and heat.

Jesus Christ is the light, the Holy Spirit is the fire or heat, but the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are one God.

9. What are the names of the three persons in the Godhead?

God the Father.

God the Son.

God the Holy Spirit.

1 John 5:7

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

Matthew 28:19-20

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

Ephesians 4:4-6

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

10. How do we know that God is holy?

The Bible tells us so and that He hates sin and must punish sin.

Psalms 145:17

The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

Matthew 5:48

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Romans 2:4-6

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

Romans 2:11

For there is no respect of persons with God.

I John 3:5

And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

11. How do we know that God loves us?

Because He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to live and then to die on the cross for our sins. If we will repent and accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and completely trust Him, God will forgive our sins and make us to be children of God.

I John 4:10

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

I John 4:14

And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

I John 4:16

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

I John 4:19

We love him, because he first loved us.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

12. Should people fear God?

Yes, there should be reverent fear. God is a consuming fire and all people should fear and reverence Him. God is also love, and all people should love Him. God is holy and cannot look upon sin and in love for the sinner He has provided salvation to those who will believe. The sinner needs only to accept the provision made. If he refuses the Son of God, who died on the cross for sinners, then the wrath of God rests upon him and eternal punishment awaits him. If one refused the sacrifice of God's beloved Son, then he should fear the wrath of God.

John 3:36

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Exodus 3:5

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Hebrews 10:31

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Hebrews 12:28-29

Wherefore we receive a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire.

14. What is the relationship of God to man?

God created man in His own image. Because man sinned, he separated himself from God.

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

So God is the Creator and the God of all people, but He is not the Father of all in a personal sense.

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Romans 9:8

That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

God becomes the Father only of those who repent of their sins and trust His Son, Jesus, as personal Saviour and Lord. Again, God is the Creator of all men. However, one is made and becomes a child of God only through the "New Birth." Once a person has been "Born Again", then can they rightfully call God their Heavenly Father.

Beware of those who teach the "Universal Fatherhood of God and "The Brotherhood of Men."

15. Does God still rule the universe?

Yes, although God temporarily allows the Devil to carry on his evil work, yet God is in control and the Devil can go no further than God permits.

Psalms 93:1

The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.

Job 1:12

And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

1 Corinthians 15:27-28

For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

17. Since God is all powerful, why does He allow the Devil to do his evil work in the world?

We may not understand clearly the reason for this but we do know that it is for the best. If there were no evil in the world man could not understand God's goodness and mercy and love.

If there was no darkness, how could a person understand the blessing of light? If there was no pain or sorrow or sickness, how could a person understand the blessing of rest, comfort, and health? And if there was no evil to hate, how could one love the good?

Isaiah 55:8-9

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

18. What are some of the attributes of God?

1. God is all-powerful.

1 Chronicles 29:11

Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

2. God is all wise.

Romans 11:33

the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

3. God is Alpha and Omega—the beginning and the end—from everlasting to everlasting, the Creator and Ruler of the universe.

Psalms 90:2

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

Revelations 1:8

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty:

Revelations 21:6

And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Revelations 22:13

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

4. God is omnipotent.

Luke 1:37

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Proverbs 15:3

The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Isaiah 43:13

Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?

5. God is just and righteous.

Psalms 119:137

Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments.

6. God is holy.

Psalms 99:9

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy.

Isaiah 6:3

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Ezekiel 39:7

So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

Revelations 4:8

And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

7. God is love.

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Ephesians 2:4-5

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

I John 4:8

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

I John 4:16

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Chapter III

Jesus Christ

1. Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus is God's Son and is one with God.

John 10:30
I and my Father are one.

Luke 22:69-70
*Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.
Then said they all, Art thou then the Son of God? And he said unto them, Ye say that I am.*

2. Where was Jesus before He came into the world and became a man?

Jesus was in heaven, one with the Father. He made the world and all things in it.

John 17:5
And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Psalms 90:2
Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

John 1:3
All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1:10
He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

Acts 17:24
God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

Hebrews 1:2
Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Hebrews 11:3
Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

3. How do we know that Jesus was in heaven and that He made the world?

The Bible tells us so.

John 17:5-8

And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them.

John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

4. When did Jesus Christ, God's Son, come into the world?

He was born as a baby more than 1900 years ago. He came down from heaven.

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Luke 2:7

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

5. Where was Jesus born?

He was born in the country of Judea and in the town of Bethlehem.

Matthew 2:1

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

Luke 2:4-7

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

6. Who was his mother?

His mother was a Jewish girl named Mary, but God was His Father. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of Mary, the Jewish maiden.

Matthew 1:20

But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

7. Who reared Him to manhood?

His mother and His foster-father, Joseph.

Luke 2:51

And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

8. Did Jesus have any brothers and sisters?

There were no children with God as their father—but His mother and His foster father, Joseph, had several other children. Four of His brothers are named— James, Joses, Juda, and Simon. And, His sisters are also mentioned.

Matthew 13:55-56

Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?

Mark 6:3

Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

Luke 8:19

Then came to him his mother and his brethren, and could not come at him for the press.

John 2:12

After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days.

9. How do we know that Jesus was different from other babies?

1. Before He was born, His birth was prophesied by the prophets. Also, an angel told Mary that she would have a son, conceived by the Holy Spirit, and His name should be called Jesus because He would save His people from their sins.

Luke 2:21

And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Matthew 1:18-24

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 *Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.*

20 *But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.*

21 *And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*

22 *Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,*

23 *Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*

24 *Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:*

2. When he was born, the place and circumstances were just as had been prophesied in the Old Testament for the Messiah.

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Micah 5:2

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

3. When He was born angels appeared to shepherds in a nearby field and praised God, and told them the good news that a Saviour had been born. They told the shepherds to go and find this baby and they did go; and they found Him and worshiped Him.

Luke 2:8-16

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

4. Wise men came from the east because they had seen an unusual star in the sky. As they traveled, this star moved before them and came and stood over where the young child was. These wise men brought gifts and worshiped Him.

Matthew 2:1-10

1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

10. What do we know of Jesus' boyhood?

1. His family was poor. The offering in the temple, after His birth, was that of a poor family—"A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

Luke 2:24

And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

2. His mother and foster-father were devout people who loved and served God.

Luke 2:39

And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

Luke 2:41

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

Matt 1:19

Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

Luke 1:27

27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

Luke 2:22

22 And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord;

Luke 2:39-43

39 And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

3. His foster-father, Joseph, was a carpenter and Jesus, Himself, became a carpenter.

Mark 6:3

Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

Matthew 13:55

Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

4. He attended the worship services in the synagogue every Sabbath.

Luke 4:16

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

5. When He was twelve years old, He was taken on a trip to Jerusalem.

Luke 2:41-43

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

6. Jesus grew in favor with God and man.

Luke 2:52

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

11. How old was Jesus when He began to preach?

About thirty years old.

Luke 3:23

And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli,

12. How long did He go about preaching?

He preached for about three and a half years before He was crucified.

13. What message did He preach?

He told the people to repent of their sins for the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand, and to come and follow Him and He would give them eternal life.

Matthew 4:17

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Luke 4:17-21

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

Luke 5:32

I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Luke 7:22

Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

Luke 13:3,5

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

Luke 24:27

And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

14. What else did Jesus do?

He healed many sick people and raised some from the dead. He also taught the people to love and serve God and love their fellow men; and He went about doing good.

Luke 7:22

Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

Acts 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Mark 12:30-31

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Matthew 4:23

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

15. Why could Jesus heal, and why could He raise people from the dead?

Because He is God and has all-power over death.

John 11:25

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

John 10:17-18

17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

2 Timothy 1:10

But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

16. Where did Jesus live after He began to preach?

Jesus had no home. He was often tired and weary. He went from place to place. People who loved Him invited Him into their homes and helped His work.

Matthew 8:20

And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

Luke 8:1-3

1 And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him,

2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils,

3 And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.

17. Jesus Christ is God, then why was He willing to leave heaven and come down and be a poor man here on earth and then die for us?

Because He loved us, (His own) even though we did not know or love Him. And there was no other way that a person could be saved from their sins, for the death penalty must be paid by a sinless person as a substitute for the sinner himself.

Hebrews 2:14-15

14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Romans 5:7-8

7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

11. How do we know that Jesus is God?

1. He, Himself said that He was.

John 10:30

I and my Father are one.

2. God the Father testified that He was His Son.

- a. At His baptism.

Matthew 3:17

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

- b. At His transfiguration.

Matthew 17:5

While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

- c. When The Greeks came to see Jesus.

John 12:28

Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.

3. His disciples testified that He was God's Son.

Matthew 16:16

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

John 1:49

Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.

4. Prophecies of the Old Testament concerning the Messiah fulfilled in Him.

- a. His virgin birth.

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

- b. His triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

John 12:13-14

*13 Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.
14 And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written,*

- c. Betrayed by a friend.

Psalms 41:9

Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

Mark 14:10

And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them.

- d. Sold for thirty pieces of silver.

Zechariah 11:12

And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

Matthew 26:15

And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

- e. Silent when accused.

Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Matthew 26:62-63

*62 And the high priest arose, and said unto him, Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee?
63 But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.*

- f. Suffered for our sins.

1 Peter 2:24

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

- g. Prayed for His enemies.

1 Peter 2:24

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Psalms 109:4-6

4 For my love they are my adversaries: but I give myself unto prayer.

- 5 *And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love.*
6 *Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand.*

Luke 23:34

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

- h. Buried with the rich.

Isaiah 53:9

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

Matthew 27:57-60

When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple:

58 *He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered.*

59 *And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,*

60 *And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.*

- i. His resurrection.

Psalms 16:10

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Luke 24:33-36

33 *And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,*

34 *Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.*

35 *And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.*

36 *And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.*

- j. His ascension.

Psalms 68:18

18 *Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.*

Luke 24:50-51

50 *And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.*

51 *And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.*

19. What happened to Jesus after the three and a half years of preaching?

He was killed by wicked men...nailed to a cross.

Matthew 27:26

Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

Mark 15:10-28

10 *For he knew that the chief priests had delivered him for envy.*

11 *But the chief priests moved the people, that he should rather release Barabbas unto them.*

12 *And Pilate answered and said again unto them, What will ye then that I shall do unto him whom ye call the King of the Jews?*

13 *And they cried out again, Crucify him.*
 14 *Then Pilate said unto them, Why, what evil hath he done? And they cried out the more exceedingly, Crucify him.*
 15 *And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.*
 16 *And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Praetorium; and they call together the whole band.*
 17 *And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head,*
 18 *And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!*
 19 *And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him.*
 20 *And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him.*
 21 *And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross.*
 22 *And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull.*
 23 *And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not.*
 24 *And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.*
 25 *And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.*
 26 *And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.*
 27 *And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left.*
 28 *And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.*

20. Since Jesus was God, why did He not save Himself?

If Jesus had not died none of us could ever be saved. We have all sinned and the “wages of sin is death.” He came into the world for that purpose.

John 12:27

Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:11

And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

Romans 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Romans 5:15

But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

Romans 5:21

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

19. After He died then what?

He was buried in a new tomb but after three days He arose from the dead.

John 19:41-42

41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.
42 There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

Matthew 12:40

For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Luke 24:1-8

1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words,

20. Why could Jesus rise from the dead?

Because He is God and is the source of life. He has power over death and the grave.

John 10:17-18

17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Romans 1:4

And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

21. What proof is there that Jesus really rose from the dead?

1. His own words. He told the disciples that He would rise from the dead on the third day.

Matthew 16:21

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Luke 24:44

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

2. He was seen by many people at different times after His resurrection.

Mark 16:9

Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

Matthew 28:9

And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

John 21:1

After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself.

Luke 24:36

And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Luke 24:50-51

50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

1 Corinthians 15:6-7

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

3. Some who had not believed before saw the print of the nails in His hands and feet.

Luke 24:39-41

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

John 20:24-27

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

4. His disciples were changed from weak and discouraged followers into dynamic witnesses full of hope and courage because they had seen the Risen Lord; and were now working in the power of the Holy Spirit whom the Lord had sent, as promised, after He went back to heaven.

Mark 14:50

And they all forsook him, and fled.

Luke 22:54

Then took they him, and led him, and brought him into the high priest's house. And Peter followed afar off.

John 20:19

Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Acts 2:14

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

Acts 2:32

This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Acts 2:36

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and

Christ.

Acts 2:46

And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Acts 3:12-15

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;

15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

Acts 4:19-20

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Acts 5:29

Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Acts 5:41-42

41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

24. What does His resurrection mean to us?

It means that we have a living Christ who has experienced all the suffering and trials of the world, yet without sin—and who is conqueror over death, hell and the grave. It gives us the assurance of our bodily resurrection and life after death.

1 Corinthians 15:17

And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.

Hebrews 7:24-25

24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.

25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

1 John 2:1

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Revelation 1:18

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

25. How long did Jesus stay on the earth after He rose from the dead?

Forty days.

Acts 1:3

To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things

pertaining to the kingdom of God:

26. Where did He go then?

He went back to heaven. Many of the people who loved Him saw Him go up and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

Acts 1:9-11

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

27. What special command did Jesus give His followers (His New Testament Church) just before He went back to heaven?

He told them to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature and make disciples and baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do all things He had commanded.

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Acts 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

28. What promise was given to the disciples (the first New Testament church) after He had been taken to heaven?

An angel came and told them that this same Jesus, whom they had seen go into heaven, would come again just as they had seen Him go.

Acts 1:10-11

10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

29. Had Jesus ever given such a promise before He left the earth?

Yes, He had given much teaching about His coming back again and about the conditions in the world before He would come.

John 14:2-3

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Also, in your Bibles, read Matthew, the 24th Chapter.

30. Has He come back to earth yet?

Not yet. But He may come at any time. No man knows the day nor the hour. We should be ready for His coming at any time.

1Thessalonians 4:16

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Matthew 24:30

30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31. Will He come as a little baby in the home of a poor family when He comes back again?

No. He will come as a conquering king and will judge all the people (The saved at the Judgment seat of Christ and the lost at the Great White Throne judgment).

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Matthew 24:30

And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

John 5:22

For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

2 Peter 3:10-12

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

Revelations 20:11-15

11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

32. Where is Jesus now?

1. Jesus is in heaven at the right hand of the Father, making intercession for the Christians.

Romans 8:34

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Mark 14:62

And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Mark 16:19

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

Acts 7:55

But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

Col 3:1

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2. Jesus is also with each of us who trusts Him as Saviour. He walks with us and talks with us though we cannot see Him with our physical eyes.

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

33. How may I trust Him and have Him live in my heart?

First, you must be convicted of your sins. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. Then you must repent of your sins. By faith you must trust the Lord Jesus as your personal Saviour and Lord. You must believe with your heart and make confession with the mouth.

John 16:7-11

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

9 Of sin, because they believe not on me;

10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;

11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

Luke 13:3,5

3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

5 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

Romans 10:9-10

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Romans 10:13

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Acts 16:30-31

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Chapter IV

Holy Spirit

1. Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Godhead.

Luke 12:12

For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

Matthew 28:19

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

2. Where is the Holy Spirit?

He is God and God is everywhere. He is in heaven and He is here on the earth.

John 14:26

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Acts 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Joel 2:28

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

3. What is the work of the Holy Spirit?

1. The Holy Spirit's work before the ascension of Christ.
The Holy Spirit was present in the creation of the world.

Genesis 1:2

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

2. The Holy Spirit moved the minds and hearts of holy men of old to write God's Word—the Bible.

2 Peter 1:21

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Timothy 3:16

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

3. He came upon holy men of old and gave them special power to prophesy.

Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

4. He came upon men of old—to go out and fight battles to deliver God's people from the oppressor.

Judges 3:10

And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war: and the LORD delivered Chushan-rishatha'im king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed against Chushan-rishatha'im.

Judges 6:34

But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abi-ezer was gathered after him.

5. He gave power to Mary, the mother of Jesus to conceive in her womb and bring forth a Son without an earthly father.

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

6. He was present at the baptism of Jesus as He came up out of the water.

John 1:32

And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

Matthew 3:16

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

7. The Holy Spirit's work after Jesus Christ went back to heaven.

- a. The Holy Spirit came in power on the day of Pentecost upon the 120 believers who constituted the first New Testament Church and gave the apostles power to preach to the people the Gospel of Christ in various languages of the people.

Acts 2:4

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:8

And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

Acts 1:8

8 But ye shall receive power; after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

- b. The Holy Spirit brings conviction of sin to the unbeliever, especially the sin of refusing to believe and trust in Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

John 16:8-9

8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

9 Of sin, because they believe not on me;

- c. The Holy Spirit enables a person to be born into the family of God—called the “New Birth.” The person who repents of their sins and receives the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour becomes a child of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.

John 3:3,5

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 1:11-13

11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

- d. The Holy Spirit dwells in the heart of every true believer. He is always there.

1 Corinthians 6:19

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

1 Corinthians 3:16

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

John 14:17

Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Romans 8:9

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

- e. The Holy Spirit is a person. We may grieve Him when we do wrong or refuse to put Christ first in our lives.

Ephesians 4:30

And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

- f. The Holy Spirit makes Christians conscious of Christ's presence with them.

John 15:26

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

- g. The Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth if we will yield ourselves to Him.

John 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

- h. The Holy Spirit will make a Christian to know God's will if he will do His will step by step as he knows it.

John 7:17

If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

- i. The Holy Spirit will teach us how to speak and pray according to the will of God.

1 Corinthians 2:13

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Romans 8:26

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

- j. The Holy Spirit will take the prayers of Christians and present them to the Father according to His will.

Romans 8:27

And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

- k. The Holy Spirit is our comforter in time of trouble. He makes the Christians have the peace and joy of the Lord even in the midst of sorrow and suffering and trials.

John 14:16-17

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

John 14:26-27

26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

- l. The Holy Spirit is not only Comforter and guide but He will give victory over sin if we will yield ourselves to Him and let Him take full charge of our lives.

Romans 8:2

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:4

That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8:13

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

- m. The Holy Spirit will bear fruit in our lives if we yield to Him.

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Chapter V

Man

1. Where did man come from? Who made man?

God made man a long time ago.

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 2:7

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 2:18

And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Genesis 2:21-23

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

2. How did God make man?

God made man out of the dust of the ground and then breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and he became a living soul.

Genesis 2:7

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 2:21-23

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

3. How many people did God make?

God made a man and called his name Adam. Then He made a woman and called her name Eve. They were husband and wife and then they had children born to them. And on down through the ages more and more people have been born into the world.

Genesis 1:27-28

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female reated he them.

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 5:1-4

1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

4 And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters:

4. Why did God make man?

God wanted people as companions, to love and to be loved, and to share His joy and glory.

Genesis 1:26

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Genesis 3:8

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

Hebrews 2:10

For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

5. Where did God put Adam and Eve when He made them?

God put them in a beautiful garden called the "Garden of Eden," with beautiful flowers and many kinds of fruit trees. And God walked and talked with them.

Genesis 2:8-15

8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

11 The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;

12 And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

13 And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

6. Where was the garden of Eden?

The garden of Eden is thought to have been in Mesopotamia. The river Euphrates flowed through it.

Genesis 2:14

And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

7. Why did Adam and Eve not remain in the Garden of Eden?

Because Adam and Eve sinned and separated themselves from God.

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

8. When did man first sin?

Adam and Eve, in the Garden of Eden, disobeyed God who had told them not to eat the fruit of the tree of “good and evil,” because if they ate it they would surely die.

Genesis 3:6

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

9. Why did they disobey God?

Because the devil, in the form of a serpent, came to them and persuaded them to eat the fruit. He told Eve that God did not want them to be wise and to know good and evil (God never wants people to know evil); so Eve listened to the devil and ate the fruit and gave it to Adam and he ate also.

James 1:14-15

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Genesis 3:1-6

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

10. Then what did God do?

God came into the beautiful garden and called Adam. Adam and Eve had hidden themselves because they knew they had sinned and so they were afraid of God.

Genesis 3:8-9

8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

11. Did they die as God had told them they would?

Yes. Their souls died immediately, which meant the soul was separated from God, the source of life. The soul did not cease to exist, however, their bodies also had the sentence of death, which brought about physical death in due time.

Ephesians 2:1

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Ephesians 2:5

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved:)

Romans 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Hebrews 9:27

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

2 Corinthians 5:14

For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

12. What is meant by death?

Death is separation from life. It does not mean annihilation. God is the source of life, and so man became separated from God by sin. When the body dies it still is present though it has no life. It may gradually be changed into dust or ashes but it does not cease to exist.

Revelations 20:12

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Matthew 8:22

But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.

Romans 14:9

For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

2 Corinthians 5:14

For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

Ephesians 2:1

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Ephesians 2:5

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved:)

Col 2:13

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

1 Timothy 5:6

But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

13. How did God punish man?

Since man disobeyed God, he must not be allowed to eat the fruit of the “Tree of Life” which was in the Garden of Eden and so continue to live in sin with no hope of redemption from sin.... So

1. God drove him out of the beautiful garden and pronounced a curse upon the ground, which would henceforth bring forth briers and thorns.
2. Adam must henceforth work hard to make a living”in the sweat of his brow.” His work must be “hard work,” and not the pleasant work of tending the beautiful garden that he had before he sinned.
3. The woman must bring forth children with pain.
4. The serpent and people would henceforth be enemies.

All this punishment was given in love for the man and for man’s good to bring him back to God.

Genesis 3:16-19

16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Genesis 3:23-24

23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

14. Have man’s descendants continued in sin?

Yes. Man changed his allegiance from God to the devil, therefore, children when they are born are already in the devil’s kingdom and naturally sin.

Romans 5:12

Therefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Romans 5:18-19

18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19 For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

15. When sin had covered the earth, what punishment did the world receive?

What has been the experience of mankind ever since and will be throughout eternity? Sin always brings punishment.

- a. God used the flood to destroy the whole world except Noah, “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.” So Noah, his wife, his sons and their wives were saved (eight people).

Genesis 6:7-8

7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping

thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Genesis 6:12

12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

Genesis 7:1

1 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

- b. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by fire and brimstone from heaven because of their wickedness. (Homosexuality, etc.) Only righteous Lot and his two daughters escaped.

Genesis 18:20

20 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

Genesis 19:4-5

4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

Genesis 19:24

24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

2 Peter 2:7

7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

- c. In the end of the world God will use fire to destroy the world. Only those who have been saved by God's grace, have put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour will be spared.

2 Peter 3:10

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

2 Peter 3:14

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

- d. There is finally an eternity in hell for all who refuse to put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life before the foundation of the world will be saved.

Revelations 13:8

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Revelations 20:15

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Romans 6:23

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

16. Is there any hope for man since he has sinned?

Yes. In Genesis 3:15 we have God's first promise of a Redeemer who shall bruise the serpent's (devil's) head, and thus free man from the devil's power. And there are many other promises of redemption through Christ who paid the death penalty of sin.

Colossians 1:14

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

17. When was God's promise to Adam and Eve fulfilled?

It was fulfilled when Jesus paid the penalty of death for sin on the cross.

Hebrews 2:14

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

I John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

18. How did God make Adam and Eve know what was necessary in order to save them from sin and death.

God killed an animal, possibly a lamb or lambs, and took the skins and made clothes for Adam and Eve. This taught them that only by death, by the shedding of blood, could their sins be covered. The substitutionary death of the animals pointed to the God-man who would come into the world and die. Jesus Christ is the Lamb, the God-man.

Genesis 3:21

Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

John 1:29

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

19. Why should people wear clothes?

Because ever since sin came into the world it has been a shame to be naked. All through the Bible sin and nakedness have been associated together. God clothed Adam and Eve after they sinned. And all through the Bible, clothing and righteousness have been associated together.

Revelations 3:18

I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Genesis 3:11-21

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of

the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

Job 29:14

I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem.

Revelations 3:18

I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Psalms 104:1

Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

Isaiah 61:10

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

2 Corinthians 5:2-3

2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:

3 If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked.

20. Why was it necessary to kill an animal (possibly a lamb)? Why not just let Adam and Eve make clothes for themselves of leaves as they did after they sinned?

It is impossible for man to do anything to cover his own sins from the eyes of God. "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), and so there must be the substitutionary death of an innocent one (without sin) to pay that penalty, or else the sinner himself must pay it. Jesus shed His blood on the cross and gave His life so that if we will trust Him as our substitute then we may have eternal life—and not have to pay the death penalty for our sins. God supplies the substitute (sinless); we can only accept, we cannot make a covering for our sin ourselves.

1 Peter 1:18-19

18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

Leviticus 17:11

For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

Matthew 26:28

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Hebrews 9:22

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

I John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Romans 4:6-7

6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,

7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

21. Before man sinned, what was his relationship and position toward God?

Man was the creature. God was the Creator. God created man in a state of innocency. He had unbroken fellowship with God until he disobeyed and sinned by eating the forbidden fruit.

Genesis 3:8

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

22. How can man again regain his position before God that was lost by sin?

He can never regain that position—a condition of innocency before God. But he can obtain a far higher position and much closer relationship through the acceptance of Christ Jesus as Saviour. He then becomes a child of God by a new birth.

I John 3:1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

Romans 8:14

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Phillippians 2:15

That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Titus 3:7

That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Chapter VI

Satan

1. Who is Satan?

He has many names as given in the Bible, such as Satan, the devil, the serpent, the dragon, prince of this world, the wicked one, and many others.

Revelations 20:2

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Genesis 3:13

And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

Matthew 13:19

When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

Matthew 4:1

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

John 14:30

Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

James 4:7

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2. Where did the devil come from?

He is a created being—created by God as an angel, beautiful and of high position among the angels.

Ezekiel 28:13-15

13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Isaiah 14:12-17

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

3. How do we know this?

His original state and beauty and perfection and wisdom are told in Isaiah 14:12-17 and Ezekiel 28:12-17. Jesus saw him fall as lightning from heaven.

Isaiah 14:13-14

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

4. What was his nature?

He is very wicked—a liar, a murderer, a deceiver, and a rebeller against God.

1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Matthew 13:38

The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Ephesians 6:11

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

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

5. Is the devil alone in his evil work?

No. many angels sinned and fell with him and became his followers. These demons help him do his evil work.

Revelations 12:9

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Matthew 12:45

Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

Mark 1:26

And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

Mark 5:8

For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.

Mark 7:25

For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:

6. What relation has the devil with man?

The devil caused Adam and Eve to sin and disobey God in the Garden of Eden. Because of this, all people are born in sin and have an evil nature. Man at that time transferred his allegiance from God to the devil and so became subject to him and are called "children of the devil."

1 John 3:10

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

Genesis 3:6

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar; and the father of it.

Ephesians 2:3

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

7. Can we see the devil?

No, but we can see his works. We know he exists because the Bible tells about him. And we see exactly the things happening in the world that the Bible tells us is true of the devil.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Ephesians 5:11

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

8. How much power does the devil have?

He is not all-powerful like God nor is he all wise like God. He does have more power than people and he can bring sickness and all kinds of hardships and even death itself upon people—but only if God permits.

Hebrews 2:14

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Job 2:7

So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

Zechariah 3:1

And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

9. Why would God permit the devil to bring sorrow and suffering upon the people of the world?

God allows it only for their good. Suffering and hardship and sorrow will always bring a blessing to every person who will accept it from the Lord with submission, and find through it the lessons the Lord would teach us.

- a. For those who are not Christians, that they may realize that sin brings suffering and sorrow, and that they may realize their need of a Saviour from sin and a comforter in time of sorrow.
- b. For those who are Christians.
 1. Sometimes God uses suffering and sorrow as correction of His children for sins which they have committed. The Christian's punishment comes while he is in the world. Sin may need to be removed even as a surgeon cuts out the diseased part of the body.

Hebrews 12:11

Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

- c. Sometimes suffering and sorrow may come to a Christian that he may show forth to the world the patience and comfort and strength which the Lord gives at such times. They may lead others to accept the Lord, who can give such blessings even amidst suffering and sorrow.

2 Corinthians 12:7

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

2 Corinthians 12:9

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

- d. The sufferings of a Christian may be an entering into experiences of Christ, that he may share His glory.

Phillippians 1:29

For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

1 Corinthians 5:5-6

*To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.
6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?*

10. If the devil is so wicked, why do people follow him?

a. The devil deceives people:

1. He makes lying promises.

Genesis 3:5-6

*5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

2. He deceives by wresting the Scriptures.

Matthew 4:6

And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

3. By cunning plans.

2 Corinthians 11:14

And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

b. The devil blinds the minds of unbelievers.

2 Cor. 4:3-4

*3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

c. The devil tempts people.

Matthew 4:3

And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

1Thessalonians 3:5

For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

d. The devil works with power and signs and lying wonders.

II Thessalonians 2:9

Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

11. What will finally happen to the devil?

In the judgment day, he will be cast into the "lake of fire to suffer torment through all eternity.

Revelations 20:2

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Revelations 20:7

And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Revelations 20:10

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Chapter VII

Sin

1. What is sin?

Sin is rebellion against God, who is holy, just and righteous, and who created us.

1 John 3:4

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

2. Who is the author of sin?

The devil is the author of sin. He caused our first parents to sin and so sin passed to all mankind.

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Genesis 3:6

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

Psalms 51:5

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Matthew 15:19

For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

3. Who first sinned on earth?

Adam and Eve, the first man and woman whom God created.

Genesis 3:6

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

4. How did they sin?

They sinned by disobeying God and obeying the devil who is the enemy of God.

Genesis 2:16-17

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Genesis 3:4-5

- 4 *And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:*
5 *For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*

5. Have all the people of the world sinned?

Yes. There is not a person who ever lived in the world who did not sin, except Jesus Christ the Son of God, who became man and lived a sinless life.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

I John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

6. What is the result of sin?

Death is the result of sin. "The wages of sin is death."

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

James 1:15

Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

- a. Physical death came upon all mankind because of sin.

Genesis 3:17-19

17 *And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;*

18 *Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;*

19 *In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*

- b. Sin also brought suffering, sorrow, disease, pain, wars, and distress of every kind.

Genesis 3:17-19

17 *And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;*

18 *Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;*

19 *In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*

Genesis 3:16-19

16 *Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.*

17 *And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;*

18 *Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;*
19 *In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*

Galatians 5:19-21

19 *Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,*
20 *Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,*
21 *Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*

- c. Most important of all, sin brought spiritual death upon man's soul—a separation from God and from all that is good.

Romans 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

John 8:26

I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him.

7. What is the penalty of sin?

Death is both the result and the penalty of sin, followed by eternal punishment in hell for those who refuse the salvation offered by a loving God through Jesus Christ.

Revelations 21:8

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Revelations 20:15

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Mark 9:47

And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

Luke 16:23

And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

Luke 13:3

I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

Luke 13:5

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

8. Is murder the greatest sin?

No. Murder and all other sins are the outgrowth of unbelief in God and a refusal to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of our lives.

Mark 7:21-22

21 *For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,*

22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:

1 John 2:22

Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

9. What is the greatest sin?

The greatest sin is refusal to recognize, love and obey God who created us and who gives us all good things—and refusal to believe in (trust in) His Son Jesus Christ who died to save sinners.

John 3:18

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Matthew 22:37-39

37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38 This is the first and great commandment.

39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

John 3:36

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Romans 1:18-19

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

10. Why do people refuse to recognize and love and obey God?

Because when man sinned he transferred his allegiance from God to the devil, and so entered the devil's kingdom, and hence men belong to the devil who has made slaves of all men to carry on the devil's work

Romans 7:23

But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

11. Can man escape from the devil's kingdom?

He cannot escape. He must be delivered. No man is as strong as the devil, and so he cannot escape of himself. He must be rescued or delivered by someone outside of himself, who is stronger than the devil.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Ephesians 2:5

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved:)

2 Peter 1:3

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

12. Do people want to be delivered?

Most of them do not. They like it where they are, what they are doing, and do not wish to be disturbed.

John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 5:40

And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

Jeremiah 14:10

Thus saith the LORD unto this people, Thus have they loved to wander, they have not refrained their feet, therefore the LORD doth not accept them; he will now remember their iniquity, and visit their sins.

Romans 1:28

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Romans 1:32

Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Romans 3:11

There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

I John 5:19

And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

13. Why do people like sin and not wish to be delivered?

The devil has blinded their eyes and deceived them so they do not realize the seriousness of sin, nor will they believe that sin will permanently injure them.

2 Corinthians 4:4

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Ecclesiastes 8:11

Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

14. Have even babies sinned?

Babies are born with a sinful nature and naturally sin. But a child is not accountable to God for his sin until he understands that sin is wrong.

Psalms 51:5

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalms 58:3

The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

Job 14:4

Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.

Ephesians 2:3

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

15. Will babies go to hell if they die as babies?

No. Christ Jesus paid the death penalty for all sin. No one, neither babies nor anyone else, will go to hell for original sin (inherited sin). A person will go to hell because he does not accept Jesus Christ (who has paid the penalty of sin on the cross for all those who will believe) as his substitute, and trust Jesus to save him. A baby does not know how to do this and so will not be held accountable before God.

Romans 5:18

Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

16. How old must a child be before he must assume the responsibility for his sins before God?

There is no certain age. Some children reach that understanding earlier and some later. A very few children may understand by their seventh or eighth year. Most understand between the ages of nine and twelve, and very few may be later than twelve years, understanding that sin is sin. Possibly, a very few may at an earlier or later age. Those who have more teaching concerning what is right and wrong will usually understand earlier than those who receive no such teaching.

17. Is there a deliverer from sin?

Yes. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who died on the cross to pay the penalty of sin will deliver all who will put their trust in Him.

1 Peter 2:24

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

John 3:14-16

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

18. Just what does it mean to be delivered from sin and Satan?

Through trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, the person becomes a member of God's family. He enters God's kingdom, and his allegiance would then be to God, and he would no longer belong to the devil or be a slave to him.

John 1:12-13

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

19. Would the person sin any more?

Yes. He would sometimes fall into sin but he would not love sin. He would have a new nature implanted within him that would cause him to love God and holiness and to hate sin.

1 John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Galatians 6:15

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

20. Why should he sin if he has been delivered from sin?

He continues to have the old sinful nature also, which leads him to sin. Also the temptations of the world are about him and the devil uses many temptations to cause him to sin. The old sinful nature is not eradicated, but continues to fight against the new nature implanted by the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:17

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Romans 7:17-19

17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

James 4:1-4

1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

21. Then what is the difference before and after a person trusts in Christ, if he sins?

a. When a Christian sins:

1. He will be uncomfortable.

2. He will still remain a child of God, but will be a disobedient child and must be corrected by the Heavenly Father.

Hebrews 12:6

For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Revelations 3:19

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

3. He will lose from his heart the joy of fellowship with the Lord.

Psalms 51:3

For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

Psalms 51:12

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

4. If he confesses his sin to the Father, God will forgive him and restore the joy of his salvation.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

5. He will suffer the natural consequences of his sin here on earth.

Galatians 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

6. He will lose his reward in heaven but will not lose heaven itself.

1 Corinthians 3:13-15

13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built hereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Revelations 3:19

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

B. When a non-Christian sins:

1. He may be uncomfortable if he has had good teaching, but often he is quiet at peace with himself, and may hardly realize that he has sinned.

Romans 2:15

Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

2. He may receive some punishment for his sin while in this world, or he may not; but he will certainly receive eternal punishment in hell through all eternity if he does not come to Christ with repentant heart and trust Christ as his personal Saviour.

Hebrews 12:8

But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Revelation 20:15

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

22. Is it wise to “take a chance” that God will not punish those who reject His Son?

No. Since God, by the sacrifice of His only Begotten Son, has made provision for the salvation of everyone who will believe, He must both in justice and in love, punish all who will not believe and reject His Son. God has given very clear warning to all who reject His Son.

John 3:18

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:36

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 6:40

And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

23. Is there anyone in the world who does not need the salvation which God has provided for those who will believe and who will come to Him in repentance and faith?

No one.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 3:10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

24. Is there anyone whose sin is so great that God will not save him if he comes to Him?

No. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, all kind of sinners. So if anyone will believe and will come to God in repentance and faith, he will be saved.

John 6:37

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

Revelations 22:17

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Chapter VIII

Salvation

1. What is meant by salvation?

Salvation means deliverance.

2. When Christians talk of salvation what is meant?

It means deliverance from sin, and includes deliverance from the penalty of sin (death and hell), and from the power of sin (the power of the devil).

John 10:28

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

I John 5:4

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Matthew 1:21

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

3. Who can deliver from sin?

The Lord Jesus and no one else.

Luke 5:21-24

21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?

22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts?

23 Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk?

24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.

Ephesians 1:17

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

Acts 4:12

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

4. How does one obtain salvation?

By trusting and relying upon the Lord Jesus Christ who shed His blood on the cross to pay the penalty of sin.

Acts 16:31

And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

I John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

5. Why does one need salvation?

Because every person is a sinner by nature and by choice and under the sentence of death.

Psalms 53:2

God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God.

Psalms 58:3

The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 3:10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

6. Can a person save himself?

No. The devil is more powerful than man. And the devil would not let a man escape.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Romans 5:6

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Ephesians 2:1-5

1 *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*

2 *Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*

3 *Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.*

4 *But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,*

5 *Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved:)*

7. Why can Jesus deliver from sin?

The Lord Jesus Christ is God and is more powerful than the devil. The Lord Jesus will deliver all who will repent and put their trust in Him.

1 Peter 2:24

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Galatians 1:4

Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

8. How does Jesus save?

Jesus died upon the cross to pay the penalty for the sin of everyone who puts their trust in Him. If a person accepts the Lord Jesus as his substitute, then he is no longer under the sentence of death (spiritual), and so is no longer under the devil's power.

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Romans 6:18

Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Romans 6:22

But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

9. Why was it necessary for Jesus to die in order to bring deliverance to man?

Because every person in the world is a condemned sinner and the death penalty must be paid.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 3:10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

10. How could Jesus' death on the cross save lost sinners?

Either man, who is a sinner, must pay the death penalty or there must be found a sinless substitute to pay it for him. Since every man in the world is a sinner and condemned for his sin, there could be no other plan to save man except for God to become man and pay the death penalty for man's sin. He must also be God in order that His death could pay the penalty for the sin of His people—and He must be God in order to be sinless.

Perhaps an illustration may help us to understand better. Suppose a person had committed a crime against a government of a country and had been sentenced to die. Someone who love this criminal came and offered to die in his place. Three things would be necessary to his freedom.

- a. That the judge who sentenced him must be willing to accept a substitute. (God is willing.)
- b. A substitute who himself had committed no crime must be willing to die in his stead (Jesus Christ, the sinless One, did die in our stead if we will believe) and;
- c. The condemned criminal must accept the sinless One as his substitute in order that he himself might go free—otherwise he himself must die for his own crime. (So a person must accept or reject the Lord Jesus who died upon the cross, as his substitute, or he himself must pay the death penalty.)

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

11. Since God is love why could God not forgive man's sin without the death penalty being paid?

God is love. But God is also a just and righteous God so sin must be punished. That punishment is death (as God had warned man before he sinned). Since man had sinned that punishment must be paid by man, therefore, Jesus must come into the world and become man and live a sinless life. If one person's sin could be excused without punishment, then all sin must likewise be excused otherwise, God would not be just. And if sin carried no punishment, then there could be no moral law in the universe. Sin must be punished.

Romans 3:26

To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hebrews 2:16-18

16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.

17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

12. Why could people not be saved by being good—by keeping God's law?

No person is good. No person in the world can keep the law perfectly. And if the law be broken in one point then he is guilty of all. He is a sinner for the law is broken.

James 2:10

For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

Romans 3:20

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:10-12

10 *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*

11 *There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.*

12 *They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Isaiah 53:6

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

13. If no one can keep the law (God's commandments), then why was the law given?

The law was given to make man understand his sin. If there were no commandments for one to do right, people would not know how sinful they were. The law is our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ who can save. The law is a mirror that shows man how sinful he is.

Romans 3:20

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Galatians 2:16

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Galatians 3:21-24

Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

22 *But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.*

23 *But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.*

24 *Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*

14. Will people who have never heard the gospel be lost?

According to the teachings of the Bible, no person can be saved through ignorance. If one could be saved without Christ's death on the cross, then all could be saved in like manner and there would have been no need for Christ to die.

Acts 4:12

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Ezekiel 3:18

When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

Ezekiel 33:8

When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

15. Is God unjust to send a person to hell because he has never heard the gospel?

God is just, a righteous and merciful God. It is man's sin that condemns him to hell.

Romans 1:20

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Romans 2:12

For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

16. Will the punishment be the same for all sinners?

No. Christ said, "To whom much is given, of him shall much be required." Those who have heard the Gospel often and had many opportunities of accepting the Lord Jesus Christ but who have refused, will receive greater punishment than those who have not had such opportunities.

Luke 12:48

But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

17. Will all who believe in one true and living God be saved?

No . Only those who come through His Son, Jesus Christ, will be saved.

John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:36

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 10:9

I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

18. Mohammedans, Jews, and many so called Christians believe in God but claim that Jesus was only a man—a prophet, or a great and good man whose teachings are good. Will such belief save them?

Not according to the Bible. Jesus Himself said, "no man cometh to the Father but by me."

John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Acts 4:12

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

2 Peter 2:1

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

II John 1:7

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

19. Will all who call themselves Christians be saved?

No. Only those who have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation are saved. Jesus, Himself, warned of false professors, even of some who have preached and done many wonderful works in His name, whom the Lord says are not His.

Matthew 7:22-23

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

2 Timothy 4:3

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

Titus 1:11

Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

20. If man cannot save himself, then from whom does this salvation come?

It is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Galatians 2:16

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

21. Can a man do anything to get this salvation?

No. Man is a helpless condemned sinner before God. Salvation from start to finish is by the grace of God. All man can do is accept or reject the wonderful salvation which God has provided for all who will believe.

Jonah 2:9

But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.

Isaiah 64:6

But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as

filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

John 6:44

No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Galatians 2:16

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

22. Why are some people more wicked than others if all are sinners and belong to the devil by nature?

- a. The devil is very wise. If people think they are good and upright like God's real children (those who have truly been born again), then they will not realize their need of deliverance from sin and the devil, and the devil can use them better. He can keep them from accepting God's salvation by telling them they are God's children already (because God created them), and that God will not punish them in hell. In that way, the devil can deceive and blind many from trusting the Lord for salvation.

Proverbs 14:12;16:25

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2 Corinthians 4:4

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

- b. Some people just willfully give themselves over to do all kinds of wickedness.

Romans 1:28

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

- c. Some have had Christian teaching even though they themselves have not trusted the Lord Jesus as personal Saviour. These may not do as wickedly as others who have had no such teaching. But still they are not saved by Christian teaching—only by a personal experience with Jesus Christ Himself.

Romans 9:8

That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

John 3:6

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Ephesians 2:3

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

23. Are those who are baptized, sprinkled, and join a church saved?

No. Only those who really trust the Lord and His shed blood are saved. Neither baptism, sprinkling, nor church membership can save one.

Ephesians 1:7

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

I John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

24. Then does a person who is saved need to be baptized and join a New Testament church?

These are not necessary for salvation but for obedience. The Lord commanded the saved person to be scripturally baptized and He Himself established His Church for those who belong to Him. If we love Him we will keep His commandments.

I John 5:3

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

I John 3:10

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

I John 3:24

And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

John 14:15

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

25. Will all who are saved go to heaven when they die?

Yes. But some will have greater reward for service. Some will have much greater joy in fellowship and communion with God than others who have not loved and served Him so well while on earth. The better acquainted with the Lord we are here on the earth, the greater joy and happiness it will be to be with Him in heaven.

1 Corinthians 3:11

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:15

If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Phillippians 1:6

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

John 10:28

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

1 Peter 1:5

Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

26. What are some of the blessings that come to one who has salvation in Christ?

- a. They have become the “**children of God,**” and may call Him “**Father.**”

John 1:12-13

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Romans 8:14-16

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

- b. They have a new nature so that they will hate sin and love righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Romans 7:22

For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

- c. They have joy and peace in their hearts no matter what the outward circumstances may be.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

- d. They have the Holy Spirit in their hearts who will keep them so that they will never perish, but have everlasting life.

Ephesians 1:13

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- e. They have comfort and guidance of the Holy Spirit in this world and a sure home in heaven when they die.

John 14:26

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Chapter IX

Children of God

1. Is God the Father of all men?

God is the creator of all men, and in that sense He is sometimes called the Father of the human race. Creation means ownership but not necessarily Fatherhood in a personal sense.

2. Is God still the owner of all men?

God is the rightful owner, but when our first parents, Adam and Eve, rebelled against God by disobeying Him, they transferred their allegiance to the devil. And so, all people from that time on have belonged to the devil by inheritance and then by choice.

Ephesians 2:3

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Romans 9:8

That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

3. Then who are the children of God?

Only those who have believed and put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, are God's children. Jesus said to the Pharisees, the religious leaders of His day, "**Ye are of your father, the devil.**"

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar; and the father of it.

Although people rightfully belong to God because of creation, they have willfully joined the devil's kingdom.

An illustration may be used of a person who is a citizen of one country ruled by a great king and good king. The person may refuse to obey his king and willfully go over to another nation that is at war with his own country. Then as he lives in that country under control of a wicked ruler, his children and grandchildren and on down are born under the rule of that evil ruler, who is the enemy of the good king of the original country. All people in the world belong to the devil's kingdom from the time they are born, because Adam and Eve disobeyed God and transferred their allegiance to the devil, the enemy of God.

Such people are called the children of Satan. Because by natural birth they belong under his rule, and continue to obey him.

Romans 8:9

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

4. Then why do many people talk about "The Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man" meaning that all the people of the world are God's children and that all are brothers?

Because they fail to comprehend man's present position and condition before God is that of a sinner in rebellion against God, and under the sentence of death. They fail to understand that people become children of God by a new birth, which is the work of the Holy Spirit in the heart of one who believes and trusts Jesus as his personal Saviour. Only those who are thus **"born of the Spirit"** have a right to call God **"Father"**. And only those who have become children of God by this new birth are really **"brothers"** in Christ.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 3:6

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Romans 8:9

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Romans 9:8

That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

Ephesians 2:3

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

I John 3:10

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

I John 5:12

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

5. Why did Jesus say, "Ye must be born again?"

Because the only way any person can become a child is by **"birth."** Our physical makes us children of our earthly parents, and only by a spiritual birth can we become children of God. Children must be born into a family to be real children.

John 3:3

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 3:5-6

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

John 1:12-13

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

6. How may a person be born again?

This is the work of the Holy Spirit. It cannot be done by man's efforts. The Holy Spirit must bring conviction of sin to the heart of the person, and lead him to put his trust in the Lord for salvation. The Holy Spirit operates in the person's heart and implants a new nature therein.

We cannot understand it, nor just how it is done. We must accept it. The new nature transforms the person's life and enables him to hate

sin and to love God. The Holy Spirit Himself then takes up His abode in the person's heart and bears witness with man's spirit that he is now a "son of God" and may cry "Abba, Father." He has been born again and has become a "child of God."

Romans 8:14

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Romans 8:16

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 3:3

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Galatians 4:6

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

7. Then if one is born again and becomes a child of God, will he continue to sin?

Yes. He will sin oftentimes even though he is a child of God. But he will hate sin. He continues to live in a sinful world and is surrounded with its temptations. His own sinful nature will lead him to sin.

A pig likes to wallow in the mud but a sheep does not. He may fall into sin just as a sheep may fall into mud, but he will be miserable until he comes back to Christ for cleansing.

I John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

I John 1:10

If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Romans 8:12

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

8. Was the old sinful nature eradicated when he trusted Christ as Saviour?

No. The Holy Spirit implanted a new nature within, but the person still has the old inherited sinful nature which always fights against the new nature. But the Holy Spirit within the child of God enables him to have power to overcome the old sinful nature—if the person will just allow the Holy Spirit to control his life.

Romans 7:24-25

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Romans 7:18

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

I John 2:1

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ

the righteous:

9. Then if a child of God sins will he cease being a child of God?

No. He will just be a disobedient child of God. No person can unborn himself. It is impossible to break the relationship even as it is impossible to break the human relationship between parent and child.

Hebrews 12:6-8

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

10. Then a child of God may sin all he pleases and still remain a child of God?

If he has been born into God's family, the Holy Spirit gives him a new nature which causes him to hate sin and to love God and righteousness. If he pleases to sin, it is a very good proof that he is not a child of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

Romans 7:22

For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

11. Does God punish His children when they sin?

Yes. Sin always brings punishment. God's children receive the punishment for their sins in this world.

Hebrews 12:6-8

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Also, if God's children sin, they lose the joy of their salvation. Example of David when he sinned—he prayed to God to restore “the joy of his salvation.”

Psalms 51:12

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

12. Is there no punishment after death for God's children who sin?

Though he will go to heaven when he dies, yet his reward will be less and he may go empty-handed and stand before the Lord.

1 Corinthians 3:14-15

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 John 2:28

And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

13. Will children of Christian parents naturally belong to God from the time they are born?

No. Their children are born into the world—into the devil's kingdom, just as every child has been born since Adam and Eve disobeyed God and obeyed the devil. They must trust the Lord as individuals and make a committal themselves.

The parents cannot act for the child nor can the church act for him—and the child will naturally choose to sin. It is the duty of Christian parents to teach their children about God, explain the plan of salvation to them, pray for them and if possible lead them to put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour.

Romans 9:8

That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

Those who “**believe in Jesus**” become the children of God, and so a child which cannot understand, or which has not trusted in the Lord Jesus, cannot naturally belong to God.

However, a child that has not yet reached years of accountability to God, will not be lost whether his parents are Christians or not. No person is lost because of original or inherited sin.

Romans 5:18

Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

14. What should be our attitude toward God for His marvelous grace?

There should be joyful obedience to His every command.

- a. We should examine ourselves to make sure that we have really trusted Christ as our Saviour, and that we have His Spirit within which leads us to cry “**Abba, Father.**” Does His Spirit bear witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.

Galatians 4:6

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Romans 8:16

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

- b. We should rejoice that our names have been written in the Lamb's Book of Life in heaven before the foundation of the world.

Luke 10:20

Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Revelations 13:8

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the

foundation of the world.

Revelations 21:27

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

15. How may one know that he is a child of God?

There are several ways in which one may know this glorious fact.

- a. There is a new disposition— a disposition to love God more intensely. This is the new nature.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- b. There is new love toward fellow Christians.

1 John 3:14

We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

- c. There is the witness of the Spirit of God in our hearts.

Romans 8:16

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

16. What are some of the blessings that belong in a special way to the child of God?

- a. He has the forgiveness of sins.

Ephesians 1:7

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

- b. He has love, joy, and peace in his heart.

Matthew 11:28

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

- c. He has God as Father and Jesus Christ as his Elder brother.

Hebrews 2:11

For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

Hebrews 2:17

Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to

Romans 8:29

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

1 John 3:1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth

us not, because it knew him not.

- d. He has become heir of God and has inheritance with the saints.

Romans 8:17

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

- e. He has the Holy Spirit to comfort, to guide, and to take his prayers and make them known to the Father according to the will of God.

Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

- f. He has the assurance that when he confesses his sins to the Father, he will receive forgiveness.

I John. 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- g. He has the assurance of a home in heaven when he dies, and the companionship of Jesus throughout eternity.

John 14:2-3

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

- h. He has the assurance of a bodily resurrection when the Lord comes back for His own.

I Thessalonians 4:16-17

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, With the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be With the Lord.

- i. He has the assurance of victory as he stands with his Captain in the warfare against Satan.

Ephesians 6:13

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

17. What is the difference between Adam and Eve, before they sinned, and a Christian who has been born again and now is a child of God?

The Christian's position is much higher.

- a. Adam and Eve belonged to God by CREATION.

Genesis 2:7

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

- b. A Christian belongs to God:

1. By CREATION.

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2. By REDEMPTION.

I Corinthians 6:19-20

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

3. By BIRTH.

John 1:13

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

I John 3:2

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Chapter X

The New Testament Church

1. What is a New Testament Church?

A New Testament Church is an organized group of Scriptural baptized believers, a called out assembly, equal, in rank and privileges, administering its own affairs under the head ship of Jesus.

2. Who founded the New Testament Church?

Jesus Himself

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

3. When was the New Testament Church established?

During the earthly ministry of Jesus on earth. After praying all night, Jesus called His disciples together and from them He chose twelve, named them apostles, and, set them first in His Church. This was when the New Testament Church came into existence.

Luke 6:12-16

12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

13 And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;

14 Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew,

15 Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes,

16 And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.

I Corinthians 12:28

And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly -teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

4. What proof is there that the New Testament Church was established before the Day of Pentecost?

There are many Bible facts that prove that there was a church in existence before the Day of Pentecost. Some of them are as follows:

- a. They had the Gospel before Pentecost.

Mark 1:1

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

- b. They had a commission to preach before Pentecost.

Matthew 10:5-7

5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans, enter ye not:

6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

7 *And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

- c. They had the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and they were given to His Church before Pentecost.

Matthew 16:18-19

18 *And I say also unto thee, That t thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build, my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

19 *And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound" in heaven: and whatsoever , thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*

- d. They had authority to baptize before Pentecost.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 *And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

19 *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

20 *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

- e. They had baptized believers before Pentecost.

Matthew 3:5-6

5 *Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,*

6 *And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.*

John 4:1

1 *When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John,*

- f. They had an ordained ministry before Pentecost.

Mark 3:14

And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

- g. They had a church roll of 120 members before Pentecost.

Acts 1:15

And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples,, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty

- h. About 3000 were added to this church roll on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 2:41

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

- i. They had the Commission before Pentecost.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 *And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

19 *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

20 *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

- j. They had a prayer meeting before Pentecost.

Acts 1:13-15

13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room~ where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James.

14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty

- k. They had a church business meeting before Pentecost.

Acts 1:23-26

23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

24 And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,

25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

- l. They had, a church treasurer before Pentecost (Judas Iscariot).

John 13:29

For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto, him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor.

- m. They observed the Lord's Supper before the day of Pentecost.

Matthew 26:26-30

26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many -for the remission of sins.

29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom

30 And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

- n. Jesus sang in His church before Pentecost.

Psalms 22:22

I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

Hebrews 2:12

Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

The only time that Jesus ever sang is recorded in Matthew 26:30. This was when He instituted the Lord's Supper.

Matthew 26:30

And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

The two ordinances of a New Testament Church—Baptism and the Lord's Supper—were being practiced under the authority of the Lord Himself who is the Head of the church. These ordinances must, of necessity, have been given to a permanent organization since they were to be observed "to the end of the world" (Baptism) (Matthew 28:20), and "Till I Come" (Lord's Supper) (ICorinthians II:26).

The church is the only permanent organization that could fulfill these conditions (Matthew 16:18). Hence the church must have been in existence when the Supper was instituted and the Great Commission given.

5. From whence cometh the authority for the faith and practice of a New Testament Church?

The New Testament is the sole and sufficient rule of faith and practice.

6. Do we find church doctrine in the Old Testament?

No. The church is a New Testament institution founded by Jesus Himself after He came to earth.

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

7. Were any people saved before the coming of Christ into the world?

Yes. But there was no church. Many people were saved in the Old Testament days.

8. How were the saints of Old Testament days saved?

They were saved the same way people are saved today—by the blood of Jesus Christ (not by any church). They looked forward to His death just as we look backward to His death.

They needed the sacrifice of animals (which “could never take away -sin” to make them understand that there could be no remission of sin without the shedding of blood. Jesus became the Lamb of God fulfilling and doing away with all animal sacrifices for sin.

Hebrews 10:4

For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Hebrews 9:22

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Galatians 2:16

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

9. Can a person be saved without belonging to church?

Yes. Every person who trusts in the Lord receives forgiveness of sins, is born again. And therefore, he belongs to the family of God and has eternal life. The thief on the cross was saved but he was not baptized nor did he ever belong to a church.

Luke 23:42-43

42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:18

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

10. If a person can be a Christian without belonging to a church, then why join a church?

Because the Lord commanded it. If a person is a real Christian, he will want to please the Lord.

- a. The Lord established the church for His followers that they might together worship and have fellowship and be mutually strengthened.

Matthew 18:20

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

- b. Through baptism and church membership, one proclaims to the world his allegiance to Christ.

Matthew 10:32-33

32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

- c. As baptism and the Lord's Supper are church ordinances, and commanded by our Lord for those who believe in Him, we should obey His commands. He said, "if ye love me, ye will keep my commandments."

John 14:15

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Matthew 18:15-17

15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 8:38

Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

2 Timothy 2:12

If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:

11. Who may become a member of a church?

Anyone who trusts the Lord for remission of sins and then receives scriptural baptism from a New Testament Church.

Acts 2:41

“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there was added unto them about three thousand souls.”

Acts 8:34-40

34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

12. What are the ordinances of a New Testament Church?

Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

13. Which of these ordinances comes first?

According to the command of Jesus, and the practice of the churches in the New Testament days, baptism must always come first. In the Great Commission, the Lord commanded that:

1. Disciples should be made.
2. That they should be baptized
3. They should be taught to observe all things which He had commanded.

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Then the order must be first a Christian, then scriptural baptism to receive church membership, and then the Lord's Supper.

Acts 2:41-43

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

14. Is the order of the ordinances important?

Yes.

- a. No one has the authority to change the order that Jesus gave.

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

- b. His own disciples were baptized before they were given the Lord's Supper.

John 1:35-37

35 *Again the next day after John stood, and two of His disciples*

36 *And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!*

37 *And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.*

Luke 22:19-20

19 *And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.*

20 *Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.*

Acts 1:22

Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us his resurrection.

- c. Christ Himself was baptized at the beginning of His ministry but He did not institute the Lord's Supper until near the end.
- d. In every place in the New Testament, where a record is given, baptism follows immediately upon belief in Jesus. And if the Lord's Supper is mentioned at all, it always follows baptism.

Acts 2:41-42

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 8:12

But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 16:14-16

14 *And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.*

15 *And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.*

16 *And it came to pass, as we went to prayer,*

Acts 18:8

8 *And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.*

15. What is the purpose of the church?

- a. The Lord established His church to carry out His work upon the earth. Individuals would fail—would die, and there would be no guarantee that His work and Word would be preserved and carried out. There must be a permanent organization—the church.
- b. The church serves as a home on earth for the children of God when they meet and fellowship and worship together. The love for each other is a testimony to the world.

1 Corinthians 12:12

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:26-27

26 *And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.*
27 *Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.*

- c. They can unite their strength in the church and do many things that it would be impossible for one person to do alone.

Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

- d. The church is the custodian of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. It is the responsibility of the church to keep these ordinances pure according to the direction of Jesus, the Head of the church, that the Gospel meaning may not be lost and that the church will not lose its candlestick (Cease to be a New Testament church).

Romans 6:3

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

1 Corinthians 11:23-27

23 *For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:*

24 *And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.*

25 *After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.*

26 *For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.*

27 *Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.*

Revelations 2:5

Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

16. What is the relationship of Christ to the New Testament Church?

- a. Christ is both the founder and foundation of the church.

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

- b. The New Testament Church is the body of Christ. He is the Head.

Ephesians 1:22-23

22 *And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,*

23 *Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*

Ephesians 5:23

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

- c. The New Testament Church is the bride, Christ the Bridegroom

Revelations 21:9-10

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

- d. Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it.

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

17. How many churches are there?

There are many local New Testament churches. As an institution, Christ established only one church. As people became Christians in various cities through the preaching of the apostles, many churches were established. Though alike in doctrine and practice, they were never called "The Church," nor were they considered "branches," but were separate individual churches.

1 Corinthians 16:1

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

1 Corinthians 16:19

The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

Acts 15:41

And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

Acts 9:31

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Galatians 1:2

And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

Galatians 1:22

And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:

18. Is there any teaching in the New Testament that would indicate that all churches should be in one organization?

No. The New Testament churches were separate local organizations, each managing its own affairs—sometimes with ADVICE from an older church, but not under its authority. Jesus is the Head of each church and each church is responsible to Him.

We know that this is true because each church was responsible for the discipline of its own members.

II Thessalonians 3:6

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

1 Corinthians 5:12-13

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

Ephesians 5:23

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

19. Does Jesus' prayer in John 17, that His followers "should be one", mean that they should be all in one church organization?

No. This prayer is for spiritual unity and has no reference to temporal organizations or a union (when there isn't unity of belief) of people whose beliefs may be quite different or of groups of any kind.

The disciples so understood it for they did not establish BRANCHES of the church...but rather established "churches." See question 17.

John 17:21

That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

20. What responsibility have church members toward their own church?

Since the Lord established the churches for the benefit of those who have trusted Him for salvation, and obeyed Him in scriptural baptism that they might have a spiritual fellowship as they carry on His work on the earth, each member should be happy to work for the Lord through His church.

- a. He should attend church services.

Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

- b. He should help in the various activities of the church.

Acts 6:2-3

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

- c. He should support the church financially according to his ability. The Lord's plan is one tenth of each person's income, as his tithe, and in addition there should be "offerings."

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

- d. He should be active in winning others to Christ.

John 15:16

16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Chapter XI

New Testament Baptism

1. What is Christian (or Scriptural) Baptism?

Scriptural baptism is the first ordinance of a New Testament Church. It is the immersion in water of a person who has already accepted the Lord Jesus as personal Saviour; and is administered upon the authority of a local New Testament Baptist church.

Colossians 2:12

Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

John 3:23

And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.

Acts 8:38

And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

Romans 6:4-5

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

1 Peter 3:21

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

2. Who ought to be baptized?

All who have been really born again of the Holy Spirit should be baptized. We, thus “put on Christ” (Galatians 3:27), and confess Him before the world.

Galatians 3:27

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Matthew 10:32-33

32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 16:15-16

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

3. How is baptism performed?

Baptism is performed by the immersion in water of the believer's entire body, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and the Holy Spirit—upon the authority of a local New Testament Baptist Church, which He established to carry on His work.

Acts 8:35-39

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

Acts 8:38-39

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 1:9-10

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

4. Who should decide who should be baptized?

Since baptism is a church ordinance, the local New Testament church makes the decision whether or not to receive the candidate for baptism. This is usually done by someone making a motion to receive the candidate for baptism, then a seconding, and show of raised hands from the church members.

Since it is the responsibility of the church to withdraw fellowship from the “brother that walketh disorderly” (IIThess 3:6), it must be the responsibility of the church to receive in the first place.

Romans 14:1

Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations.

1 Corinthians 5:12-13

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

5. How do we know that baptism is a church ordinance?

The command to baptize as given by Jesus in His great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) carried with it a promise that He would be with those who obeyed His Command “unto the end of the world.” Only a permanent institution, the local New Testament church which Jesus established, could carry on to the end of the world. The church, as custodian, must guard both the form and the meaning of this ordinance in accordance with Jesus’ own example and command.

Romans 14:11

Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations.

1Corinthians:12-13

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

Matthew 3:13-17

13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.

14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

15 And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like ad Dove, and lighting upon him:

17 And a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

6. Who may do the baptizing?

Since baptism is a church ordinance, then a qualified person (one who Has been ordained) and authorized by the church into whose membership the candidate is to be received should do the do the baptizing. The pastor of the church in most cases does the baptizing, but if he cannot for some reason or another, then a deacon of the church may do the baptizing.

7. May a person baptize himself or find someone outside to baptize him?

No. Jesus walked a long way from Galilee to Jordan to be baptized by John the Baptist who had been sent of God Himself to baptize. This shows the importance of having the right person to do the baptizing. Jesus Christ Himself is the Head of a New Testament church and through His direction the church should authorize both the receiving of a candidate for baptism and the performing of the ceremony itself.

Mark 1:9

And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

John 1:33

And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Ephesians 1:22-23

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

8. Does baptism save or help to save a person from his sins?

No Baptism is only a picture. It is done in obedience to the Lord’s command. Only the blood of Christ can save and cleanse from all sin.

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Ephesians 1:7

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Colossians 1:14

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Hebrews 9:22

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission

9. Since baptism does not save nor help save a person from their sins, why should we be baptized?

If a person has really been born again into the family of God, he will want to obey the Lord's command and, thus declare to the world that he belongs to Christ and that become a member of a New Testament church.

Galatians 3:27

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Acts 10:48

And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

Acts 2:41

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

10. What is the meaning of baptism?

- a. Baptism portrays the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. And also that the believer has trusted Christ as his substitute and has, therefore, died to sin, been buried with Christ, and has been raised a new creature in Christ to live for Him.
- b. It also is a prophecy of the bodily resurrection of the Christian, when Christ comes to earth again
- c. It is a confession before the world—putting on of Christ, as a uniform, showing that we belong to him.
- d. It is following the example of Jesus and is done in obedience to His command to all who have trusted Him for salvation.

Romans 6:4-5

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

11. Can a person be saved and not be baptized?

Yes, but if he is really saved he will want to be baptized. When it can be carried out in form and meaning, baptism is necessary for obedience, though not for salvation. Jesus said "If a man love Me, he will keep My commandments." If one is not willing to obey Christ, he should examine himself to know if he has really trusted Christ as Saviour and Lord.

John 14:15

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

12. If a person has not really trusted Christ, will baptism help him?

It will not help him. And it may hinder him from being saved at all because he may think that he is already saved because he has been baptized.

I John 5:12

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:36

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

13. Can a person be saved after he has been baptized?

A person may be saved any time that he is convicted and repents of his sins and trusts the Lord for salvation. If he was not saved before he was baptized, then it was not real baptism. It had no meaning and was a false profession.

Acts 16:30-31

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

14. If a person is saved after he was baptized, should he be baptized again?

Yes. He should be baptized in obedience to the Lord's command, picturing his death to sin, his burial with Christ and his resurrection to a new life. The first time the baptism was no more than a falling into the water because it had no meaning.

Colossians 2:12

Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

15. When should a person be baptized?

There is no special day or season that is any better than any other for a believer to be baptized. In the New Testament records it seems that baptism took place immediately after conversion. There was certainly no waiting for a special day.

Acts 2:41

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 8:12

But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:35-39

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

Acts 9:18

And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

Acts 16:31

And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy

Acts 16:3

And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

16. If a person is sick and cannot be immersed, may he be baptized in some other way?

No. Any other way would not be real baptism. No person has the authority to change what Jesus Himself commanded. A sick person who cannot be immersed after he believes need not be baptized. The dying thief on the cross was not baptized.

Luke 23:43

And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

17. Can some other form be used instead of immersion if the person so desires?

No. Jesus Himself was immersed (all great commentators agree) and He gave the command that all should believe on Him should be immersed. The original meaning of the word used in the Greek language means to immerse.

Also, the meaning of baptism as death, burial, and resurrection would be entirely lost if something other than immersion was used.

Mark 1:9-10

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

Colossians 2:12

Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Isaiah 8:20

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Matthew 3:13

Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.

John 13:15

For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Acts 8:38

And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

18. Should babies be sprinkled (often called baptism)?

No. This should not be done. There is no authority in the Bible for “infant baptism.” Babies cannot believe and parents or sponsors cannot believe for them. The Bible requires personal faith in the Lord Jesus before baptism. In every recorded instance in the Bible, faith (belief) was a condition preceding it.

Acts 8:12

But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:37

And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Acts 10:46-47

46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

19. What harm is done by sprinkling babies (called baptism)?

- a. The baby does not need it. These that are incapable of faith are saved without faith through the death of the Saviour. No person is lost because of original sin. And, the baby has not committed willful sin nor rejected the salvation offered by Christ.

Romans 5:18

Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

- b. If the baby has been sprinkled (or dedicated when used as a ceremony), he grows up thinking that he is already a Christian and that he “belongs” to God. Therefore, he seldom realizes his need for repentance and faith in Christ

Romans 3:10-12

10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

- c. When a child has been sprinkled (or dedicated), parents and friends often lose their rightful anxiety for the salvation of the child when he reaches the years of accountability to God. They often consider him a Christian, and cease to pray for him, although he has never had a personal experience of salvation.
- d. Sprinkling babies is one of the devil’s best methods of hindering a person from becoming a real Christian by making him think that he is already one. Thus, every appeal made to a sinner to trust Christ will probably pass unheeded over his head.

Matthew 7:21

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 15:9

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

20. After a believer is baptized, then what should he do?

He should live a life of obedience to Christ, whose uniform he has put on, and “observe all things whatsoever I (the Lord) command.”

Colossians 3:1-3

1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 28:20

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

21. What constitutes valid baptism?

- a. A proper subject—a person who has been saved by the blood of Christ—born into the family of God.
- b. A proper mode—the immersion of the believer’s entire body into water.

Acts 8:38-39

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

- c. A proper administrator—a New Testament Baptist church. This is the only church that can be a proper administrator.

If any of these three are lacking, then it is not real baptism.

22. If a person has been saved and baptized in another denomination, or in a Baptist church that was not a New Testament church, should they be baptized again?

Yes. Christ established only one kind of church. To this church He gave the Great Commission. If a church is not a true New Testament church, then they have no authority to baptize.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Chapter XII

The Lord's Supper

1. What is the Lord's Supper?

The Lord's Supper is the second ordinance of a New Testament church, and it follows baptism and church membership. A church celebrates the Lord's Supper by its members eating the broken bread and drinking the cup ("fruit of the vine"), which represents the body and blood of Christ

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Matthew 26:26-29

26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

2. Where should the Lord's Supper be observed?

Since it is a church ordinance, it must be observed by the authority of a New Testament church and in a church meeting. No individual or a group of individuals has any authority to take it outside of a church meeting in which it has been authorized.

Acts 20

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

Acts 2:41-42

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

1 Corinthians 11:18

For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

1 Corinthians 11:20

When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper.

3. How do we know that the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper were given to churches and not individuals?

They must, of necessity, be given to a permanent organization that could and would preserve them "to the end of the world" (Matt.28:20—Baptism), and "till He come" (1Cor. 11:26—Lord's Supper).

4. Who should take the Lord's Supper?

Only those who have been saved, baptized, and are members of the local New Testament church, observing the Lord's Supper.

5. Why can't all Christians be invited to take the Lord's Supper?

As a church ordinance, the local church must take the responsibility to see that those who take it meet the conditions laid down by Jesus Himself. And, a church has no control over Christians or anyone else outside of its own membership.

1 Corinthians 5:11-13

11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

The church cannot shirk this responsibility any more than it can shirk the responsibility for deciding who shall be baptized into its membership. Both are church ordinances, and the church is custodian and therefore must preserve them as the Lord gave them.

1 Corinthians 11:17-20

17 Now in this that I declare unto you I praise you not, that ye come together not for the better, but for the worse.

18 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

19 For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

20 When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper.

1 Corinthians 11:23-30

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

1 Corinthians 5:11-13

11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

6. What reasons can a church give for not inviting all Christians to partake of the Lord's Supper together?

The church does not know concerning the experience and walk of others outside of its own membership.

- a. Some may not have had a real experience of conversion—repentance and faith in Jesus—and so would not be able to comprehend the real meaning of the broken bread, and the cup as representing the shed blood and broken body of the Lord.
- b. Some may not have been baptized according to the teachings of the New Testament (immersion of the entire body in water by the authority of a local New Testament church), which according to command and practice always precedes taking the Lord's Supper.
- c. There may be division of doctrine among Christians, hence they cannot eat the Lord's Supper together.

1 Corinthians 11:18-20

18 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

19 For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

20 When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper.

- d. The church must, if it is true to its Head—the Lord Jesus, be faithful to carry out conditions laid down by the Lord as Head of the Church.

7. Is a church narrow and bigoted when it does not invite other Christians to partake of the Lord's Supper with it?

No. It is just obeying the command of its Head, the Lord Jesus, who gave specific instructions about its observance. The church should be very humble as it seek implicitly to obey its Head, rather than to seek the favor of men.

When Christ instituted the Lord's Supper, He did not invite all His believers, (Only the apostles who were then charter members of the church which He founded). Even His own mother was not present.

Matthew 15:3

But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

Mark 7:7-13

7 Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

9 And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:

11 But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.

12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;

13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

8. What is the purpose of the Lord's Supper?

It is to be observed in REMEMBRANCE OF THE LORD'S DEATH as a PICTURE of His death on the cross, His broken body and shed blood. It shows the plan of salvation.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Luke 22:19

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

9. Is the bread and the fruit of the vine (grape juice) changed into the actual body and blood of Christ?

No. Jesus used this expression “this is my body,” and “this is my blood” in the same way that He said “I am the door” and “I am the way.”

Matt 26:26-28

26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Luke 22:19

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

John 10:9

I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

10. What benefits are derived from observing the Lord's Supper?

The benefits are in the heart of the one who partakes of these emblems as he remembers that they represent Christ's death on the cross for him.

His love for Christ should thus be increased as he contemplates the Lord's marvelous grace. One who does not thus discern the Lord's body, not only receives no benefit but he even brings damnation upon himself.

1 Cor 11:29

For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

11. Was the exhortation “let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup” (1Cor.11:28) given to every person in the world to be his own judge as to whether he should take of the Lord's Supper? Or was it given to members of a specific church?

This is an exhortation that was given to those who were already members of the church at Corinth, and certainly did not do away with the restrictions as to who could properly take the Lord's Supper.

1 Cor 5:7

Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

1 Cor 5:11-13

11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

1 Cor 11:18

For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

1 Corinthians 11:27

Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

12. What are the restrictions on observance of the Lord's Supper?

Paul, who received his instructions from the Lord Himself (I Cor. 11:23), has recorded quite a number of limitations as to who should take it, and where.

- a. Be observed in the church.

1 Corinthians 11:18

For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

- b. Only members of the local New Testament Church.

1 Corinthians 11:18-20

18 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

19 For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

20 When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper.

- c. Discernment of the Lord's broken body and shed blood.

1 Corinthians 11:27-30

27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

- d. Remembrance of the Lord's death.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

13. How often should the Lord's Supper be taken?

There is no definite teaching concerning this in the New Testament, but only the exhortation "As oft as ye take it, ye do show forth the Lord's death till He come."

It should not be taken so often that it becomes routine without special meaning—nor so often that it becomes too familiar and without reverence in observance, or considered as a means of grace itself. It should not be taken so seldom that the members fail to recognize its significance and glorious meaning.

Some churches observe it once each month, some once each quarter, some once or twice a year. It is the responsibility of each church to decide in accordance with its circumstances, and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

There are specific instructions in the New Testament as to how, but not as to how often the Supper should be observed.

Some churches call a special meeting of the church—perhaps on Sunday evening, or some other evening, for the purpose of observing the Lord's Supper, when it can be done reverently and unhurriedly and without other hindrances or interruptions.

14. What elements are used in the observance of the Lord's Supper?

When Jesus instituted the Supper, He evidently used the Passover bread which was always unleavened bread; He spoke of "the cup" and

called it the “fruit of the vine.”

Luke 22:19-20

19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

15. Who should administer the Lord’s Supper?

The Lord placed the ordinance of the Lord’s Supper in His Church. Therefore, only a Scriptural local New Testament Church is authorized to administer the Lord’s Supper.

Chapter XIII

Prayer

1. What is prayer?

Prayer is communion with God, talking to God, listening to God, basking in His presence.

2. Who can pray?

All people can pray if they so desire.

3. How can people who are not Christians pray?

They can ask God to save them from their sins. The publican prayed, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

Luke 18:13

And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

4. Can people who are not Christians rightly call God "Father?"

No. He is God, but not their Father. He is the Father of believers only.

Romans 9:8

That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 8:41

Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Ephesians 2:3

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

5. To whom may Christians pray?

To God, their Father, in the name of Christ Jesus, and for His glory.

John 16:23

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

John 14:14

If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Matthew 6:9

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

6. When should Christians pray?

- a. The heart of the Christian should always be in tune with the Lord, so that it may be lifted up in prayer at any and all times. Paul admonishes to “Pray without ceasing.”

1Thessalonians 5:17

Pray without ceasing.

- b. There should also be special times set apart for prayer, preferably in the early morning and again before retiring in the evening.

7. Where should we pray?

- a. At all times and in all places, we may pray in our hearts.
- b. There should be prayer in secret and in a place undisturbed, and the person alone.

Matthew 6:6

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

- c. Public prayer in churches or places of group meetings should be offered.

Matthew 11:25

At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

Luke 3:21

Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

John 11:41-42

41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

42 And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

8. How long should prayers be?

Personal prayer alone with God may be as long as the individual desires to spend with God.

Public prayers in general should be short and very definite.

Matthew 6:7

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Matthew 23:14

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

9. What bodily posture is necessary for prayer?

We may pray standing, or kneeling, or on one's face before God, or even while walking around. Prayer is from the heart and must be in spirit and truth. The kneeling position is considered one of reverence and humility and conducive to consecration of mind and heart in prayer.

Acts 9:40

But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

Genesis 24:26

And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the LORD.

Exodus 12:27

That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD's passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.

Numbers 20:6

And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them.

Matthew 26:39

And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

10. What words must be used in praying?

As a child comes to his father, so may we come to our heavenly Father and talk with Him freely. We must come with REVERENCE and SINCERITY however.

Matthew 23:14

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 10:19

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

1 Peter 3:12

For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

11. What is the nature of prayer?

- a. Praise.

Luke 11:2

And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

- b. Thanksgiving.

1Thessalonians 5:18

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Phillippians 4:6-7

*6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

- c. Confession of sin.

Proverbs 28:13

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

- d. Petition.

Luke 11:9

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

John 14:13

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Ephesians 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

1 John 5:14

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

- e. Communion.

Hebrews 10:22

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

- f. Intercession.

1 Timothy 2:1

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

12. Does God answer all prayer?

No. God hears all prayers of His children but He may not grant all prayers. As a wise Father He may say no. He said “No” to the apostle Paul when he asked that the thorn in the flesh be removed. But He answered the apostle Paul’s prayer. He said “No” to Moses who was not allowed to enter the Promise Land.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

13. Why may prayers not be answered?

- a. They may be selfish prayers—for selfish pleasure or advantage.
- b. The person who is praying may have unconfessed, unforgiven sin in his heart which has separated him from fellowship with God.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Psalms 66:18

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

- c. The person may have refused or neglected to do what he has known to be God's will about some other matter.

Isaiah 1:15

And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

John 7:17

If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

Jeremiah 11:11

Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon them, which they shall not be able to escape; and though they shall cry unto me, I will not hearken unto them.

- d. The Lord may have something better to give.

2 Corinthians 12:9

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

14. What are the conditions for successful praying?

- a. Humility and sincerity and contrition for sin.

2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

- b. Whole-heartedness.

Jeremiah 29:13

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

c. Faith.

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

d. Righteousness.

James 5:16

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

e. Obedience.

I John 3:22

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

f. Abiding in Christ—prayers for whatever will glorify the Lord and advance His kingdom.

John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

g. According to the will of God.

I John 5:14

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15. How may we know for what to pray?

a. The Holy Spirit will lead.

If the Christian is willing for the Lord's will to be done, the Holy Spirit will guide him, for He takes our prayers and makes them known to the Father according to His will.

Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

b. The Model prayer (disciples prayer) is a pattern.

From this prayer we know that first we pray for the Lord's glory before praying for our own needs. All must be done with submission to the Lord's will.

Matthew 6:9-11

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

16. Why should we pray?

I. God commands it.

- a. Ask...Seek ...Knock

Matthew 7:7

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

- b. Enter not into temptation.

Matthew 26:41

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

- c. Ye ought always to pray.

Luke 18:1

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

- d. That your joy may be full.

John 16:24

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

- e. Pray in the Spirit—for all saints.

Ephesians 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Phillippians 4:6

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Colossians 4:2

Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

- f. Pray for the sick

James 5:13

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

II. God gives many promises for those who pray.

Isaiah 65:24

And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Psalms 91:15-16

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Luke 11:9

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Ephesians 3:20

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto

Chapter XIV

The Lord's Day

1. What is the fourth of the Ten Commandments?

“Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy” Exodus 20:8

2. Which day of the seven has God given as a day of rest?

Until the resurrection of Christ for the weekly day of rest, God named the seventh day, commemorating His work of creation during six days and rest on the seventh.

Genesis 2:2-3

2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Exodus 20:11

For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

3. What change has been made in the day of rest?

After the resurrection, under the guidance of the apostles and led by the Holy Spirit, the day of rest was changed to the first day of the week. It was sanctioned by Jesus who appeared twice after His resurrection to the disciples who had met on that day.

John 20:19

Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

John 20:26

And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you

4. Why was the change made?

The change was made to commemorate the resurrection of the Lord, who rose from the dead on the first day of the week. The seventh day, the first Sabbath after Christ was crucified, was a day of sorrow and gloom. The first day brought gladness and hope to the discouraged disciples.

Matthew 28:5-6

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Mark 16:2-6

2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?

4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.

5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.

6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.

Luke 24:1-6

1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead

6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee

5. What should our attitude be as we keep the Lord's Day (the first day of the week)?

The Lord's Day is to be a day of joy and worship and fellowship with the Risen Lord. Observing the Sabbath under the Law meant duty, fear, and severity.

Exodus 31:14

Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Revelations 1:10

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

Leviticus 26:2

Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.

Deuteronomy 5:12

Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.

6. Does the New Testament say that the day of rest was changed to the first day of the week?

Not specifically but we see the churches observing the first day of the week after the resurrection of Christ. The New Testament speaks of religious services on the first day of the week as the custom spread throughout the world.

Acts 20:7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when

I come.

Revelations 1:10

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

7. Should people now keep the Lord's Day as a day of rest?

Yes. The Lord's Day is primarily for rest and worship. The Lord's Day is holy and we ought not to engage in our customary occupations and recreations on that day.

Christ came not to destroy the Law, but to fulfill it. The other of the Ten Commandments (murder, adultery, theft, etc.) were not destroyed under the New Testament dispensation, but Christ having fulfilled the law, the Commandments were put on a higher level and extended to include not only the outward observance, but also the attitude of the heart.

Likewise, the command to keep a day of rest and worship was not abrogated, but was raised to a higher level—commemorating not the finishing of the creation of the world, but the completion of the redemption of man and the beginning in of a new hope in Christ of which His resurrection on the first day of the week was the proof.

One thing has become completely and inescapably clear as we study the teachings of the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Sabbath day and The Lord's day are different days and commemorate different events! The Sabbath is the last day of the week and commemorates God's rest after the toil of the week of creation; The Lord's Day is the first day of the week and commemorates the Resurrection of our Lord. Here we must be very plain and very definite. For the Christian, a born again believer in Christ, the sabbath has ceased to exist. No where in the New Testament are we commanded to keep the sabbath! The other Ten Commandments are mentioned in the New Testament but not the fourth commandment.

Also, there is no evidence in the New Testament that the rules and regulations which govern the Sabbath were ever transferred by divine authority to the Lord's Day. The Sabbath is not a Christian institution, the Lord's Day is! On the first day of the week as we assemble to worship the Lord in a New Testament Church, we commemorate the greatest event in history, THE RESURRECTION OF OUR BLESSED LORD!

Matthew 5:17

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Exodus 31:15-16

15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

8. What part of the Lord's Day should be kept?

All of it, from midnight on Saturday until midnight on Sunday. The whole twenty four hours is the Lord's Day. The Lord has given us six days in which to carry on our regular work but one full day each week belongs to Him in a special way.

9. Should people who are not Christians also observe the Lord's Day?

Yes. The resurrection of the Lord proved that He is the Son of God, and as such He has the right to the allegiance of all people on the earth. Also, it has been proved by many experiments that the physical body needs that day of rest and change in order to be able to carry on

efficiently.

10. What special meaning has the observance of the Lord's Day for Christians?

It should be a day of joyful worship to our Lord who died for our sins and rose again and is now on the right hand of God making intercession for those who trust Him. It is also a reminder of the rest that the Christian looks forward to sharing in the world to come

Hebrews 4:9

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

11. What relation does the Lord's Day have to the ordinances of the New Testament churches?

Baptism is a picture of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord. The Lord's Supper is a memorial to His death until He comes again. The Lord's Day (the first day of the week) Sunday) is a memorial to His resurrection, the basis for the hope of all Christians after death.

12. Then how should the Lord's Day be kept?

It should be kept by attending services in a New Testament Church, by resting, by doing good deeds of helpfulness, by much prayer and meditation and Bible study, by making it a special day of joy and fellowship in the Lord.

13. What proportion of our time belongs to the Lord? Have we any right to use God's time for our own pleasure?

Christians should recognize that all of our time, and all our money belongs to God. We are stewards. God has promised great blessings upon those who honor His special right to one tenth of our money and one seventh of our time.

Isaiah 58:13

If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

Malachi 3:8-10

8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Chapter XV

Tithing

1. What is meant by tithing?

Tithing is the principle of giving back to God one tenth of our income.

2. Why should one tithe?

All we have comes from God, and it is God who gives us the strength to work. We should recognize God's ownership. It is something like paying rent to the owner of the building in which we live.

Since God created the world and all things therein, everything belongs to Him. He allows us to use it, but we should recognize His ownership by giving back at least one tenth of our income.

1 Chronicles 29:14

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

1 Timothy 6:17

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

3. Who pays the tithe?

Every person should recognize God's ownership of all possessions and God's goodness in giving strength to work.

Deuteronomy 8:18

But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

4. What additional reason has the Christian for tithing?

The Christian should recognize God's ownership not only because of creation and daily sustenance, but also because he has been brought by the precious blood of Christ.

1 Corinthians 6:20

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

5. How much should every Christian give to the Lord?

Every Christian should give more than a tithe. In addition to the tithe, which every person "owes" to God, the Christian should make offerings according as the Lord has prospered him.

1 Corinthians 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

2 Corinthians 8:9

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

6. Is the giving of the tithe an Old Testament teaching that is not binding upon the Christian today?

It is both an Old Testament teaching and a New Testament teaching and the principle remains the same throughout all time.

Luke 11:42

But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

7. Where is the tithe mentioned in the Bible?

The tithe was first mentioned in Gen.14:20 when Abraham gave tithes to Melchizedek. In Leviticus 17:30 we are told "All the tithe is the Lord's," and also in many other places it is mentioned. This principle is taught throughout the Bible.

Malachi 3:8-10

8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Matthew 23:23

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

8. Did Jesus Himself teach that people should tithe?

Yes. In Luke 11:42 Jesus definitely taught that people should tithe. Also, at least sixteen of the thirty eight parables that Jesus taught deal with the right and wrong use of money.

Luke 11:42

But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

9. Are people too poor to tithe?

No. God promises to give blessings to all who will tithe. A Christian cannot afford not to tithe.

Hag 1:9

Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.

Proverbs 3:9-10

9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

*6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.
7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*

10 Is a person covetous who does not tithe?

Yes. We are stewards for God. He is the owner and has furnished all the capital.

Luke 12:15

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

1 Timothy 6:17-18

*17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;
18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;*

11. Are only rich people covetous?

No. Poor people may be just as covetous as the rich. It is the love of money, and not the money itself that causes the trouble.

1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

12. Are all rich people covetous?

No. Many rich people recognize God's ownership of all they possess. Therefore, they give tithes and large offerings to the Lord. Abraham did. Perhaps that may be one reason why they are rich. God has blessed them abundantly because they have put Him first in their lives.

Proverbs 11:24

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

13. Can a person be rich without tithing?

God allows some to get wealth which they may enjoy for a season, but not permanently. If a person is a Christian, then "the deceitfulness of riches...choke the Word and it becomes unfruitful." Mark 4:19

If a person is not a real Christian, it may be that his punishment will not come until the next world, as the case of the "rich man and Lazarus" about whom Jesus told in Lk. 16:19-31, and also in the parable of the rich man as given in Luke 12:15-21.

Luke 16:19-31

*19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:
20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,
21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.
22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;
23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.*

24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame
 25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.
 26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.
 27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:
 28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.
 29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.
 30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.
 31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Luke 12:15-21

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.
 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:
 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?
 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.
 20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?
 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

14. What about Christians who do not tithe?

They lose many of the joys of Christ and often become covetous and bring upon themselves many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Hag 1:6

Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

15. Are there any special promises in the Bible to those who tithe?

Yes. There are both warnings and promises.

Malachi 3:8-10

8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.
 9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.
 10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Proverbs 11:24

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

Proverbs 3:9

Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

Proverbs 28:27

He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

Ecclesiastes 5:13

There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt.

Hag 1:6

Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes

Luke 12:15

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

16. Has anyone ever proven God's promise as given in Malachi 3:10 to be true?

Many people have proven it to be true from their own personal experience, and have received much joy from doing so. "God loveth a cheerful giver." II Corinthians 9:7.

Chapter XVI

Security of the Believer

1. Is it true “once saved, always saved?”

Yes. Our great concern is that it is not a false profession. Have you really been born again? If you have truly been born into God’s family, then there is no possible way that you can dissolve that relationship—that spiritual relationship, just as there is no possible way a person can dissolve the physical relationship of his earthly family.

John 10:28

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

2. How may we know that if we are really saved we can never be lost?

God’s Word says that he who believes in Christ has everlasting life (now) and will never perish.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:36

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

3. What is meant by everlasting life?

It means forever and forever he has life, it cannot be lost.

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

4. Why can eternal life not be lost?

a. Because God is true and He has promised that He will keep all who come unto Him and not one will be lost.

1 Peter 1:5

Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

John 17:12

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled

John 6:39

And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

- b. Jesus says "I know my sheep," and "My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27). We are not His sheep until we have been redeemed and given a new nature that hates sin.
- c. Jesus said that no man can pluck His sheep out of His hand, nor out of His Father's hand.

Neither the devil nor the person himself can unclasp the hand of God that is holding the hand of every child of His. We might turn loose if we are holding on to Him by our own strength, but He is holding us and will never turn loose. Just as an earthly father may hold the hand of his little child, so that if it stumbles or tries to pull away, the father's hand holds it firmly. The child's safety depends upon the strength of the hand holding it.

Can we doubt our safety in Christ? No.

John 10:28-29

*28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.
29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.*

- d. The Holy Spirit dwells in the heart of every believer and is God's seal of ownership of His people.

I John 4:13

Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

Ephesians 1:13

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

- e. When a person is born into the family of God, he cannot unborn himself.

Romans 8:35

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Romans 8:38-39

*38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

5. But the person may commit sin, then what?

He will be chastened by the Father, for God treats him as a disobedient child who must be corrected.

Hebrews 12:7

If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

6. But suppose he quits believing?

If he has ever believed, he will not quit believing in Christ for he has the Holy Spirit within him.

I Jn 5:18

We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

He may deny Christ (as Peter did) He may grievously sin and be a very disobedient child, but he still remains a child of God.

He may grieve the Holy Spirit who lives in his heart and refuse to let the Holy Spirit guide him, but the Holy Spirit remains in his heart—as in a corner—because the person has filled his heart with sin and worldliness.

An illustration; A disobedient child in the home who grieves his parents with his wickedness and worldliness, remains a child of his parents just the same. He may deny relationship, but the relationship is there and can't be changed.

7. But a child can leave its parents and they may never see him again. Is that true of the child of God?

No. No person can go beyond God's protection. Because the earthly parent is limited in knowledge and sight, his child may be lost from him and he may never see him again. But God's eyes follow every child of His, and His Spirit travels in his heart always, so he cannot go beyond the Father's loving care.

1 Pet 3:12

12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

1 Pet 5:7

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

8. Then if a Christian sins, he will not go to hell when he dies?

If he is a real Christian, a born again" one, he will not. If he did go to hell, he would still be a child of God in hell, which is unthinkable. Also, the Holy Spirit would be there with him, for the Holy Spirit is God's seal upon the Christian proving God's ownership, for a seal proves ownership. The devil cannot take God's child out of God's hand.

2 Cor 1:21

21 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;

Eph 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

Eph 4:30

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

2 Tim 2:19

19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

9. Then why do so many Christians grow cold and indifferent? And sometimes those who were at one time warm-hearted Christians later leave the church and deny being a Christian?

There may be one or more of several reasons for this.

A. He may never have been a real Christian—"A born again" one.
Yes, he may have been sincere, thinking that he was a Christian.

- a. Perhaps he was “dedicated” as a baby and then taught to think himself a Christian. But no act of parents, or preacher, or church can make a person into a child of God. Only at the time of PERSONAL belief in Christ, the Holy Spirit brings about the new birth.

John 1:12-13

*12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

- b. Perhaps he thought that being baptized and joining a church made him a Christian. This is wrong. He must have a personal experience of repentance for sin and faith in Jesus. Neither baptism nor church membership can save. Only the blood of Christ cleanses from sin.

1 Peter 1:18-19

*18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*

I John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

- c. In some other way he may have been deceived into believing that he was a real Christian. Yet his sincerity could not save him.

Paul was SINCERE and thought he was serving God when he was persecuting and killing the Christians, before he himself saw Christ on the road to Damascus.

A person may sincerely travel a wrong road to some city, but that will not bring him to that city.

A person may drink poison that will kill, while SINCERELY thinking it to be medicine that will heal.

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death..

- d. If a person was ever a REAL Christian—a “born Again” one, then he may just be a disobedient child of God. If so, he will suffer in one way or another, being corrected by His Father above until he returns to the Lord. He may suffer severely even as the one spoken of in I Corinthians 5:5-“to deliver such a one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Peter 2:9

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished;

10. Then a Christian, a child of God, will be punished if he sins, but he does not lose his salvation?

That is true. His punishment will come in this world. And if he can go on sinning and not suffer for it, that is proof that he is not God’s child. God says, “But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.” Heb.12:8.

If a person is not a REAL Christian, he may continue to sin and possibly go through life without visible punishment. But if he does not repent and turn to Christ, his punishment will be in hell after death through all eternity, because he refused to accept God’s gift of salvation in Christ

Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

11. If a Christian is sure he will not lose his salvation, would that encourage him to sin?

It certainly would not encourage him to sin. How can he want to sin when he has a new nature which hates sin? He would desire to serve God from love and would fear to displease his heavenly Father.

- a. He belongs to the family of God, has been born of the Spirit and has a new nature which hates sin and loves righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

- b. He loves God His Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ his Saviour.

1 John 4:19

“We love him, because he first loved us.”

- c. If he sins he will lose the joy of his salvation. We have an example of David and his prayer to the Lord.

Psalms 51:12

“Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.”

- d. If a child of God sins and refuses to serve God, he will lose his reward in heaven and will stand before His Father.

1 John 2:28

“And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”

- e. Sin always brings suffering. Even a Christian who sins must suffer the natural consequences of his sins here on earth. He may repent and be forgiven, yet there will remain certain suffering.

An illustration may be given of a child whose parents forbade him to touch a hot stove. The child may disobey and put his hand on the hot stove. It will be painful. The parent may forgive the child's disobedience, but the pain remains and there will be a scar after the pain is gone.

So it is with a child of God who sins. He may repent and be forgiven of the Father, but the pain and the scar remain.

12. What other proof is there that a “born again” person can't be lost?

- a. The names of the children of God are written in heaven—in the Lamb's Book of Life

Luke 10:20

“Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.”

Philippians 4:3

“And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me

Revelations 20:15

“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

- b. God knows which children are His.

2 Timothy 2:19

"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

John 10:14

"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."

- c. God has promised to keep, and His promises are true.

1 John 2:25

"And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life."

- d. God is willing to keep.

John 6:39-40

39 *"And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.*

40 *And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."*

- e. Christ is able to keep.

Jude 1:24

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,"

2 Timothy 1:12

"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

13. What effect should this assurance of eternal salvation have upon a Christian?

- a. He should praise the Lord as Paul did..

2 Timothy 1:12

"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

- b. There should be a complete and joyous surrender to the Lord, to love and serve Him forever.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

19 *"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*

20 *For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."*