

QUESTIONS

FROM THE

BIBLE

BY CHARLES WILLIS

QUESTIONS FROM THE BIBLE

1. Who is God? What is truth?
2. By what authority do you do these things?
3. Why do you call me Lord, Lord and do not what I say?
4. Is Christ divided?
5. What must I do to be saved?
6. How often shall I forgive?
7. What do people gain for all their hard work under the sun?
8. What will it profit a man?
9. Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye?
10. Surely not I, Lord?
11. What is your life?
12. What sort of people ought you to be?
13. What more are you doing than others?

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Who is God? What is truth?

Exodus 5:2; John 18:38

Who Is God?

1. List three to four concepts prevalent in our society about who God is.

2. Why do some adopt the attitude of Pharaoh: “who is the Lord that I should obey His voice”?

3. Use Scripture to answer Pharaoh’s two-part question.
 - A. Who is God:

 - B. That I should obey:

What Is Truth?

4. List three to four concepts prevalent in our society about what is truth.

5. Compare and contrast doctrine (Matt. 15:9; Eph. 4:14; Titus 1:9), tradition (Matt. 15:3; 1 Cor. 11:2), and truth (Ps. 119:160; John 1:14; 4:24; 8:32; 14:6; Rom. 1:25; 2 Tim. 2:15).

6. Many today question if the Bible is truth, or if it is a document created by men which is now full of errors. Give two to three reasons (proofs) demonstrating the Bible is the truth which we should accept as our authority.

By what authority do you do these things? Matthew 2:23

Jesus was in the Temple teaching. He had previously driven out the buyers and sellers and overturned the tables of the moneychangers, and those selling doves (Matt. 21:12-13). The religious establishment recognized how Jesus was changing things in regard to how worship at the Temple occurred. They recognized how His teaching opposed much of what the Pharisees taught and practiced. Yet the enemies of Christ knew there was a need for authority before anything could be accepted as truth. This is why they questioned Jesus.

1. Why would Jesus not tell them by what authority He did these things (Matt. 21:23-27)?
2. What would be the result of no authority in religion?

Many today struggle with the same concepts addressed in Matthew 21. For each of the following, provide scripture demonstrating whether or not it is a source of authority in religion today.

3. Oral Tradition
4. Family Religion
5. My Feelings
6. My Conscience
7. Everyone Believes It
8. The Bible

1. From Matthew 7:21-23 give two or three examples of how we can be guilty of practicing lawlessness.

2. What does Scripture say about offering lip service? (Matt. 15:8; Matt. 23:3; Titus 1:16)

3. How do some give answer to this question when they contend we are saved by faith only?

4. What do the following passages indicate about a changed life for the Christian?

A. Romans 12:2

B. Colossians 3:7-8

C. Hebrews 5:8-9

D. James 2:18-20

E. Revelation 3:15-16

Is Christ divided?

1 Corinthians 1:3

If we can agree who God is, and what is truth (lesson one), and we can agree on the authority of Jesus (lesson two), and agree that we need to obey what Jesus said (lesson three), then why are there so many churches? Why do we see such differences in beliefs and practices among those who call themselves Christians? Is Christ divided?

The underlying principles of this question are being asked by men today who are trying to come to a knowledge of the truth. Many struggle to obey God because they question which church they should attend. The better we can answer this question from Scripture, the more folks will come to understand God's will.

1. How was the church in Corinth divided (1 Cor. 1:10-17)? How does this resemble denominationalism today?
2. What was God's plan for the Church?
 - A. 1 Corinthians 1:10
 - B. Matthew 16:18
 - C. John 17:20-21
 - D. Ephesians 2:16; 4:4; 1 Corinthians 12:20; Romans 12:4-5; Ephesians 1:22-23
 - E. Galatians 1:8-9; Acts 20:26-27; Revelation 22:18-19
3. How do the following images indicate there is one church?
 - A. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
 - B. John 15:1-11
 - C. Ephesians 5:22-33
 - D. 1 Timothy 3:15
4. If "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace" (1 Cor. 14:33), where did all the confusion in "Christianity" come from?

What must I do to be saved?

Acts 16:30

Often in our efforts to understand truth and help others understand truth, we tend to begin with this question. It is hoped by examining the first four lessons in this workbook you can see the need to address some other principles first. Nevertheless, this question is often a motivating factor in why people are asking questions of us and of Scripture. There is a concern to be personally righteous before God.

One of the results of “Christ being divided” (as a reality of denominationalism) is that a “plan of salvation” is not agreed upon. Because Scripture is not the complete authority, men are divided on this question. We must return to and rely upon Scripture as our basis for understanding.

1. As a quick exercise, make a list of answers given to this question which serves to demonstrate how man has divided the church (i.e. make a list of the various plans of salvation promoted by men).

2. Make a list of how this question is answered in Scripture. Be prepared to discuss each answer and be able to explain the differences in the given answers.
 - A. Mark 10:17-21

 - B. Acts 16:30-34

 - C. Acts 2:37-42

 - D. Acts 22:10-16

3. For each of the following passages indicate how some promote a false doctrine, and indicate the true doctrine of Christ.
 - A. Romans 5:1-2

 - B. Ephesians 2:8

 - C. Romans 5:12-14

 - D. Romans 8:9-11

How often shall I forgive?

Matthew 18:21

In Matthew 18:21 the word “forgive” is translated from the Greek “aphiēmi” meaning “1) to send away 1d) to let go, give up a debt, forgive, to remit” (Thayer’s Greek Lexicon). From this simple definition we understand that when we forgive we “send away” the thoughts and feelings of hurt. We “let go” of those attitudes in favor of better ones toward the individual that sinned against us. Through forgiveness we are able to restore an offender to a former state of relationship.

1. How does Jesus answer the question in Matthew 18:22?
 - A. Matthew 18:35 (the full context is Matt. 18:23-35)
 - B. Luke 17:3-4
 - C. Romans 12:19-21
 - D. Matthew 6:12, 14-15
 - E. Matthew 7:12
3. What should be our attitude toward fellow Christians?
 - A. Colossians 3:13
 - B. Ephesians 4:32
 - C. Romans 14:19
 - D. How does failure in adopting these proper attitudes contribute to strife in the Lord’s Church?
4. Provide three examples of forgiveness in Scripture which we should learn from.

What advantage does man have for all his hard work under the sun?

Ecclesiastes 1:3

1. How does Solomon answer this question (Eccl. 1:1-15)? Be prepared to explain his answer.
2. Read the following two passages and answer the questions.
 - A. Ecclesiastes 2:18-26
 - > Why would a man despair over all his labor (2:20)?
 - > What conclusion does Solomon reach about work (2:24-26)?
 - B. Ecclesiastes 5:10-20
 - > What does Solomon say about the sleep of the working man (5:12)?
 - > What is the ultimate result of our work (5:15)?
 - > What then is the advantage of work (5:18-20)?
3. What do the following passages reveal about our work?
 - A. 1 Timothy 5:8
 - B. Ephesians 4:28
 - C. Romans 12:11
 - D. 2 Thessalonians 3:10; Proverbs 16:26
 - E. Proverbs 10:4-5
 - F. Proverbs 12:11
4. What attitudes about work does Scripture indicate we should possess and maintain? (give a summary)

What will it profit a man? Matthew 16:26

Understanding the Scriptural principles regarding work (lesson 7), we must consider our priorities. We must think about what is profitable to us, for that is what we will pursue in this life. The world seeks to gain the whole world. Power, fame, and wealth is the goal and “profit” which many seek. Yet if we lose our soul, then what is the real profit?

1. Why will many lose their soul in seeking to gain the whole world?
 - A. 1 Timothy 6:9-10, 17
 - B. Galatians 6:7-8
 - C. 1 John 2:15-17
2. List three things for which men are exchanging their soul. Try to give Scriptural evidence of these things.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
3. For what should we be seeking (Matthew 6:33)?
 - A. How does this relate to our work?
 - B. What attitude must we possess (Heb. 13:5; 1 Tim. 6:8; Phil. 4:11)?
4. What will be the end of all men (Ecclesiastes 12:7)?
 - A. What then should be our attitude (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)?
 - B. What should be our attitude about priorities?
 - > Matthew 13:45-46
 - > Mark 10:28-30

Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye?

Matthew 7:3-4

The ability to properly maintain relationships with fellow believers is difficult for many. It is a failing that can be frequently observed within congregations. It is necessary for every believer to be concerned about their brother's soul, but also for their own. These fundamental truths lead some to have a watchdog mentality that causes them to be a faultfinder. This is an improper attitude.

1. What was sinful in Matthew 7:3-5 about finding a speck in your brother's eye? (see Romans 2:1)
2. How does a faultfinder hurt himself?
3. How do we take a "log" out of our own eye?
 - A. 2 Corinthians 13:5
 - B. Acts 8:22
4. Who should be the one to help our brother with a speck in his eye? The one who is perfect? (see Galatians 6:1-5; Matthew 18:15-17)
5. What is a proper attitude brethren should possess toward one another?
 - A. Philippians 2:3
 - B. Philippians 2:14-15
 - C. Hebrews 12:14-15
 - D. Ephesians 4:29-32
 - E. Colossians 3:6-8
 - F. Philippians 4:2
 - G. Romans 14:19, Romans 12:18
 - H. 1 Peter 3:8-9

Surely not I, Lord?

Matthew 26:22

1. Be ready to discuss the context and meaning of this question (Matthew 26:20-25).
2. What does Scripture teach as necessary for the believer?
 - A. 2 Corinthians 13:5
 - B. Romans 12:3
 - C. James 1:22-25
 - D. 1 Corinthians 11:31
3. List three areas in which we need to examine ourselves about which we may be prone to say “surely not I, Lord.” Provide Scriptures that relate to each point.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
4. Provide two examples for each of the following about which many brethren struggle.
 - A. Sin of commission.
 - B. Sin of omission.

For what is your life? James 4:14 (King James)

1. Be prepared to discuss the given answer for this question (James 4:13-17).

2. What does Scripture say is the meaning of life?

A. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

B. 2 Corinthians 4:17 (context 4:16-18)

C. Matthew 6:33

D. Matthew 20:25-27

E. Philippians 3:7-11

F. Acts 17:28

G. Ephesians 2:10

H. Colossians 3:1-3

3. What is life not about?

A. Luke 12:15; 1 Timothy 6:17-19

B. Galatians 1:10; Matthew 6:1

C. Galatians 5:19-21

4. What results will manifest if we have rightly prioritized our life?

A. Philippians 4:6-7

B. Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:8

C. Titus 2:14

D. 1 Peter 1:8

What sort of people ought you to be?

2 Peter 3:11

1. Be prepared to discuss the question from the context in which it is found (2 Peter 3:10-15).
2. What other attributes should be seen in us as a follower of Christ? (*This is not a complete list. Feel free to add more.*)
 - A. 1 Corinthians 15:58
 - B. Colossians 4:2; Philippians 4:6
 - C. Matthew 7:2
 - D. Matthew 28:18-20
 - E. Ephesians 4:15-16
 - F. 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:7
 - G. 2 Corinthians 4:8-9
3. What consequences come from not being what we ought to be?
 - A. Romans 1:32
 - B. Matthew 5:16
 - C. Romans 14:13
 - D. 1 Peter 5:3; Hebrews 13:7
 - E. 1 Peter 3:16
 - F. 2 Timothy 1:5; Ephesians 6:4
 - G. John 13:35

What more are you doing than others? Matthew 5:47

1. Be prepared to discuss this question from the context (Matthew 5:43-48).
2. What is the problem with comparing ourselves to others or holding ourselves to a standard accepted by the world? (see 2 Corinthians 10:12)
3. How is Christ our standard?
 - A. 1 Peter 2:21
 - B. 1 Corinthians 11:1
 - C. Hebrews 12:1-3
4. For each of the given “acceptable standards” listed below, relate how we should be doing more than others.
 - A. You shall not kill. (Matthew 5:21-22; 1 John 3:15)
 - B. An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. (Matthew 5:39-42)
 - C. Drunkenness is wrong. (1 Thessalonians 5:22)
 - D. Take care of yourself and God will be pleased. (Philippians 2:4)
 - E. One church is as good as another. (Matthew 15:9-13)
 - F. I have been baptized into Christ and attend a faithful congregation. (Revelation 3:1-6)
 - G. I am walking in truth and pleasing God. (1 Thessalonians 4:1)
5. Give references demonstrating how we should be striving for excellence in our service to God.