## Biblical Questions and Answers John MacArthur

- I. Introduction.
- II. Why there is such controversy of doctrine if the church has the same Spirit: God granted the disciples a unique gift for the truth not every believer. Believers must divide the Scriptures rightly. Differences can be explained by several reasons. (John 16:13; I Corinthians 12:7, 13, II Timothy 2)
  - A. We are sinful and have limitations as a result.
  - B. People come to the Scriptures with different presuppositions.
  - C. People do not always work hard in study.
  - D. We disagree on things that do not have enough data to interpret.
  - E. We cannot fully know the mind of God.
- III. Guidelines for expressing concerns in the church: pastors are in place to deliver concerns to the elders.
- IV. The difference between Christians who float along and those who have dynamic ministries. Part of this has to do with the choice of God. Part of this has to do with commitment. (Romans 12:6, I Peter 4:10-11, Ephesians 5:18, I Corinthians 4, Colossians 3)
- V. Whether a true Christian can be involved in a war: God has instituted government to protect good people and punish bad people. A Christian can be drafted for war if the government is acting justly. (Romans 13)
- VI. Whether a pastor has the right to be in a pulpit after a divorce: he ceases to demonstrate the model for which Scripture calls. (I Timothy 3:2)
  - A. He must be a one-woman man.
  - B. He must rule over his own house.
- VII. Why God would create Satan knowing of sin and suffering that would come: this is too difficult to know for sure.
- VIII. Is it profitable for a woman to rebuke a man? There is a place for that--how else can God make man a helpmate? It is important to rebuke in a loving way. (Matthew 18)
- IX. What happens to babies aborted: fetuses have souls, and those children who are aborted will go straight to heaven.

- X. Female pastors: men are to have the authority but women have influence. God has built in balance to gender responsibilities. (I Timothy 2:11)
- XI. God loves the whole world, but He has a special love for His people. (Amos 3:2, John 10)
- XII. One will know whether to be a missionary by his or her heart's desire and the people God has put around one.
- XIII. Jehovah's witnesses are false prophets, but it is important to address each circumstance with them differently.

## **Application questions:**

1. What answer stood out/surprised you the most? Why?
2. Why is there so much diversity among Bible believing Christians? Explain.
3. What question would you have asked the speaker? Where can you find answers to your question?