

Bible Questions and Answers

John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

II. How can Christ be the eternal God and begotten by God? (Hebrews 2)

A. Christ was only born in his humanity (the Incarnation).

B. Christ is called the “begotten” also because he is the first to be born from the dead. (John 17)

III. How one can bind and loose (permit and forbid) something?

A. We can only do this in line with what is done in Scripture.

B. For instance, we cannot control Satan.

IV. Baptism now saves you (1 Peter 3:21)? Peter is talking about the purification of conscience (regeneration) not physical water.

V. Did God establish salvation on the basis of faith because we have a lack of faith? God did not do anything in salvation as a reaction. He did what most exalted him.

VI. Do we choose to be saved or does God choose us? The answer is both in Scripture.

VII. How can so many Spirit-filled men disagree.

A. No one person is the repository of all divine truth.

B. Men are limited by certain presuppositions.

C. Many good men do not dig deep enough.

D. Some texts are obscure and difficult to interpret.

VIII. It is okay for one friend to support the other in his or her schooling.

IX. The new wine and old wineskins is a way of talking about Jesus’ ministry under the New Covenant. He brought something new that could not be contained by the old system of works righteousness. (Luke 5:36-39; Matthew 9)

X. Does the prayer of Moses change the mind of God in Exodus 32?

A. No. God relates to us in human terms.

B. From the human viewpoint it appears that God is changing his mind.

XI. What does Paul mean when the Son is subjected to the Father (1 Corinthians 15:28)?

A. Christ is not eternally the Son—he became the Son in human terms.

B. The role of the Son is complete at the consummation.

C. Jesus will not lose his glorified body.

XII. When can Christians resist a persecuting government?

A. We are called to react spiritually not politically.

B. We need to accept the consequences of refusing action if we are called to do so. (Acts 4)

C. The only time we have a right to violate the laws of the land is when they violate the higher laws of God.

XIII. Do divorce laws in Deuteronomy 24 apply to today? Yes. We can know that Old Testament laws are retained if...

A. It is in the New Testament.

B. It reflects a moral issue.

C. It is bigger than Israel.

XIV. Did God die on the cross? We have to say yes because Jesus died on the cross and his humanity and deity cannot be separated.

XV. When is it okay for a Christian to tell a lie? Never. There may be situations where we do not need to tell everything that can be said.

XVI. How are Old Testament saints saved?

A. Through Christ.

B. The object of their faith was clarified, but their salvation was still by faith. (Hebrews 12)

XVII. How are Christians to view dreams and astrology?

A. Astrology is faulty.

B. God is not revealing things today in dreams as he did before since we have the Word of God. They are products of desires and anxieties.

XVIII. Blasphemy of the Spirit is attributing the works of the Spirit to Satan. It is a unique sin because it could only be produced when Christ was on the earth. They rejected Christ through the works of the Spirit.

XIX. How do you prove that the Bible is truth?

A. You cannot prove it—it is a matter of faith. But there is evidence.

B. Life change verifies it.

C. It explains Jesus.

- D. It is verified archaeologically.
- E. It explains miracles.
- F. It contains prophecies that have been fulfilled.

XX. How do we know Jesus rose?

- A. The grave was empty.
- B. There was five hundred witnesses.
- C. The apostles' lives were transformed.
- D. Jesus gave birth to the church.
- E. Jesus lives in our hearts.

XXI. What can women do even though they are prohibited from teaching (1 Timothy 2)?

- A. 1 Timothy 2 has to do with the order of the church.
- B. Church membership is so that people can be screened and approved for ministry and accountability.

XXII. What makes a good marriage is two good Christians.

- A. Marriage is first a commitment.
- B. Marriage then grows into love.

Application Questions:

1. Which question/answer did you find most helpful? Why?

2. Which question/answer did you disagree with? What Scripture would you use to support your position?

3. What other questions do you have? What are some good resources you can use to find your answers? What are some not so good resources?
