

## **THE BIBLE IS FULL OF QUESTIONS!**

**A retired USAF Colonel said: "There are many books with questions about the Bible, but the Bible is filled with its own questions." The King James Version has 3,326 questions! Answers to most of them are found in the Bible itself. Read these important Bible questions and answers.**



**"If a man  
dies, shall he  
live again?"**

**Job 14:14**

Death is not something we usually want to think about. Typically, the younger and healthier we are, the more we push death to the back of our minds. Unfortunately, when our health fails, we lose loved ones, or our current life situation seems hopeless, we must face the reality that life is short and hard. During these times, we want to know if there is something more than this life... whether or not there is something other than a rock with our name on it, fading over

time until we are completely forgotten. Such was the case as Job was suffering through some of the worst times a man can experience. After he lost his children, health, and wealth all in a single afternoon, he asked the same question that has been asked generation upon generation after him: "If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14) Job, although faithful to God, did not have the entire revelation of God's word as we do today. It was not until Jesus' arrival that mankind was able to understand the precious gift offered to us.

As Jesus died on the cross, was buried and resurrected, He made it possible that we too can experience a resurrection of life.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



# “Who Is My Neighbor?”

**Luke 10:29**

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus taught us how to love our neighbors. A lawyer asked “Who is my neighbor?” but Jesus chose to emphasize *being a good neighbor* instead. He wanted the lawyer to ask himself: “Am I a good neighbor?”

In Christ we will journey as far as it takes to find people who are hurting and show them compassion. Like the Messiah, we should “bind up the broken hearted.” We should do whatever it takes to care for others. Christians make good neighbors!

Jesus asked the lawyer this vital question: “Which of these *proved to be a neighbor* to the man who fell among robbers?” “The one who showed him mercy,” he responded. Jesus said, “You go, and do likewise.” Jesus explained: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40). No matter their race, nationality, or background we must view others as being made in the image of God and treat them in a neighborly way. In Christ we can do nothing less!

— John Kar, Jr, Minister  
Church of Christ, Providence, Rhode Island

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## “IF A MAN DIES ...?” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In 1 Corinthians 15:20-22 Paul taught the Christians: “In fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has also come the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ we are made alive.” What a beautiful thought! No matter how much pain and suffering we may have on earth, we have been promised a resurrection...but not a resurrection into another difficult life, but a life with no suffering, no decay and no death! Jesus said that we can begin right now to lay up our treasures in our new home, heaven (Matthew 6:20)! Years after Job asked his question, Jesus gave His people the answer to Job’s question. The answer is a resounding “Yes”!

— Jason Floyd  
Bennington, Vermont

A hand in a white sleeve is dropping a gold coin into a clear glass jar. The jar is filled with many gold coins and has a small green plant with two leaves growing out of the top. The background is a soft-focus cityscape with buildings in shades of orange and yellow.

# “What Will It Profit a Man If He Gains the Whole World and Forfeits His Life?”

**Matthew 16:26**

In a great illustration that I saw recently, a preacher had a rope stretched around the perimeter of an auditorium. Holding up a short end wrapped in red tape, he explained that the rope represented eternity and the tape was our brief life on earth. Then, asking this very question from Scripture, he lamented how we work so much to benefit the first inch while ignoring preparation for the rest of the rope.

We are a society that thrives on immediate gratification. Gone are our grandmothers’ days of pinching pennies to buy something. An item purchased at a rental store may cost three times its value by the time it’s paid in full, but the customer has it right away while TV and the internet bombard us with products we “can’t do without” at such a fast pace that they’re often obsolete before we buy them.

So, what about the rest of the rope? Several versions of the Faust story from the 1500s tell the tragedy of a man who sold his soul to the devil for unlimited knowledge and worldly pleasures. The day of reckoning came, however, for Faust to pay for his extravagances as the devil arrived to collect what was bargained for. For a very short time, he had gained the whole world at the cost of his soul.

Often we sell out at a much lower price. We compromise obedience and a true walk with God for quasi-Christianity. We believe a mixture of information picked up in church and on social media. We speak of Jesus only if it doesn’t make us too uncomfortable. True Bible study, prayer, and service to strengthen our relationship with God is only a secondary consideration. Only half-gaining the whole world, we still forfeit our souls. A deal with the devil has been struck—we’re just haggling on the price.

Instead of being so nearsighted, God would have us look beyond the temporary tape on the end. James describes our existence as “a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.” Should we not prepare for the rope that stretches into eternity?

— Douglas Kashorek, minister  
Church of Christ, Plattsburgh, NY  
editor of [sermonlines.com](http://sermonlines.com)

# **“What Shall We Do?”**

**Acts 2:37**

**“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’ ” (Acts 2:38)**

Many questions raised about the apostle’s answer to the question (“What must we do?”) will melt away if we consider the simple question posed by those fully convicted of their guilt in the death of Jesus Christ. Did they have blood on their hands? No! Were they guilty? Yes! Do you have blood on your hands? No! Are you guilty? Yes! What did they want to know? How to be free of the guilt of sin. What does mankind need to know today? How to be free from the guilt of sin. The entire New Testament confirms the answer given. Notice the two commands to obey in order to receive forgiveness:

## **REPENT**

The word “repent” means to “turn” or “change”. It is more than being sorry for doing wrong; it is a resolve not to repeat those sins again. Repentance can take place only if one realizes that sin is a serious offence to God, that Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for our forgiveness, and that the day of judgment is coming. “God commands all people everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30). In order for one to “repent,” he must be old enough to realize what his sins are. According to the Bible, only penitent believers (not infants) are to be baptized (Acts 8:12).

## **BE BAPTIZED**

To be “baptized” means to be “immersed.” The Bible teaches that in baptism we are “buried with Christ” -- immersion symbolizes an re-inactment of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (Romans 6:3-4). We never read in the scriptures of baptism by sprinkling or pouring. When we are baptized in harmony with Bible teaching, our sins are “forgiven” (Acts 2:38), “washed away” (Acts 22:16), we enter “into Christ;” we “put on Christ” (Galatians 3:26-27).

According to Acts 2:38 the Holy Spirit is given to those who “repent” and are “baptized.” This promise will endure until God calls this world to an end. Through the gospel God is calling you to give your life to Him today.

— Charlie Harrison, Minister  
Church of Christ, Brunswick, Maine



# Who do you say I am?

In Matthew 16:13, Jesus asked "Who do the people say that the Son of Man is?" The response had no clarity. Some said, John the Baptist, some said, Elijah, others said Jeremiah or one of the prophets. Yet, this question needed to be answered, so Jesus asked the apostles, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (verses 15-16). Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven."

Besides Peter's confession, we find numerous scriptures that clearly reveal Jesus is the Son of the living God. When Jesus walked the earth, He showed that He was the Son of God. The high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven" (Mark 14:61, 62).

At the crucifixion, the centurion saw all that happened as Jesus breathed His last. He said, "Truly this man was the son of God!" (Mark 15:37-39). Later, Thomas confessed Him as: "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20: 28, 29). Martha said: "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who is coming into the world" (John 11:27).

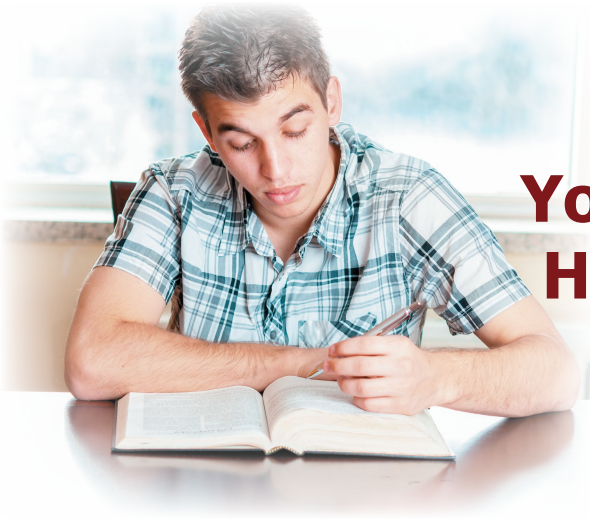
"These are written so you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and by believing have life in His name" (John 20:31).

"There is salvation in no one else; there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

"God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11).

— John Kurpiel, Minister  
Church of Christ  
Lawrence, Massachusetts





# “How Can A Young Man Keep His Way Pure?”

**Psalm 119:9**

## **The Question Stated: “How can a young man keep his way pure?”**

This question is very relevant in today’s culture. Young people are surrounded by temptations. Music, movies, television, computers, smart-phones, and so-called friends which draw the heart of a young person toward impurity. **Psalm 119** is beautiful, describing the value, effects, commands and benefits of God’s Word. One of the benefits is purity. Scripture is the only guide to holiness, to a life that is pure, dedicated and pleasing to God.

This great question is a plain question, a priority question, and a practical question. It calls for action. This great question contains an admission of need, a confession of desire, and a suggestion of urgency.

## **The Answer Given: “By living according to your word.”**

**Psalm 119** has many suggestions for helping cultivate an increased love for God and His scriptures.

- Pray for God to give you a love for His word. We all need to ask God to bend our affections back toward Him and His word.

- Search your Bible and be ready to obey all God commands (verse 10).
- Let God’s word enter into your heart (verse 11).
- Memorize God’s word (verse 12).
- Be humble and submissive (verse 12).
- Be Teachable (verse 12).
- Declare the truth of God’s word (verse 13)
- Rejoice in God’s word and treasure it above everything else (verse 14).
- Inwardly digest God’s word (verse 15).
- Apply it, obey it and make it your all-sufficient rule for what you believe and what you do (verse 16).

**Psalm 119** is not only for young people. All of us need to ask God to incline our hearts toward His word. The psalmist said: “Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day” (verse 97).

— Timothy Tarbet, Minister  
Church of Christ, New Milford, Connecticut

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