



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

About Our Guide in Religion
About the Church Jesus Built
About How People Are Saved

Dear Friend,

Thank you for accepting this Bible study booklet. We believe that the inspired word of God contains all of the information any person will ever need to know in order to be eternally saved. However, there are so many churches and religions in the world that even one who diligently seeks the truth can have a hard time identifying the church that is discussed in the Bible and understanding how God desires to be worshipped. With that in mind, this series of lessons has been designed to help you locate answers in the Bible to many commonly asked questions about the authority in religion, identifying characteristics of the one church that Jesus built and God's plan for saving us from our sins.

Each question in this booklet is based on scriptures and passages located in the King James version of the Bible. Specific scripture references are noted beside each question. Also, please note that this series builds from one lesson to the next and is specifically designed to be completed in progressive order. Therefore, we ask that you resist the temptation to skip from place to place. Experience has shown that the lessons will be most beneficial if you study them in the order in which they are presented.

We pray that, in completing the lessons, you will grow in your understanding of "thus saith the Lord." If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at the mailing address, email address or telephone numbers listed on the cover page. It would be our joy and privilege to study with you and guide you to Bible answers for your Bible questions.

In the love of Jesus Christ,

Your friends at the
Georgia Avenue Church of Christ

ETERNAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

“Give Diligence to Make Your Calling and Election Sure”

2 Peter 1:10

Name: _____

Date: _____

Note: It is important that you answer these questions as completely and honestly as possible before beginning the study in order to obtain a true assessment of your prospects for happiness in eternity. Thank you in advance for taking the time to do so.

1. Do you believe that God exists? Yes No
2. Are you willing to lose relationships with friends and family in order to be closer to God? Yes No
3. Is there anything that you would not give up in order to be saved eternally? Yes No
4. Are you willing to do whatever God says is necessary to be saved? Yes No
5. Are you saved? Yes No I don't know
6. If you are saved, how were you saved? _____ I don't know
7. If you are saved, how old were you when you were saved? _____ I don't know
8. If you die today, where would your soul go? _____ I don't know
9. Would you like to go to heaven? Yes No I don't know
10. Have you ever been baptized? Yes No I don't know
11. How old were you when were you baptized? _____ I don't know
12. How were you baptized? Sprinkling Immersion Other _____ I don't know
13. Why were you baptized? _____ I don't know
14. Who made the decision for you to be baptized? _____ I don't know
15. What church are you a member of? _____ None
16. Why did you become a member of that church? _____ I don't know
17. How did you become a member? _____ I don't know
18. How long have you been a member of that church? _____
19. When did your church (denomination) begin? _____ I don't know
20. Have you ever been a member of another kind of church (denomination)? Yes No
21. If so, how did you change your membership? _____
22. If so, why did you change your membership? _____
23. Does it matter what kind of church a person belongs to? Yes No I don't know
24. Would you ever consider changing your religious affiliation (denom.)? Yes No I don't know
25. Which is more authoritative for you? The Bible Your personal beliefs What someone else says (e.g., preacher, parent, spouse, etc.)

LESSON 1: OUR GUIDE IN RELIGION

PART 1: THE BIBLE

- Which scriptures are inspired by God? _____ (2 Tim. 3:16-17)
- Does His word thoroughly furnish us unto all good works? _____ (2 Tim. 3:16-17)
- Would we please God if we add to or take away from His word? _____ (Deut. 4:2)
- What will happen if we add to or take away from the Bible? _____
_____ (Gal. 1:6-9; Rev. 22:18-19)
- **Do we need church traditions or manuals to make us complete spiritually?** Yes No

- Every word of God is _____ (Prov. 30:5)
- What does “pure” mean? _____.
- The engrafted _____ is able to save your soul (Jam. 1:21)
- What does “engrafted” mean? _____.
- **Since the Bible is pure and inspired by God, and it will save us if we make it an inseparable part of our lives, do we need any other source as our religious authority?** Yes No

PART 2: THE NEW TESTAMENT

- The law was delivered through _____ (John 1:17)
- Can we be justified by the law of Moses? _____ (Acts 13:38-39)
- God gave the law to the people He brought out of the land of _____ (Exodus 20:1-17)
- Are you Jewish? Yes No
- **Is anyone under the law of Moses (the schoolmaster) now?** _____ (Gal. 3:23-25)

- Jesus redeemed the world from the _____ of the law (Gal. 3:11-13)
- When was the law (the handwriting of ordinances) abolished? _____ (Col. 2:14)
- When did the New Testament go into effect? _____ (Heb. 9:15-17)
- Is Jesus mediator of the New Testament? _____ (Heb. 9:15-17)
- Is the new covenant (testament) better than the old one? _____ Hebrews. 8:6-7

- When God gave the new covenant (testament), was the first still in force? _____ . Heb. 8:13
- **Is the New Testament law spiritually binding today?** Yes No

PART 3: THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS

- The teaching of Jesus was from _____ . John 14:23-24
- Jesus is the only _____ between God and men. 1 Tim. 2:5
- Jesus has all power in _____ and in _____. Matt. 28:18
- Jesus will judge the _____ and the _____ when He returns. 2 Tim. 4:1
- We will be judged by Jesus' _____. John 12:48
- **Since God has spoken through Jesus, who mediates between God and men and will judge the world according to His teachings, who should we listen to regarding religious matters?** Yes No

PART 4: THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE

- The apostles were _____ to Jesus' majesty. 2 Peter 1:16
- Did Jesus say that the Holy Spirit would teach the apostles all things and bring all that He taught to their remembrance? _____. John 14:26
- How much truth did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would guide the Apostles into? _____. John 16:13
- Define truth: _____. John 17:1, 17
- **Since the apostles were guided into all religious truth in their lifetimes by the Holy Spirit of God, as promised by Jesus, should we trust their religious guidance?** Yes No
- Are Christians to be mindful of the commandments of the apostles? _____. 2 Pet. 3:1-2
- In the first century, did Christians follow the apostles' doctrine (teaching)? _____. Acts 2:41-42
- The apostle Paul's writings were _____ of the Lord. 1 Cor. 14:37
- Are the apostle Paul's writings "scripture"? _____. 2 Pet. 3:15-16.
- The apostles received all things that pertain to _____ and _____. 2 Pet. 1:3
- **Because the apostles' writings were scriptures (inspired by God) and commandments of the Lord, and because they had all the information one needs to secure eternal life, do we have to follow their teachings today if we want eternal life?** Yes No

PART 5: THE NARROW WAY

Please read Matthew 7:13-14.

- Jesus describes two ways to travel religiously: the _____ way and the _____ way.
- Where does the broad way lead? _____.
- Where does the narrow way lead? _____.
- Which way does Jesus say most people will travel? _____.
- Which way does Jesus tell us to travel? _____.
- **Is it true that Jesus said that most people will be destroyed because they will choose to travel the broad way religiously?** Yes No
- **Are you willing to do precisely what Jesus and the apostles say so that you will not be destroyed at the judgment?** Yes No

LESSON 2: THE CHURCH JESUS BUILT

PART 1: THE FOUNDATION OF JESUS' CHURCH

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>FOUNDER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Roman Catholic	Boniface III	606 AD	Rome
Lutheran	Martin Luther	1520 AD	Germany
Episcopal/Anglican	Henry VIII	1534 AD	England
Presbyterian	John Calvin	1536 AD	Switzerland
Baptist	John Smythe	1607 AD	Holland
Methodist	John Wesley	1739 AD	England
AME	Richard Allen	1816 AD	America
Mormon	Joseph Smith	1830 AD	America
Adventist	William Miller	1844 AD	America
Christian Scientist	Mary B. Eddy	1866 AD	America
Jehovah's Witness	Charles Russell	1872 AD	America
Church of God in Christ	Charles Mason	1897 AD	America
Pentecostal	Bible Bethel College	1899 AD	America

- The church is the _____ of Christ. Ephesians 1:20-23
- How many churches (bodies) did Jesus promise to build? _____. Matthew 16:18
- That one church was established on the day of _____. Acts 2:1, 47
- That church was established in the city of _____. Acts 2:5, 14
- Did Jesus pray that his followers be one? _____. John 17:20-21
- **Is it true that the Bible says there is only one church (body)?** _____. Ephesians 4:4-5

PART 2: THE ORGANIZATION OF JESUS' CHURCH

- Did Paul ordain elders (plural) in each congregation he went to in the 1st century? _____. Acts 14:19-23
- A synonym for elder is _____. Titus 1:5-7
- Did the apostle Paul teach that elders are to be "overseers" of the church? _____. Acts 20:17, 28
- Did the apostle Paul teach that an elder (bishop) must be married? _____. 1 Tim. 3:1-7
- Did the apostle Paul teach that an elder (bishop) must be male? _____. 1 Tim. 3:1-7
- Did the apostle Paul teach that an elder (bishop) must have children? _____. 1 Tim. 3:1-7
- Did the apostle Paul teach that a deacon must be married? _____. 1 Tim. 3:8-12
- Did the apostle Paul teach that a deacon must be male? _____. 1 Tim. 3:8-12
- Did the apostle Paul teach that a deacon must have children? _____. 1 Tim. 3:8-12

- **Have you ever seen or heard of churches with elders/bishops or deacons that do not meet these scriptural qualifications?** Yes No
- **Have you seen or heard of churches with only one “bishop”?** Yes No
- **Are these churches in violation of the scriptures (and the apostle’s doctrine)?** Yes No
- Is it pleasing to God when we give men flattering titles? _____ . Job 32:21-22
- Have you ever seen or heard of churches where members or preachers assume flattering titles like “reverend”? Yes No
- **Are these churches and their members violating the scriptures?** Yes No
- Did Jesus command His disciples not to call men “father”? _____ . Matthew 23:9
- Do you know of any churches where members call other men “father” anyway? Yes No
- **Are these churches and their members violating scripture (and teachings of Jesus)?** Yes No
- What designation did the apostle Peter use to refer to the apostle Paul? _____ . 2 Pet. 3:15
- What designation did the apostle Paul use to refer to the preacher Timothy? _____ . 2 Cor. 1:1

PART 3: WORSHIP IN JESUS’ CHURCH

A. The Guide for Worship

- Is it possible to worship God in vain? _____ . Matthew 15:9
- Is it vain to worship according to the commandments and traditions of men? _____ . Mark 7:7-9.
- We must worship God in spirit and in _____ . John 4:24
- Again, the truth is _____ . John 17:1, 17
- **Since we must worship God in truth, must we worship as God has directed in the Bible?** Yes No
- **Do you want to worship God in truth, according to the Bible?** Yes No

B. Communion

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- Did Jesus command his disciples to partake of the Lord’s Supper? _____ (Luke 22:19-20)
- The bread and cup are communion of the _____ and _____ of Christ (1 Cor. 10:16)
- By taking communion, we show _____ till He returns (1 Cor. 11:26)

- When did 1st century Christians meet to “break bread” or take the Lord’s Supper? _____
_____ (Acts 20:7)
- How often does the first day of the week come around? _____.
- Early Christians continued _____ in “breaking of bread” (Acts 2:42)
- **How often are Christians to commune today?** _____.

C. Giving

- Is it possible to rob God in our giving? _____ (Mal. 3:8)
- In which testament is the commandment to tithe given? _____ (Lev. 27:30; Deut. 14:22)
- Was tithing a necessity under the old law? _____ (Lev. 27:30; Deut. 14:22)
- Again, are we bound by the Law of Moses and the Old Testament today? Yes No
- Does Jesus promise that we will be blessed according to our giving? _____ (Luke 6:38)
- Under the New Testament, we are not to give grudgingly or of _____ (2 Cor. 9:6-7)
- What kind of giver does God love? _____ (2 Cor. 9:6-7)
- **Is it true that the Bible teaches that we are to give of our own free will today and not to pay a tithe of necessity?** Yes No

D. Singing

Please read Leviticus 10:1-2.

- Did Nadab and Abihu sin by offering something different than God commanded? Yes No
- Did God punish them? Yes No How? _____.
- What does this reveal about the degree of correctness and accuracy that God requires in worship?
_____.
- Is it important to worship God in the way that He has commanded without alteration? Yes No
- **Is it dangerous to offer God something different than He has commanded?** Yes No
- **Do you want to worship God the way He has commanded without alteration?** Yes No

Please read Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16.

- Did the apostle Paul teach that Christians are to sing hymns and spiritual songs? Yes No
- Did the apostle Paul teach that Christians are to teach and admonish each other in song? Yes No
- Did the apostle Paul teach that these songs are offerings “to the Lord”? Yes No

- Do these scriptures authorize offering music to God by mechanical instruments? Yes No
- **Does the use of instruments constitute an addition to the apostle Paul's teaching?** Yes No
- **Does the use of instruments in worship constitute the broad or narrow way?** Broad Narrow

PART 4: A SCRIPTURAL DESIGNATION FOR JESUS' CHURCH

- Did Jesus build the church? _____ (Matt. 16:17-18)
- Did Jesus purchase the church? _____ (Acts 20:28)
- What price did He pay for it? _____ (Acts 20:28)
- Is Jesus the savior of the body (church)? _____ (Eph. 5:23)
- What were the disciples of Christ called in the first century? _____ (Acts 11:26)
- Are we to do "all" in the name of Jesus? _____ (Col. 3:17)
- If the church were named after Paul (the "Pauline Church"), who would the name glorify? _____.
- Can you think of churches named after persons other than Jesus Christ? _____.

- Did the apostle Paul tell the Christians at Corinth that they were the church (body) of Christ? _____ . 1 Cor. 12:27. Remember Eph. 1:22-23.
- Can you find the designation "church of Christ" in the Bible? _____ (Rom. 16:16)
- **Is the designation "church of Christ" scriptural?** Yes No
- **Does it glorify the builder, purchaser and savior of the church?** Yes No

LESSON 3: HOW PEOPLE ARE SAVED

PART 1: THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

- Define sin: _____ (1 John 3:4)
- How many have sinned? _____ (Rom. 3:23)
- Have you sinned? Yes No
- If one knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is _____ (Jam. 4:17)
- Have you ever failed to do what you knew was right? Yes No
- How many are righteous? _____ (Rom. 3:10)
- Does this mean that you are not righteous? Yes No
- Will the unrighteous inherit God's kingdom? _____ (1 Cor. 6:9-10)
- Will God render to all men according to their works? _____ (Rom. 2:5-6)
- The wages of sin is _____ (Rom. 6:23)
- **Have you earned death?** Yes No

PART 2: WHAT MUST ONE DO TO BE SAVED?

A. Hear and Believe that Jesus is the Son of God

- It is impossible to please God without _____ (Heb. 11:6)
- Faith comes by _____ the word of God (Rom. 10:17)
- Does sin (iniquity) separate people from God? _____ (Isaiah 59:1-2)
- If you do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God, will you die in sin? _____ (John 8:24)
- If you die in sin, can you be with Jesus? _____ (John 8:21)
- **Do you have to believe that Jesus is the Son of God in order to be saved?** Yes No
- **Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?** Yes No

B. Repent of Your Sins

- Today, God commands everyone to _____ (Acts 17:30)
- Jesus says that we will _____ if we do not repent (Luke 13:3)
- Did people have to repent before their sins were washed away in the first century? _____ (Acts 2:38)
- **Does one have to repent in order to be saved?** Yes No

- **Are you now willing to stop doing things that displease God and live by His word ?** Yes No

C. Confess that Jesus is the Son of God

- Does confessing Jesus with our mouths move us closer to salvation? _____ (Rom. 10:9-10)
- In Acts 8:37, the eunuch confessed that Jesus Christ is _____ (Acts 8:37)
- **Are you willing to make this confession?** Yes No

D. Be Baptized

- Baptism is for the _____ of sins (Acts 2:38)
- What happens to a person's sins when they are baptized? _____ (Acts 22:16)
- Jesus said that one must believe and be _____ in order to be saved (Mark 16:15-16)
- **Did Jesus say that belief alone saved people?** Yes No
- The apostle Peter taught that _____ saves people today (1 Pet. 3:20-21)
- **Do you want to be baptized in order to be saved?** Yes No

PART 3: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BAPTISM

A. Baptism is a Conscientious Response to God's Word

- Baptism is the answer of a good _____ toward God (1 Pet. 3:20-21)
- Must one understand in order to do something conscientiously? Yes No
- Can a baby conscientiously accept baptism as the command of God? Yes No
- Why or why not? _____.
- We have observed that sins are washed away in baptism. If you were not taught this, could you have conscientiously been baptized for the remission of your sins? Yes No
- We have observed that people are saved by being baptized. If you were not taught this, could you have conscientiously been baptized for your salvation? Yes No
- **Do you want your past sins washed away?** Yes No
- **Do you want to be saved?** Yes No

B. Baptism Puts You Into the Body (Church) of Christ

- Salvation is in _____ (2 Tim. 2:10)
- How many spiritual blessings are in Christ? _____ (Eph. 1:3)

- Do you want to be where all spiritual blessings are ? Yes No
- The only way into Christ is to be _____ in (Gal. 3:27)
- If you were not taught that you needed to be baptized in order to become a part of the church of Christ, could you have conscientiously been baptized to become a part of the church Jesus died for? Yes No
- **Do you want to be in Christ?** Yes No
- **Do you want to be in the church of Christ?** Yes No
- **Would you like to be baptized?** Yes No

PART 4: CONSIDERING ETERNITY

- Do you know when you will die? Yes No
- If you die today, where would your soul go? _____.
- How do you know that? _____.
- Do you know when Jesus will return? Yes No
- After death, souls will go to _____ or _____ (Luke 16:22-23)
- If your soul goes to hell, will you be tormented? _____ (Luke 16:22-23)
- Can souls move between Abraham's bosom (paradise) and hell? _____ (Luke 16:26)
- So then, when we die, is our eternal fate fixed? Yes No
- Are you willing to be tormented forever? Yes No
- When is the accepted time? _____ (2 Cor. 6:2)
- When is the day of salvation? _____ (2 Cor. 6:2)
- What is important enough to restrain you from obeying God's will right now? _____
_____.
- Would you like to be baptized? Yes No

Dear friend, if you have gone through this Bible study, and want to do what the Bible says is necessary to be right with God, PLEASE contact us. We will happily meet with you or put you in contact with a church of Christ in your area. Don't delay. Remember, "Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2



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