

BRYAN STATION BAPTIST CHURCH

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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This is the first in a series of lessons in a Question/Answer format explaining foundational Baptist truths.

LESSON ONE

1. **What was Christ's first commission?** Matthew 4:19, "...Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Mark 1:17, "...Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."

2. **What was Christ's last commission?** Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Mark 16:15-16, "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Luke 24:47-48, "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things." John 20:21, "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Five things included in this commission: **go, preach, make disciples, baptize, indoctrinate.**

3. **What is the first thing in both the first and last commission?** Fish,

soul-winning.

4. **What are the two instrumentalities in the new birth?** Word and the Spirit. John 3:5, "...Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Ephesians 5:26, "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word." Titus 3:5, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost." I Thessalonians 1:5, "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost..." I Corinthians 2:4, "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." I Corinthians 4:15, "...in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel." John 6:63, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Acts 16:14, "And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul." Ephesians 1:13, "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise." II Thessalonians 2:13, "But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the

Spirit and belief of the truth." Ezekiel 37:1-4, "The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O LORD GOD, thou knowest. Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD." Ezekiel 36:25-26, "Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh." Acts 10:43-44, "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word." Acts 11:15, "And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning." Ephesians 1:19-20, "And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places." John 16:8-11, "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they

believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more: Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged."

5. Does the Lord expect every member to be a fisher or only those who are paid? Luke 8:39, "*Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.*" John 4:39, "*And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.*" Acts 8:4, "*Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.*" Luke 14:21-23, "*So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.*" Revelation 22:17, "*And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*" Matthew 9:38, "*And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.*" Luke 1:17, "*And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.*" II Timothy 3:15, "*And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*" II Timothy 1:5, "*When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.*" I Corinthians 14:24-25, "*But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth."*

6. What are the keys of the kingdom? The Gospel and the Spirit. Refer-

ences as in question four.

7. To whom were the keys given?

To every man who has had the same revelation that Peter had. Matthew 16:16-19, "*And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*" Matthew 11:27, "*All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.*" Luke 10:22, "*All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him.*" Galatians 1:16, "*To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood.*"

8. What was committed to every believer? And what to the church?

The keys of the kingdom to every believer. See Matthew 16:16-18 quoted above. The Great Commission and the ordinances to the church. Matthew 28:18-20, "*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.*"

9. What is the gospel? I Corinthians 15:1-4, "*Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third*

day according to the scriptures." The substitutionary death of Christ for our sins. The burial of Christ. The resurrection was God's testimony and receipt; Christ's resurrection was God's testimony and receipt to every man who trusts him, that his sin-debt is paid and canceled.

10. What three things produce conviction?

A. Conscience: Romans 2:15, "*Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.*" Result of this conviction; self justification or suicide. Matthew 27:5, "*And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.*" Luke 16:15, "*And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.*"

B. Law: Romans 3:20, "*Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*" Result: reformation unless the gospel is preached. Jesus used this method however as preparatory to the preaching of the gospel—the Good Samaritan, the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 22:34-40 "*But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*"

C. The Holy Spirit convicts of only one sin. That is the sin of unbelief. John 16:8-9, "*And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me.*" The conviction takes place only when Christ is preached. The conviction of the Holy Spirit centers in Christ. It shows men the enormity of the sin of not believing in Christ. It shows them the wickedness of their own self-righteousness. Christ going to the Father proves that out; sin-debt

has been paid, otherwise Jesus would still be in the grave. When that truth is revealed to the sinner through the conviction power of the Holy Spirit, using the Gospel, the sinner for the first time in his life sees that his own good works are filthy in God's sight, and that it takes the perfect righteousness or finished work of Jesus to get into heaven. When Paul saw that, he gave up his self-righteousness and received Christ as his righteousness. Christ's resurrection proved that his righteousness was accepted of God. The Holy Spirit convicts the sinner of the need of Christ's righteousness, this convinces him that since Christ has gone to the Father and because our sin debt is paid, that no sinner can go to God who is not depending upon Christ's payment of his sin debt to get him there. The Holy Spirit not only convicts of unbelief, and of the need of Christ's perfect righteousness to take us to heaven, but he convicts of the judgment for sin which Christ bore on Calvary. The Holy Spirit does not convict of judgment to come. The Holy Spirit convicts of judgment passed. When Christ as our sinbearer was judged as our sinbearer and bore our sins on the tree at Calvary, Jesus took our place and died in our stead. In that experience he became sin for us. Satan in demanding his death, as the full penalty for sin was defeated and overthrown. Since Jesus satisfied the full demands of God's law in our behalf he could not be holden of death. Because he could not be holden of death he was raised from the grave. His resurrection was the ground of our deliverance from the penalty, the power of sin and the presence of sin. Satan is not a conquered enemy, and can no more have dominion over believers in Jesus; because of this the fear of death is taken away from all who see the fullness of the work of Christ.

LESSON TWO

1. What produces evangelical conviction? Preaching Christ as men's substitute for sin. I Corinthians 2:1-4, "*And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of*

power." I Thessalonians 1:5, "*For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.*" Acts 2:37, "*Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?*" I Corinthians 14:24-25, "*But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.*" Revelation 19:10, "*And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*" John 16:8-10, "*And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.*"

2. What follows conviction?

Godly sorrow. There are two kinds of sorrow for sin. Godly sorrow and the sorrow of the world. II Corinthians 7:10, "*For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.*" The marks of godly sorrow are three fold:

A. It is toward God. Acts 20:21, "*Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*"

B. It leads to confession of sin. The sorrow of the world leads to self-justification. Luke 16:15, "*And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts...*" This confession includes an acknowledgment of the justice of God in punishing sin. Revelation 5:5, "*And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.*" Numbers 5:7, "*Then they shall confess their sin which they have done...*"

Leviticus 26:40-41, "*If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me; And that I*

also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity."

C. Godly sorrow brings fruit. Fruit meet for repentance. Luke 3:8, "*Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance...*" Acts 26:20, "*But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.*"

3. What produces repentance?

Godly sorrow. Acts 5:31, "*Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.*" Acts 7:51, "*Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.*" Hebrews 6:4, "*For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost."*

Three things about the Godly sorrow that works repentance.

A. Repentance means a radical change of mind. Psalm 119:59, "*I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.*"

B. This change of mind involved in repentance is toward God, toward self and toward sin.

C. In repentance there is such a radical change of mind that the sinner dies to every thing that belongs to his old life.

4. Bible order of repentance and faith. Matthew 21:32, "*For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.*" Hebrews 6:1, "*Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God.*" Acts 20:21, "*...repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*" Acts 2:38, "*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*"

5. What is repentance? See references on number three above. Proverbs 28:13, "*He that covereth his sins shall*

not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Jonah 3:8, *"But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands."* Repentance includes confessing sin and forsaking sin.

6. **What two kinds of faith?** Historical and Evangelical. Historical faith is believing the facts of the Bible. James 2:19, *"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."* Acts 26:27-28, *"King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest. Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."* Luke 8:28, *"When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not."* It is well to remember that the modernist who denies the historical facts of the Bible is worse than a demon.

7. **What is saving faith?** It is a personal trust in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and redeemer. Illustration in saving faith: committing to Christ. II Timothy 1:12, *"...I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."* Looking to Christ. Isaiah 45:22, *"Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else."* John 3:14, *"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up."* Coming to Christ. Matthew 11:28, *"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* Eating Christ. John 6:35, *"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."* Drinking Christ. I Corinthians 10:1-4, *"Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."* Resting on Christ; Leaning on Christ; Receiving Christ. John 1:12, *"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that*

believe on his name." Acts 10:43, *"To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."* John 3:14, *"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up."* John 6:35-37, *"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."* Revelation 22:17, *"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."* II Timothy 1:12, *"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."* Psalm 2:12, *"...Blessed are all they that put their trust in him."*

**To be continued in next month's
*The Pioneer Baptist.***