



QUESTION: Some Practical Questions of Faith



The following reply was sent to one whose letters suggested that he is young in the faith, and the questions he asked may, perhaps, remind the older ones among us that we often take many things for granted and assume that young Christians know more than they do. Frank.

Dear Brother

Thank you for your questions. Because I am able to answer only one question a month in the "Scripture Standard" I am taking this opportunity writing to you personally. I hope that you appreciate that I cannot possibly take the time to answer the 20 or more questions contained in the letters, and that my answers to the more important ones will necessarily be brief.

1. Why are married Christians stronger and more dedicated than single Christians?

The simple answer is that God Himself decided that Man should not remain alone, and provided Man with a wife. Jesus also said that a man should leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife. The husband and wife provide for each other's needs, care for one another and support one another. See Ephesians 5:22-33.

2. Did Israel receive the Holy Land promised from God?

When God called Abraham to leave Ur of the Chaldees in Mesopotamia, He sent him to a land which he should afterwards receive as an inheritance (read Genesis 12 from verse 1).

In Gen.13:17 God again promised the land to Abraham and his descendants, and, eventually, under the leadership of Joshua, they entered and possessed the land. But their possession of the land was conditional on their faithfulness to God, and Joshua foresaw the time when they would lose the land, because of unfaithfulness (Deuteronomy 30: 17- 18). Eventually, Israel ceased to be the People of God, as Jesus points out in Matt.21:43. There is now a new 'Israel', which consists of those who have accepted the Gospel (see 1st Peter 2:9- 10). This means that today Israel has no automatic right to the land of Palestine. Both Jews and Palestinians should be allowed to set up independent nations.

3. Which is more beneficial - to ask questions or to make statements?

Both are beneficial, and both are necessary! You must ask questions and find the answers before you can make statements. Learning consists in asking questions, and, if you do not ask questions you will not learn. Lord Kelvin, the great Scottish scientist, about to conduct an experiment, used to say to his students at Glasgow University, "Gentlemen please be silent. I am about to ask God a question!"

. Is it possible that Christians are not taught the Bible properly in Church services?

The quality of the teaching depends on the knowledge and ability of the teachers. If there are no capable teachers in a congregation, the congregation will be untaught. A teacher cannot pass on what he has not learned. And the teacher himself will not learn unless he studies.

5. "God cannot be fooled, so why do so many people think that He can?"

Jesus said that "The god of this world (Satan) has blinded their eyes and stopped their ears..." Matt.13:15. A man must be a fool to imagine he can get the better of God!

6. Can a funeral service be scriptural?

Certainly! Bear in mind that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, and that you should use

your body to serve God. It is fitting that when it dies, it is treated with reverence and respect. A funeral service is simply a reverent way of disposing of the 'tent' which the soul occupied but has left, and, at the same time, it is an opportunity to pay respect to the one who, if he is a Christian, has "gone to be with Christ, which is far better" (see 2nd Cor.S: 1-10).

7. Why do we have a weekly Lord's Supper?

Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of me".

And "they continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching, and the fellowship, and the BREAKING OF THE BREAD, and the prayers" (Acts 2:42).

"Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break the bread (the Lord's Supper) Paul preached to them" (Acts 20:7).

The First Day of the week is not Monday - as some unbelieving calendar producers appear to think. The First Day of the week is the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday. The early Christians celebrated that day because it was the day of the Lord's resurrection, and they met on that Day to remember Him in the feast that He had instituted.

I hope you find these answers useful. With kindest regards, your brother in Christ, Frank Worgan.