

50 Topical Bible quizzes



Bible questions for you to answer... *(Bible study aids in quiz format.)*

These quizzes are meant as an invitation to 'Bible Conversations'. The study leader will have control as to where those discussions go. This is the challenge and the good work of prayerful leadership.

I have authored these pages to encourage an interactive and engaging discussion.

They are set up to be copied for use in a group study. I do however, retain author's rights restricting the alteration in any way of the content of these pages.

I hope you have an interest in testing and increasing your Bible knowledge, if so you should find these quizzes enjoyable and enlightening.

Pastor Kenneth R. Kriese

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Bible Quiz #26 – Do you not know? Do you not hear? - From Isaiah 40:21-31 (Pg.#1)

A series of questions God asks us...

Isaiah 40:21-31 (ESV) Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? (22) It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; (23) who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. (24) Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. (25) To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. (26) Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. (27) Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? (28) Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. (29) He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. (30) Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; (31) but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

– Powerful words from God... So let's dig in. (Circle the correct answer)

Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

Q1. Isaiah 40:21 sets the table for what follows, so reading ahead, the question is;

-- What are we not understanding?

a/ Who is in control? b/ Who created all things? c/ Both a & b.

Again from Vs.21... Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

Q2. What are we supposed to understand from the beginning, the foundation of the earth?

a/ Is there a Creator? b/ Who created all things? c/ Both a & b.

Q3. Why are we supposed to understand this?

a/ From early teachings. b/ From instinctual knowledge. c/ Both a & b.

Q4. From Vs.22... It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in

-- What are we supposed to see from the picture described to us here?

a/ The immensity of God. b/ The power of God. c/ Both a & b.

Q5. From Vs.23-24... who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. (24) Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

-- What is knowledge is asked of us here?

a/ How plants die. b/ How winds can destroy crops. c/ How God over-rules rulers of the earth.

From Vs.26... Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.

Q6. Looking up high... What are we to be seeing that would cause us to admire God?

a/ angels b/ clouds c/ the stars and planets

(Cont'd on Pg.#2)

Do you not know? Do you not hear? - From Isaiah 40:21-31 (Pg.#2)

From Vs.27... Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Q7. Who is God speaking to?

- a/ Jacob and Israel. b/ The stars and planets. c/ All those who put their faith in Him.

From Vs.28... Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Q8. What is told us of God here?

- a/ He is an everlasting Creator God. b/ He doesn't get tired.
c/ Mankind can never comprehend all His ways. d/ All of these...

From Vs.29... He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Q9. Who is God speaking to?

- a/ Jacob and Israel. b/ The stars and planets. c/ All those who put their faith in Him.

Q10. Fill in the blanks for Vs.30...

"Even youths shall faint and be _____, and young men shall fall _____;"

- a/ sad - down b/ weary - exhausted c/ revived – in love

Q11. Fill in the blanks for Vs.31...

"but they who wait for the LORD shall _____; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

- a/ renew their strength b/ quit and leave c/ weep and mourn

Q12. What are we to do to renew our strength?

- We are supposed to... a/ run away from God. b/ lose hope in God. c/ wait upon the Lord.

Q13. What does it mean to "wait upon the Lord"?

- We're supposed to... a/ stand and do nothing. b/ expect big tips. c/ watch for His calling.

We might think of waiting on the Lord in terms of waiting on tables in a restaurant.

-- This would be a mistake. For it is not about waiting bored and frustrated, nor is it about being busy serving multiple patrons. Both these don't fit the meaning of the thoughts that originated this verse.

Q14. Think about a servant waiting upon a sovereign king... What would he be busy doing?

- a/ playing games online waiting for the next customer. b/ Watching for any summons from the king.

Q15. Would it be right for this servant to leave his post to serve others?

- a/ No, he is a servant of the king. b/ Yes, others are just as important as the king.

See the promise from Vs.31... but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

-- Let us commit afresh to the FIRST and greatest commandment; "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." - Then we show our obedience by obeying the second great commandment, "to love our neighbour as ourselves". (Mat 22:37-40) ...KK

Bible Quiz #27 – What the 'Earthly' cannot understand. (Pg.#1)
(This speaks of earthly minded, even in the church, from John 3:1-21)

John 3:1-21 (ESV) Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. (2) This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

From these verses, what insights can we gain?

Q1. From Vs.1, we find that Nicodemus was...

a/ an ordinary 'Joseph'. b/ an important Pharisee. c/ a sneaky politician.

Q2. From Vs.2, we see also that he came to see Jesus...

a/ in office hours. b/ in the morning. c/ at night.

Q3. From Vs.2, we see that he calls Jesus...

a/ Rabbi and a teacher. b/ a fake and an impostor. c/ a wizard and a genius.

Q4. Also from Vs.2, we see that he...

a/ asks Jesus to leave town. b/ acknowledges that Jesus' authority must be from God.

Now what insights can we gain from Vs.3... Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Q5. Here Jesus... a/ is flattered and praises this leader of His nation.

b/ tells Nicodemus that he needs something if he wishes to see God's Kingdom.

Reading Vs.4... Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

Q6. We see that Nicodemus...

a/ understands what Jesus is saying. b/ leaves in anger. c/ asks how the impossible could ever be.

In Vs.5-6, Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. (6) That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Q7. From Jesus' answer, we find that...

a/ He teaches the difference between spiritual understanding and 'earthly' understanding.

b/ He is saying that Nicodemus has 'earthly' understanding but he needs spiritual understanding. c/ Both a & b.

Jesus continues in Vs.7-8... Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' (8) The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Q8. When Jesus says, "Do not marvel that I said to you, You must be born again."...

a/ He's saying don't worry about it. b/ He's saying that spiritual birth is an inward invisible process.

(Moving on to page #2 of this quiz...)

What the 'Earthly' cannot understand. (Pg.#2)

We continue reading from Vs.9-12... Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" (10) Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? (11) Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. (12) If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?"

Q9. From Vs.9, we see that Nicodemus...

- a/ understands completely. b/ in confusion has lost all interest. c/ still wants this explained.

Q10. From Vs.10, we see that Jesus...

- a/ doesn't expect religious teachers to understand. b/ is disappointed that teachers don't understand.

Q11. In Vs.11-12, why is Jesus accusing the leaders, and Nicodemus of purposeful ignorance?

- a/ Because they know of His power to heal and teach on scriptures, and yet they refuse His authority.

- b/ Because they continually try to corner Him with trick questions. c/ Both a & b.

Q12. From Vs.12, fill in the blanks... If I have told you _____ things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you _____ things?

- a/ secret - obvious b/ earthly - heavenly c/ sacred – worldly

Jesus explains clearly how salvation is provided by God in Vs.13-18... No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. (14) And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, (15) that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (16) "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (17) For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (18) Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Q13. From Vs.13-15, we are told that Jesus...

- a/ came from heaven. b/ must be lifted up on a pole. c/ gives salvation to any who believe in Him

- d/ All of these above.

Q14. In Vs.16-18, Jesus states that...

- a/ Nicodemus and others who do not believe in Jesus as the Son of God are already condemned.

- b/ Jesus came to save the world not to condemn it. c/ Both a & b.

Vs.19-21... And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. (20) For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. (21) But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

Q15. We now know how the religious leaders of that time asked for Jesus to be crucified...

- We know that... a/ they loved truth and light. b/ they blamed Rome. c/ they loved darkness.

There is good evidence that truth-seeking Nicodemus did come to believe in Jesus, for he tries to defend Jesus in John 7:50-52, and he brought expensive spices for the burial of Jesus in John 19:38-42.

I pray that God may open all our eyes to also see the TRUTH. ...(KK)

Bible Quiz #28 – God's prophecies are intended to bless all mankind (Pg.#1)

The wonderful accuracy and blessings of all of God's prophecies.

(Looking at Isaiah 61:1-3 & Luke 4:14-22)

Isaiah 61:1-3 (ESV) The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; (2) to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; (3) to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

Q1. Fill in the blanks... (From Vs.1) The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring _____ to the poor;

a/ great wealth b/ angry revolt c/ good news
(Think about what God's Spirit is bringing to the poor.)

Q2. Fill in the blanks... (More from Vs.1) he has sent me to _____ the brokenhearted,

a/ bring tears b/ bind up c/ bring anger
(Think about how God's Spirit helps those with broken hearts.)

Q3. Fill in the blanks... (Further in Vs.1) to proclaim liberty to the _____,

a/ captives b/ wives c/ husbands
(Think about what sorts of bondage God's Spirit is setting us free from.)

Q4. Fill in the blanks... (Even more from Vs.1) and the opening of _____ to those who are bound;

a/ great wealth b/ real power c/ the prison
(Think about how many different things keep us in bondage.)

Reading further in Vs.2... to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

Q5. How can we have; a year of the Lord's favor, a day of vengeance, and comforting those who mourn, in the same era?

By... a/ God blessing His people, punishing evil, and bringing comfort to the persecuted.

b/ making everyone wealthy, bringing war to our enemies, and placing flowers on graves.

Continuing in Vs.3... to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

Q6. Here it speaks of the deliverance of God's people, from weakness and sorrow to joy and security... Who is to receive the glory when God's people are saved?

a/ The leadership. b/ The church. c/ The Lord.

Now we will compare these verses to what Jesus shared in **Luke 4:14-22.**

(Cont'd on Pg.#2)

God's prophecies are intended to bless all mankind (Pg.#2)

Luke 4:14-16 (ESV) And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. (15) And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. (16) And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.

Q7. What was Jesus' habit on their Holy Day (the Sabbath of the Jews)?

- a/ To stay home and rest. b/ To go and meet others at the synagogue. c/ To go shopping.

Vs.17-19... And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, (18) "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, (19) to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Q8. What purpose did Jesus have in choosing this specific scripture of the Prophet Isaiah?

- a/ He had no purpose, it was just random verses. b/ To show the fulfillment of the prophecy.

Vs.20-22... And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. (21) And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." (22) And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

Let's examine two factors from these verses...

Q9. Why did Jesus say that about the prophecies of Isaiah?

a/ He wanted their praise, so He made this extravagant boast.

b/ He was announcing that His purpose here on earth was to:

- 1/ bring good news to the poor;
- 2/ to bind up the brokenhearted;
- 3/ to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
- 4/ to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor;
- 5/ to warn of the coming day judgment of our God;
- 6/ to comfort all who mourn and to give everyone, including the chosen Jewish nation, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
- 7/ to make it clear that all His work and suffering was so that God would be glorified.

Q10. What do we see in the Vs.22?

a/ The people admired Jesus but couldn't see past His humanity.

b/ They marvelled that a carpenter by trade could possess such wisdom. c/ Both a & b.

Can you grasp the idea (FACT) that Jesus was 'God with us', and everything He went through in His time walking this earth was so you too could believe in Him, and receive all the promises of the Prophecies of Isaiah 61:1-3..?

-- The true Christian Faith is all about this 'Good News' for you and I. ...(KK)

Bible Quiz #29 - Of anger when evil prospers.
From Psalm 37:1-11... & 1st Peter 3:9-16... (Circle the correct answer)

-- **Psalm 37:1-2...** (ESV) *Of David.* Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! (2) For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

-- **1st Peter 3:9...** (GNB) Do not pay back evil with evil or cursing with cursing; instead, pay back with a blessing, because a blessing is what God promised to give you when he called you.

Q1. What command from God's Holy Scriptures is found here?

- a/ "be not envious of wrongdoers!" b/ "Do not pay back evil with evil" c/ Both a & b

-- **Psalm 37:3-6...** Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. (4) Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. (5) Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. (6) He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

-- **1st Peter 3:10-12...** (GNB) (10) As the scripture says, "If you want to enjoy life and wish to see good times, you must keep from speaking evil and stop telling lies. (11) You must turn away from evil and do good; you must strive for peace with all your heart. (12) For the Lord watches over the righteous and listens to their prayers; but he opposes those who do evil."

Q2. What command from God's Holy Scriptures is found here?

- a/ "Trust in the LORD, and do good" b/ "You must turn away from evil and do good" c/ Both a & b

Q3. What does God promise for those who obey these commands?

- a/ "He will give you the desires of your heart." b/ "He will bring forth your righteousness as the light."
c/ "The Lord watches over the righteous and listens to their prayers." d/ All these promises.

-- **Psalm 37:7-9...** (ESV) Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! (8) Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. (9) For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

-- **1st Peter 3:13-15...** (GNB) Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? (14) But even if you should suffer for doing what is right, how happy you are! Do not be afraid of anyone, and do not worry. (15) But have reverence for Christ in your hearts, and honor him as Lord.

Q4. As we obey and "wait patiently" for the Lord to act in our defense, what are we to do?

- a/ "Fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!"
b/ "Refrain from anger." c/ "Do not be afraid of anyone." d/ All these.

Q5. How can we refrain from these human reactions?

- a/ By understanding that Jesus has won the victory over all these.
b/ By trusting in our personal Lord and Savior. c/ Both a & b

-- **Psalm 37:10-11...** (ESV) In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. (11) But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

-- **1st Peter 3:15-16...** (GNB) Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you, (16) but do it with gentleness and respect. Keep your conscience clear, so that when you are insulted, those who speak evil of your good conduct as followers of Christ will become ashamed of what they say.

Q6. Circle a promise from God's Holy Scriptures found here.

- a/ "the wicked will be no more" b/ "the meek shall inherit the land" c/ Both a & b

I will end this quiz with another command from God's Holy Scriptures found here...

"Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you, (16) but do it with gentleness and respect." ...*I pray God will help us to obey His Word. (KK)*

Bible Quiz #30 - About righteousness

- I was captured by this truth from an article the other day, the author wrote, "The Spirit of God that is indwelling the born-again believer causes him to be repulsed by the same things that displease his Creator. Because we love Him, we do not delight in such evil but rejoice in the truth."
- Being repulsed by the same things that displease our Creator is in fact the spirit of righteousness.
- HOWEVER, being repulsed by sin and sinful acts does not necessarily mean we stop doing them. For our human (fleshly) appetites are VERY HARD TO OVERCOME sometimes.
- And Satan will try to bring us into condemnation, saying we are not worthy to be saved.
- If you identify with this FALSE accusation, remember the TRUTH spoken by Jesus, "For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its savior." (John 3:17)

In an effort to hide our own repulsion of evil behavior, our society has pushed Righteousness to the back of the bus (so to speak), for we have come to see righteousness as looking down on other sinners around us... That is a twisted and false interpretation of the righteousness that God calls us to in His Word (The Holy Bible).
– This quiz will lead us to dig into this further according to the writings of King David (a man after God's own heart).

To form the foundation of this study we will dive into Psalm 37:12-15 (ESV) The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes his teeth at him, (13) but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he sees that his day is coming. (14) The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose way is upright; (15) their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.

Today we see the ungodly trying to stop the efforts of Christians to promote God's Gospel of salvation in many different places in our world...

Q1. How does this line up with Vs.14? "The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy..."

- a/ By attacking or hindering those who bring the message that Jesus is the way to be saved, they keep God's provision and blessings from the poor and the needy.
- b/ Supplying "safe-drugs" without strongly urging them to seek treatment, allows addicts to continue in their addiction unto destruction.
- c/ Both a & b

Q2. How do we see the wicked plotting against the righteous and gnashing their teeth at them?

- a/ They insist that only fools believe there is a God who demands living according to the Bible's standards.
- b/ Anyone who preaches yielding control to a loving, righteous God, becomes their enemy.
- c/ Both a & b

Vs.16... Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked.

Q3. How does life witness this truth to us?

- a/ The News constantly tells us of all the good things that happen to the wealthy of this world.
- b/ The News constantly tells us of terrible things that happen to the wealthy of this world.

Vs.17-19... For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous. (18) The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will remain forever; (19) they are not put to shame in evil times; in the days of famine they have abundance.

Q4. What promise for those who intentionally follow the teachings of Jesus is contained here?

- a/ God takes no notice of the wicked.
- b/ God allows evil to win.
- c/ God will defend right behavior.

Vs.20... But the wicked will perish; the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures; they vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

Q5. What mindset does King David display in these verses from his song of praise?

- a/ Seeking pleasure is what it's all about.
- b/ To live a humble life at peace with God is the goal.

-- I will close by encouraging you to read Jesus' words in Matthew 6:31-34, where He says, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."...(KK)

Bible Quiz #31 - God's Art in Scripture... (Circle the correct answer quiz)

God is the Greatest Artist of all time, (and beyond). This cannot be denied nor should it be disregarded by those whose talents are not in the artistic vein.

-- Sometime the practically minded struggle to comprehend the art in God's Word (the Bible).

As an example, read how Jesus spoke to Peter in John 21:17.. He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. (ESV)

Q1. How do we properly interpret this command?

The practical mind might think...

a/ He is telling Peter to find His sheep somewhere scattered on the mountains and take care of them.

While the artists may think...

b/ This is picture language where Jesus is likening His followers to sheep without a shepherd.

We find the artist's interpretation is the correct one when we research the words of Jesus, for we find in Mark 6:32-34... And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. (33) Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. (34) When He (Jesus) went ashore He saw a great crowd, and He had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And He began to teach them many things. (ESV)

-- Jesus often taught using parables, fiction stories of how people actually thought and behaved.

This again is God using His artist's ability in verbal communication.

(Circle the correct answers)

Q2. So what are we to do when artistic confusion hinders our study of God's Word?

We... a/ search historical records. b/ abide by strict language interpretation. c/ seek God's help.

It sometimes helps to find out the historical setting of these lessons, for cultural nuances are often addressed in the Bible, and these cultural quirks may change over time.

-- However, the heart message remains true regardless of culture change. (And God sees the heart.)

God counsels us to pray and rely on God Himself to give us a proper understanding...

This is written for us in John 14:25-26... (Jesus tells them) "These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

IMPORTANT NOTE: *God's Holy Spirit will not support mankind's tendency to arrogance and pride, therefore God requires humility when we receive any of His gifts of the Holy Spirit.*

We also need to work together and humbly accept the teaching of others God has given us to help answer our confusions. (Sometimes these answers will come from those we least expect.)

This is written for us in 1st Corinthians 12:27-30... Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (28) And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. (29) Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? (30) Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

Q3. Fill in the blanks... Vs29(a)... ____ all apostles? ____ all prophets? ____ all teachers?

a/ making – making - making b/ are – are - are

Q4. Fill in the blanks... Vs29(b)... Do all work miracles? (30) ____ all possess gifts of healing? ____ all speak with tongues? ____ all interpret?

a/ so – so - so b/ do – do - do

(Continued on Pg.#2)

In 1st Corinthians 12:27-30 we find that God has provided certain positions to expound His word and directions to us His followers. (He also tells us to test those who claim such positions.)

1st John 4:1-3 (ESV) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. (2) By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, (3) and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

Also in...

Matthew 7:15-18 (ESV) "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. (16) You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? (17) So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. (18) A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit.

Q5. These verse say we can recognize true apostles, prophets, and teachers by seeing if they...

a/ focus on sharing Jesus as God's Messiah. b/ give us a lot of fruit to eat. c/ say what we want to hear.

Q6. We can recognize false prophets by checking out if...

a/ dress in sheepskins. b/ look like wolves. c/ they seek to please the flesh and mistreat others.

To understand the truths presented in any of God's teachings also requires diligence...

2nd Timothy 3:14-17 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it (15) and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (16) All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, (17) that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Q7. The Apostle Paul is teaching Timothy the value of...

a/ looking for signs and wonders. b/ not worrying about scripture. c/ all God's Word.

Q8. How long had Timothy been taught God's Words?

a/ For 3 yrs. In Bible school. b/ Since he was a child. c/ Since he met Paul.

Q9. Therefore Paul is also teaching Timothy about the value of...

a/ continued study of scripture. b/ quitting further study of scripture.

Q10. 2nd Timothy 3:16 tells us that all scripture is good to...

a/ gain the admiration of others. b/ advance your ambitions. c/ teach, correct, and train.

This fact that God is a Creative Genius cannot be denied, and the goal of God's artistry was always to create something beautiful. And as in the creation account from the Bible, when God states that His creation "was good"... You can be sure that what He made was (and still is to some great measure) mind-blowingly amazing.

Sometimes you therefore come across God's use of art in His Word (the Bible).

-- When we struggle to comprehend some scriptures, it is good to know God has given us ways of gaining a better understanding. Let us commit to make use of all these resources that He has so generously given, so we may grow in knowledge of the amazing God we serve. (KK)

Bible Quiz #32 - God's inspiration in the song: 'sweet forgiveness' (Pg.#1)

God gives such beautiful insight to His people at times, these come to us in various ways, sometimes it's the understanding of just the right things to say in answer to a desperate soul's request. There are also times when God moves an artist's heart to write down inspired lyrics, words that will reach deep into another's heart and reveal great truths.

– I hope you find a Youtube version of this song to listen to before we go further...

'Sweet Forgiveness' by Gordon Mote

(Verse #1/a)

"They say forgiveness is the fragrance of the violet,
that lingers on to shoe when crushed, flows into the ground."

– I must say that this is the line that captured my attention. A powerful description of what it takes to give others our forgiveness...

Q1. Fill in the correct missing words... From Matthew 6:14 (GNB) "If you _____ the wrongs they have done to you, your Father in heaven will also forgive you."

a/ pay back b/ remember long c/ forgive others

Q2. Fill in the correct missing words... From 1st Peter 3:9 (GNB) Do not pay back evil with evil or cursing with cursing; instead, pay back with _____, because a blessing is what God promised to give you when He called you.

a/ a shunning b/ a blessing c/ a fist

(Verse #1/b)

– It isn't an easy request that God requires of us, that is why the next line rings so true...

"Precious few possess the strength to give it,
Lord, I'm just glad that You were looking down."

Q3. Fill in the correct missing words... From 1st Peter 3:17 (GNB) For it is better _____ for doing good, if this should be God's will, than for doing evil.

a/ to benefit b/ the blessing c/ to suffer

Q4. Fill in the correct missing words... From 1st Peter 3:11-12 (GNB) You must turn away from evil and do good; you must strive for peace with all your heart. (12) For the Lord _____ the righteous and listens to their prayers; but He opposes those who do evil."

a/ watches over b/ will judge c/ will ignore

(Chorus)

Sweet Forgiveness, a Gift that is always stronger than the sin.
Sweet Forgiveness, a second chance to walk with You again.

Q5. Fill in the correct missing words... From 1st John 1:7 (GNB) But if we live in the light—just as He is in the light—then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, _____ us from every sin.

a/ convicts b/ condemns c/ purifies

Q6. Fill in the correct missing words... From 1st John 1:9 (GNB) But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and _____ all our wrongdoing.

a/ purify us from b/ make note of c/ save in records

As we move on in our quiz to pg.#2, I hope these words resonate in your heart...

Sweet Forgiveness, a Gift that is always stronger than, the sin.
Sweet Forgiveness, a second chance to walk with You again.

Bible Quiz #32 - God's inspiration in the song: 'sweet forgiveness' (Pg.#2)

(Verse #2/a)

You wiped away my tears and said you're only human.
To hear that from You, Lord, to be a soul divine.

Q7. Fill in the correct missing words... From 1st Matthew 26:40-41 (GNB) Then He (Jesus) returned to the three disciples and found them asleep; and He said to Peter, "How is it that you three were not able to keep watch with me for even one hour? (41) Keep watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the _____."

a/ devil is powerful b/ subject is boring c/ flesh is weak

Q8. Fill in the correct missing words... From 1st Psalm 51:17 (GNB) My sacrifice is a humble spirit, O God; you will _____ a humble and repentant heart.

a/ totally ignore b/ not reject c/ truly disdain

(Verse #2/b)

I'm thankful for the love that I'm not losing,
And the mercy that You've shown this heart of mine.

Q9. Fill in the correct missing words... From John 3:16 (GNB) For God _____ so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.

a/ disregarded the world b/ hated the world c/ loved the world

Q10. Fill in the correct missing words... From John 3:17 (GNB) For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to _____.

a/ be the executioner b/ be its Savior c/ be its destroyer

– What a great song of God's trustworthy love and forgiveness for us who grieve Him so...

"Sweet Forgiveness, a Gift that is always stronger than, the sin.

Sweet Forgiveness, a second chance to walk with You again."

Are you aware of this forgiveness? If not I invite you to turn your thoughts to our unseen Father God, and by faith talk to Him and ask Him to forgive your sins, and commit yourself to turning away from all sin to follow Him.

-- He is indeed **STRONGER** than any sin... God bless! ...(KK)

Bible Quiz #33 - About doing good... What motivates us to do good?

--This quiz leads to a study of righteousness, an uncomfortable word these days.

(CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER)

-- We need to understand that God sees the heart, when we do good to be seen as a do-gooder we are not motivated correctly. This will not please God.

SEE: Matthew 5:20 - For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

ALSO: 2 Timothy 2:22 - Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

So what is righteousness? (Some see it as a dirty word equal to arrogance and hypocrisy.)

Proverbs 21:3 - To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

Q1. Here we are told God requires us to do justly... What is also required in our just actions?

a/ vengeance b/ prejudice c/ mercy

We see here that, doing good is living a righteous life.

-- Living a righteous life costs, for it will often require that you act against your own personal desires.

-- Can you live rightly without compassion and a love for others?

Let's dig into Luke 10:25-37 (GNB)

Luke 10:25-26... A teacher of the Law came up and tried to trap Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to receive eternal life?" (26) Jesus answered him, "What do the Scriptures say? How do you interpret them?"

Q2. We are told that this question was a trap, to make Jesus look bad... What was the question?

It was about... a/ giving a tithe. b/ how to receive eternal life. c/ working on the Sabbath.

Q3. The teachers of the Law believed that strict obedience to the Law was required... How did Jesus handle the Pharisees and Sadducees...

He... a/ praised them. b/ supported their teachings. c/ called them out for their hypocrisy.

Q4. So Jesus asks this man to tell Him...

a/ how he interprets scripture. b/ how many times he prays. c/ how often he goes to church.

Luke 10:27-29... The man answered, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind'; and 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' " (28) "You are right," Jesus replied; "do this and you will live." (29) But the teacher of the Law wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?"

Q5. At the man's response, Jesus tells him that...

a/ he's wrong. b/ he doesn't know the scriptures. c/ he's right, and to live that way.

Q6. This man wants to press for exclusions in the details in the Law, so he asks...

a/ how to love God? b/ how to love your neighbor? c/ who is my neighbor?

(We'll see how that deals with righteousness next on Pg.#2)

Bible Quiz #33 - About doing good... What motivates us to do good? (Pg.#2)

Jesus teaches about who is your neighbor by telling a life example story in Luke 10:30-36... Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. (31) It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. (32) In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. (33) But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. (34) He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. (35) The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.' "

In this story, we first have a priest come upon this stricken traveler lying in a ditch...

Q7. How does this priest see the victim?

He sees... a/ an unfortunate stranger. b/ a neighbor.

Q8. Why doesn't he think the Law would require him to stop to help?

The man is... a/ a stranger and not his business. b/ not his neighbor. c/ both a & b.

Next we find a Levite discovers this stricken traveler lying in a ditch...

Q9. What did Levites do for an occupation?

They... a/ were temple officials. b/. police officers. c/ jean makers.

Q10. This Levite stops, takes a look, and decides not to help because...

a/ it was not his business. b/. it was not a neighbor. c/ both a & b.

Next, we find that a Samaritan comes to the rescue and generously gives aid to the stricken citizen, even though he himself was a foreigner just traveling by...

Q11. How did the Jews look at the Samaritans?

They were... a/ of Jewish and pagan heritage. b/. unfaithful Jews. c/ both a & b.

Q12. Why did Jesus choose to make a Samaritan the righteous hero of this story?

To... a/ show the law is without bias. b/. to show right behavior includes mercy. c/ both a & b.

Luke 10:36-37... And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbor toward the man attacked by the robbers?" (37) The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him." Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

Q12. How does this story relate to our trying to live a righteous life?

To do so we must also... a/ live without prejudice or bias. b/. show mercy. c/ both a & b.

Isn't that simply what we all know of Jesus, that He would tell us, "You go, then, and do the same."

I hope this has been an encouragement to you... (KK)

Bible Quiz #34 - Do you see only struggles?

Have you gone through, or maybe you're going through a time of struggle to struggle?

-- These times can lead us to be disappointed in God's handling of our lives.

-- Disappointments tend to lead us into doubting. We should be careful when dealing with our calling to follow God, that we do not let any of our life's disappointments affect our trust in Him.

(It helps to remember who is leading and who is following.)

May I suggest the way the Apostle Paul handled such things sets us a wonderful example...

Let's read 2nd Corinthians 11:24-31... (ESV) Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. (25) Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; (26) on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; (27) in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. (28) And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. (29) Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? (30) If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. (31) The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.

Q1. Put a check-mark for every suffering Paul endured...

- ☐ - 5X forty lashes ☐ - 3X beaten with rods ☐ - 3X shipwrecked ☐ - endangered by rivers
☐ - in danger of robbery ☐ - hunted by other Jews and Gentiles ☐ - betrayed
☐ - in danger in the wilderness and on the seas ☐ - feeling burdened by work
☐ - suffering sleepless nights ☐ - going hungry or thirsty ☐ - suffering cold exposure
☐ - Worry about other brothers and sisters

-- Of course, this question is designed to illustrate how much the Apostle Paul can testify to suffering...

Q2. From 2nd Corinthians 11:29... Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? -- Here Paul is asking us to understand...

- a/ his anxiety over the sufferings of others. b/ his anger at injustice and abuse. c/ both a & b.
(Can we identify with these ourselves?)

Q3. From 2nd Corinthians 11:30... If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. Why does Paul say this?

- a/ to brag about how much he's suffered. b/ to show how God understands our weaknesses.
(*"If we must boast", why should we show others our weaknesses?*)

Q4. If you understand, as Paul did, that God knows our weaknesses...

-- How do you think He reacts to them?

- a/ He gets frustrated. b/ He gets angry. c/ He is sympathetic and forgiving.

Oswald Chambers proposed that the root of all sin lies in the suspicion that God is not good.

-- This doubt shows itself in us when we lose hope, or think our prayers aren't doing any good...

Faith, on the other hand, looks past all our struggling, and trusts that God is with us and working in us, for blessings not for suffering... **In time, who might be blessed by our struggling and suffering?**

(*HINT: It isn't always about us, sometimes God is trying to minister to others.*)

To look into that further, we'll read Philippians 1:3-6... (ESV) I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, (4) always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, (5) because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. (6) And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Q5. Fill in the blanks...

From Vs.6... He who began a good work in you will _____.

- a/ quit and give up. b/ forsake you and leave. c/ bring it to completion

On page #2 we will look at... **What GOOD WORK(S) has God started in you?**

From: Do you only see struggles (Pg.#2)

What GOOD WORK has God started in you?

SEE Romans 12:6-8 (GNB) So we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us. If our gift is to speak God's message, we should do it according to the faith that we have; (7) if it is to serve, we should serve; if it is to teach, we should teach; (8) if it is to encourage others, we should do so. Whoever shares with others should do it generously; whoever has authority should work hard; whoever shows kindness to others should do it cheerfully.

-- A question before we go any further... Who do we use God's gifts for? (Ourselves OR Others?)

(Highlighted in the underlined phrases above.)

Q6. In Romans 12:6-8, Paul makes a partial list of various gifts God gives His people...

(Checkmark the ones you can find above.)

O – Speaking God's message. O – Serving. O – Teaching. O – Sharing.

O – Having authority. O – Acts of kindness. O – Selfishness. O – Encouraging.

** (If anyone selected Selfishness, I think you need to explain yourself ;)*

From Vs.8 I want to focus on the word, "encourage" -- From the Greek word *parakaleō* (*par-ak-al-eh'-o*); to call near, that is, invite, invoke (by imploration or consolation): - beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) *exhort (-ation), intreat, pray.

*(*Footnote: exhort comes from the Latin meaning "to urge earnestly".)*

1st Thessalonians 5:9-11 (ESV) For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, (10) who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. (11) Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Q7. How is the gift of encouragement to be used? (Underline the correct answer.)

a/ To enable those who choose to live in sin. b/ To comfort and strengthen fellow believers.

Paul also wrote in Philippians 1:3-6... (ESV) I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, (4) always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, (5) because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. (6) ******And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Q8. How does Paul view all who work in these various services for the Lord?

(Checkmark the answers found above.)

O – He is frustrated. O – He sees them as his partners. O – He is thankful.

O – He prays for them. O – He's sure that God will continue these good works in them.

Paul told God's people, that they were partners in the gospel... He saw the work that we do, using our giftings, as partnering in spreading the Gospel of salvation and the building of God's Kingdom.

****I am also sure that as God has begun a good work in each of you, He will bring it to completion, and someday you will find out how many others you helped find Christ Jesus as their Savior.**

Bible Quiz #35 – How do we recognize Satan's lies?

His lying begins in Revelation 12:9... And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Interesting question: How does Satan bring destruction into our lives?

(For we have the power to decide our own futures.)

-- He can only lead us to turn away from our Creator, Satan cannot force us to turn away.

There are many deceptions and outright lies Satan uses to lead us away from God's blessings...

-- **The first deception is recorded in Genesis 3:1-5 (ESV)** Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" (2) And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, (3) but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" (4) But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. (5) For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Q1. From Genesis 3:1... Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"

What approach did the Serpent use to try to get Eve to leave following God's directions?

He... a/ bragged of his cleverness. b/ got her to doubt God's words. c/ used her hunger.

Q2. From Genesis 3:4-5... But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. (5) For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

We read of how his deceptions are expanded... Circle his attack we find here.

He... a/ tempted her with an apple. b/ showed her his own beauty. c/ said God lied to her.

Q3. There is another deception used in these verses... Circle this other attack we find here.

He said... a/ she could rule over Adam. b/ she could be like God. c/ he could make her rich.

Please note that the great serpent Satan doesn't force mankind to sin, he deceives us into choosing to sin.

-- This fact is repeated over and over again, for it makes us responsible for our sin, for we cannot say, "Satan MADE me do it!" That is why Satan's forces will always use deceptions to cause us to fall.

Let's look at some more of his deceptions...

Ephesians 2:1-2 (GNB) In the past you were spiritually dead because of your disobedience and sins. (2) At that time you followed the world's evil way; you obeyed the ruler of the spiritual powers in space, the spirit who now controls the people who disobey God.

Fill in the blanks...

Q4. Ephesians 2:1... In the past you were spiritually dead because of your _____ and sins.
a/ disobedience b/ arrogance c/ laziness

Q5. Ephesians 2:2... At that time you followed the world's evil way; you obeyed the ruler of the spiritual powers in space, the spirit who now _____ the people who disobey God.

a/ assists b/ punishes c/ controls

Satan takes control of our lives when we choose to disobey God...

It may seem like we are taking control of our lives, just like Eve tried to in Genesis 3:5.

However, in truth, you end up serving one or the other, God or Satan. Rebellion against God means we follow our fleshly ways that always lead us into Satan's trap.

(Pg. #2 of this quiz will examine how to avoid those traps)

(Pg. #2) - **In Matthew 24:23-27, we are told of the way to identify and reject the false christ...**
(GNB) "Then, if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or 'There he is!'—do not believe it. (24) For false Messiahs and false prophets will appear; they will perform great miracles and wonders in order to deceive even God's chosen people, if possible. (25) Listen! I have told you this ahead of time. (26) "Or, if people should tell you, 'Look, he is out in the desert!'—don't go there; or if they say, 'Look, he is hiding here!'—don't believe it. (27) For the Son of Man will come like the lightning which flashes across the whole sky from the east to the west.

Q6. In Matthew 24:23-24... We are told that "false Messiahs and false prophets will appear; they will perform great miracles and wonders..." - What is the purpose of these imposters?

a/ To entertain. b/ To deceive. c/ To create a brave new world.

Q7. In Matthew 24:26-27... We are told how to know the false christ from the returning true Christ. How will we know the false claims from the true return of Jesus?

a/ The word will go out that the false christ has appeared at some particular place.

b/ The true return of our Lord Jesus will be evidenced everywhere on earth. c/ both a & b

The anti-christ will be the final attempt to deceive even God-followers...

-- God's Word has not left us without instruction as to how to stay strong. As such this quiz will close by looking at Ephesians 6:10-18...

Ephesians 6:10-18 (GNB) Finally, build up your strength in union with the Lord and by means of his mighty power. (11) Put on all the armor that God gives you, so that you will be able to stand up against the Devil's evil tricks. (12) For we are not fighting against human beings but against the wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this dark age. (13) So put on God's armor now! Then when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist the enemy's attacks; and after fighting to the end, you will still hold your ground. (14) So stand ready, with truth as a belt tight around your waist, with righteousness as your breastplate, (15) and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of peace. (16) At all times carry faith as a shield; for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the Evil One. (17) And accept salvation as a helmet, and the word of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you. (18) Do all this in prayer, asking for God's help. Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads. For this reason keep alert and never give up; pray always for all God's people.

Q8. In Ephesians 6:10 (GNB) Finally, build up your strength in union with the Lord and by means of his mighty power. - **How do we find the strength and power to overcome Satan's deceptions?**

We can do so by... a/ gaining a B.A. in Theology. b/ following a famous preacher.

c/ walking close to God guided by His Holy Scriptures as opened to us by His Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 6:10-18 lists battle-armor that we are to put on to be able to stand and win the spiritual warfare... Check-mark the 'armor' you find there: (I hope you only find 7 in these 9.)

☐ – Belt of TRUTH. ☐ – Breastplate of RIGHT-LIVING. ☐ – Shield of FAITH that God is over all.

☐ – Shoes of readiness to tell of the Good News of peace in accepting Jesus as Savior and Lord.

☐ – Crusades against all infidels. ☐ – Head-protection in trusting Jesus to be your Savior.

☐ – Sword God's Word to defeat Satan. ☐ – Plans to attack sin-filled leadership.

☐ – The leadership of the Holy Spirit, as we seek His guidance through constant prayer.

Ephesians 6:18 tells how to accomplish this... Do all this in prayer, asking for God's help. Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads. For this reason keep alert and never give up; pray always for all God's people. (I will leave that command from God's Word to lead us all on to VICTORY... KK)

Bible Quiz #36 – Do you have a God-given gift?

I was brought to this scripture through 'Faith to Live By' program, as Pastor Jim Barber preached on the need for both the practical and the doctrinal in Christianity.

- I was encouraged to hear the truth of how the two, practical & doctrinal work in partnership.
- You cannot work in a practical ministry of God, without knowing the spiritual (doctrinal) mind of God.
- Just as you cannot live in a doctrinal bubble without putting your faith to work. (Your good works.)

(Select the correct answer)

See Ephesians 4:1-8... (GNB) I urge you, then—I who am a prisoner because I serve the Lord: live a life that measures up to the standard God set when he called you.

Q1. How do we know the standards that God has set for our callings?

By... a/ listening to Oprah. b/ following Dr. Phil. c/ following God's Word (Bible).

Q2. How should a church formulate their doctrine?

By... a/ listening to Oprah. b/ following Dr. Phil. c/ following God's Word (Bible).

Vs.2... Be always humble, gentle, and patient. Show your love by being tolerant with one another.

Q3. This verse teaches us how to...

a/ practice Christianity. b/ approve of sin. c/ cast out sinners.

(3) Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds you together.

Q4. Vs.3 tells us that 'unity' is...

a/ impossible. b/ given by the Spirit thru peace with one another. c/ only thru total agreement.

-- **FOR DISCUSSION:** Let's talk about how we build unity in the church...

- a) What about: 1/ living up to God's standards? 2/ humility, gentleness, patience?
- b) How can we... "Show our love by being tolerant"?
- c) How much and what do we tolerate?

(4) There is one body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you. (5) There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; (6) there is one God and Father of all people, who is Lord of all, works through all, and is in all.

Q5. This teaches us that there is only...

☐ — one body (Church). ☐ — one Spirit. ☐ — one hope. ☐ — one Lord.
☐ — one faith. ☐ — one baptism. ☐ — one God.

(7) Each one of us has received a special gift in proportion to what Christ has given. (8) As the scripture says, "When he went up to the very heights, he took many captives with him; he gave gifts to people."

Q6. Vs.7 tells us that each one of us has received...

a/ an impossible task. b/ a call to relax and do nothing. c/ a gift from Jesus.

Q7. Vs.7 tells us that this gift is...

a/ for our amusement. b/ a special gift. c/ nothing special, for everyone has one.

Q8. In Vs.8 who are we told gives us these gifts?

a/ the Apostle Paul. b/ the church. c/ Jesus.

A closing question: If Jesus gives you your gift, how are you to use it?

- (Think about what the giver expects.)

Bible Quiz #37 – The death of two criminals.
(Sub-title – Absent from the body, present with the Lord.)

We take this quiz from the account of the crucifixion of Jesus found in Luke 23:32-43... (ESV)

(Select the correct answer)

Luke 23:32-33... Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. (33) And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

Q1. Three men died on those crosses that day, why is this entitled the death of two criminals?

a/ Two were indeed guilty of crimes. b/ Jesus was innocent. c/ Both a & b are true.

Luke 23:34-38... And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. (35) And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" (36) The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine (37) and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" (38) There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Q2. What is the challenge of ridicule that is directed at Jesus in these verses?

They... a/ tried to get Him drunk. b/ called Him the King of the Jews.

c/ said, "if you are the Christ save yourself".

Luke 23:39... One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

Q3. What is the reaction of this co-convicted man?

a/ He joins in the ridicule. b/ He displays his unbelief in Jesus as the Messiah. c/ Both a & b.

Luke 23:40-41... But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? (41) And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

Q4. What is the reaction of this second co-convicted man?

a/ He is repentant. b/ He recognizes the innocence of Jesus. c/ Both a & b are true.

Luke 23:42... And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Q5. What do we see in this convicted man?

He... a/ also ridicules Jesus. b/ shows that he believes Jesus is the Messiah. c/ also claims innocence.

Luke 23:43... And He said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Q6. What do these words of Jesus promise to this convicted criminal?

That he... a/ has been forgiven. b/ is accepted as a follower of Jesus. c/ Both a & b are true.

Q7. What else do these words of Jesus reveal to us when we also follow the Savior?

That when we die... a/ we stay in the grave. b/ that's THE END. c/ our spirit goes to be with Jesus.

A closing question for you to answer:

Does this agree with the statement of the Apostle Paul in 2nd Corinthians 5:5-9? - "He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him." - (May God bless and encourage you in this. ...KK)

Bible Quiz #38 – Taking our thoughts captive...

2nd Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV) For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. **4** The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. **5** We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

-- Let's dig into this powerful insight of our life struggles taught to us by a man who faced so many TERRIBLE struggles in his own walk, following the Lord. (The Apostle Paul.)

(Circle the correct answer.)

Vs.3(a)... For though we live in the world...

Q1. – What is Paul saying about a Christian's life? (Note the underlined phrase.)

He is saying Christians... a) hide from the world. b) must still deal with the world around us.

Vs.3(b)... we do not wage war as the world does.

Q2 – Do you think you are fighting a war?

a) Yes (Why do you feel this way?) b) No (Why do you feel this way?)

Q3 – Mark the difference between how we fight and how the world fights?

a) We all fight to win and destroy the enemy. b) Christians fight to deliver and save the enemy.

Vs.4... The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

Q4 – What does “divine power” mean to you?

(Where on a power-scale of 1-10 would you rate it?) ...Please explain your rating.

Q5 – What does the word “strongholds” mean here?

a) groups in power. b) people with opposing views. c) forces putting up spiritual barriers.

Vs5... We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Q6 – Paul tells us our divine power can demolish pretensions... What are “pretensions”?

a) Bible = every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God.

b) English Dictionary = a claim or title to something. c) Both are valid definitions.

In closing, the following questions are designed for group discussion...

Q7 – What opinions does the worldly mindset claim that hinder gaining a true knowledge of God?

Q8 – How do we make our thoughts obey Christ? (Maybe you have some steps to take?)

Q9 – Do you wish to share any thoughts you have taken captive, or need to take captive?

A final question for those of us who fear the fate of unsaved loved ones...

– What can we do to calm those fears? (Take them captive.)

(I pray that every Christian can find peace in God's merciful judgment for loved ones.)

Bible Quiz #39 – Do you serve a Master?

Is there a neutral ground? (*Mark the correct answer*)

First, we look to Joshua 24:14-15 (GNB) "Now then," Joshua continued, "honor the LORD and serve him sincerely and faithfully. Get rid of the gods which your ancestors used to worship in Mesopotamia and in Egypt, and serve only the LORD."

Q1 – What do the underlined words mean to us? "Get rid of the gods which your ancestors used to worship in Mesopotamia and in Egypt, and serve only the LORD."

- a/ We can serve ancestral and various gods. b/ God only accepts exclusive service.

(Vs.15) If you are not willing to serve him, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your ancestors worshiped in Mesopotamia or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are now living. As for my family and me, we will serve the LORD."

Q2 – What do the underlined words mean? "If you are not willing to serve him, decide today whom you will serve..."

- a/ We can be God's followers without serving Him. b/ If we choose to follow God we must serve Him.

Now let's hear the words of Jesus, about trying to stay on NEUTRAL GROUND.

– See the teaching of Jesus in Matthew 6:19-24...

Matthew 6:19-20... (GNB) "Do not store up riches for yourselves here on earth, where moths and rust destroy, and robbers break in and steal. (20) Instead, store up riches for yourselves in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and robbers cannot break in and steal."

Q3 – Choose what you think are worldly riches from this list:

- ☐ – expensive jewelry. ☐ – a collection of fine automobiles. ☐ – pride in your position of authority.
☐ – freedom to quit working and holiday forever. ☐ – lots of money. ☐ – a desire to know God better.

Q4 – To contrast the worldly riches, select what you think are Godly riches from this list:

- ☐ – trusting God to decide your future. ☐ – expensive jewellery. ☐ – a clear conscience.
☐ – comfort in times of struggle. ☐ – a lack of fear. ☐ – a desire to know God better.

Matthew 6:21... For your heart will always be where your riches are.

Q5 – What does the heart (*here meaning our desires*) have to do with our riches?

- a/ What we try to accumulate in life will follow our desires.
b/ Not a thing! I can easily give up everything I have worked hard to attain.

Matthew 6:22-23... "The eyes are like a lamp for the body. If your eyes are sound, your whole body will be full of light; (23) but if your eyes are no good, your body will be in darkness. So if the light in you is darkness, how terribly dark it will be!"

Q6 – What do our eyes have to do with where our 'heart' is?

- a/ We'll follow God's lead if we desire to see Him. b/ Our nature is to seek after selfish desires. c/ Both a & b

Matthew 6:24... "You cannot be a slave of two masters; you will hate one and love the other; you will be loyal to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

-- Here Jesus used the example of money-making, however, this principle applies to all worldly desires.

Q7 – Have we chosen to follow false gods? – We should be careful about what we desire out of life... (KK)