

# Giving A Bible Answer

I Pet 3:15 reads “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:” When someone asks us a Bible question, we ought to give a Bible Answer, but many preachers choose not to do so.

For example on our April 28 program we had a caller ask about whether Noah’s flood was global or local. He said the Bible Answer Man (Hank Hanegraaff) had said the flood was local because if it were global, then where did all that water go?

This is typical of many Bible teachers. They claim they are giving you Bible answers to questions, but they actually do just the exact opposite of that. Instead, they give their own answer and ignore what the Bible actually has to say.

The Bible is not unclear on this question. Notice in talking about the flood, Gen 7:19-20 says “**And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep.**” (ESV)

Do you see the difference in the Bible Answer Man’s answer and a real Bible Answer? We should always give what the Bible actually says regarding such questions, and keep our human reasoning and opinions to our self. Better yet, we should make our opinion the same as what the Bible says on every subject it touches on.

The following is from The Birmingham News, Aug 6, 2003 - The Episcopal Church approved its first openly gay bishop Tuesday ... (new gay bishop) Robinson cited the examples of ordaining women priests and accepting divorce in the church as departures ... Just simply saying it departs from ... Scripture does not necessarily make it wrong.

I Cor 6:9-10 “**Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.**” (NKJV)

Is the Episcopal Church giving a “Bible Answer” regarding homosexuality, or a false answer?

What about this idea of the Episcopal Church “**ordaining women priests**” (women preachers)? Is that a Bible answer?

I Cor 14:34-35 “**Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law. And if they will**

learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."

And the third thing from the Birmingham News quote, the Episcopal Church "accepting divorce;" what does the Bible say about that?

Matt 19:9 "... Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

Is the Episcopal Church giving a "Bible Answer" regarding divorce, or their own answer?

Billy Graham is famous for teaching in crusade after crusade that people needed to come forward and accept Christ in order to be saved. But in an interview with Robert Schuller (5-31-1997), Mr. Graham said "Whether they come from the Muslim world, or the Buddhist world, or the Christian world, or the non-believing world, they are members of the body of Christ because they've been called by God. They may not even know the name of Jesus, but they know in their hearts they need something that they don't have and they turn to the only light they have and I think they're saved and they're going to be with us in heaven." In McCall's magazine (Jan 1978) Graham said "I used to believe that pagans in far-off countries were lost — were going to h-e-l-l — if they did not have the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached to them. I no longer believe that. ... I believe that there are other ways of recognizing the existence of God—through nature, for instance—and plenty of other opportunities, therefore, of saying 'yes' to God."

- John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."
- John 8:24 "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."

Was Billy Graham giving a "Bible Answer" or his own false answer?

- Our Faith and the Facts, page 399: The church at one time practiced immersion. This was up to the thirteenth century. The Council of Ravenna, in 1311, changed the form from immersion to pouring.
- Let every adult person, and the parents of every child to be baptized, have the choice of sprinkling, pouring, or immersion (Methodist Discipline, 1956, pg.545)

Rom 6:4-5 "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:"

What is the Bible Answer regarding the mode of baptism?

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The baptism of young children is to be retained in the church (Methodist Discipline, 1956, pg.31)

Acts 8:36-37 “And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

What is the Bible Answer regarding infant baptism?

What about the following quote on the necessity of baptism – “The Scriptures teach that the sinner obtains remission of his sins in answer to prayer before baptism (Ben M. Bogard, noted Missionary Baptist debater, Bogard-Warlick Debate, pg.81)”

Mark 16:16 “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be [condemned].”

Example of Saul – believe (Acts 9:3-6), pray (Acts 9:11), then needed to be baptized to get sins washed away (Acts 22:16)

John 3:5 Except a man be born of water & of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God

Acts 2:38 Repent, and be baptized ... for the remission of sins ...

Gal 3:26-27 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

I Pet 3:21 baptism doth also now save us

What is the Bible Answer regarding the necessity of baptism to salvation?

Sam Morris, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Stamford, Texas - ... a Christian's sins do not d-a-m-n his soul. The way a Christian lives, what he says, his character, his conduct, or his attitude toward other people have nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul. ... All the prayers a man may pray, all the Bibles he may read, all the churches he may belong to, all the services he may attend, all the sermons he may practice, all the debts he may pay, all the ordinances he may observe, all the laws he may keep, all the benevolent acts he may perform will not make his soul one whit safer; and all the sins he may commit **from idolatry to murder** will not make his soul in any more danger ...

Galatians 5:4 "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace."

What is the Bible Answer regarding OSAS?

Wherefore, that we are justified by **faith, only**, is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort. (Article IX in The Articles of Religion of the Methodist Church)

James 2:24 “**Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.**”

What is the Bible Answer regarding whether salvation is by “faith only” or it takes trust and obedience?

Legislation on the Sacraments in the New Code of Canon Law, pg.87, Ayrinhac: **In the beginning Mass was celebrated only once a week**, then three or four times, and finally, in the fifth or sixth century, every day.

Acts 20:7 “**And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.**”

What is the Bible Answer regarding how often congregations should eat the Lord’s Supper?

Wikipedia on Matt 5:34 - **Most Christian thinkers have thus concluded that this verse is either Jesus using hyperbole to emphasize his point, or failing to mention exceptions to this rule that would have been implicit to his audience. Others interpret the original Greek as being less absolute than its English translations. Thus most Christian churches believe that only false and vain oaths are prohibited.** John Calvin argued that only oaths counter to God are wrong.

Matt 5:33-34 “**Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:**”

James 5:12 “**But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.**”

What is the Bible Answer regarding the scripturalness of ever swearing?

We should always try to give a Bible answer to every Bible question. That is what we try our very best to do on this program when you call in.