



BIBLE ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS

AND INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE HOLY WORD OF GOD

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BIBLE ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS

"...the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, 'Do not be afraid Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward'" (Gen. 15:1).

In essence the Creator God was declaring Himself to be Abram's (who was later renamed Abraham) Protector and Provider. He would be a Shield of strength that would deflect every attempt of Abram's enemies to harm him and the Lord God Himself would be Abram's "exceedingly great reward."

In response to the Lord's declaration of impenetrable protection and profoundly great reward, Abram asked a question. "But Abram said, 'Lord God, what will You give me, seeing I go childless and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'" (Gen. 15:2). Abram then suggested that since he had no children, he could formally adopt his house steward, Eliezer, to serve as his official heir (Gen. 15:3). The Creator rejected Abram's attempt to help Him solve the problem of his lack of an heir to carry on his line, saying to him; "...This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir" (Gen. 15:4). The Lord then took Abram outside to look toward heaven in order to count the stars if he was able, saying to him, "so shall your descendants be" (Gen. 15:5).

Abram, who was an old man and childless at the time, was promised by the God of heaven and earth that his descendants would be too

numerous to count, "And he believed God and he accounted it to him for righteousness" (Gen. 15:6). It was at this point in his life that Abram was given the sure hope of eternal life as he was declared righteous in God's sight. In addition to him being promised a natural born heir, the future of his descendants was revealed to him (Gen. 15:13-16) and the boundaries of the Promised Land were defined and guaranteed by covenant (Gen. 15:18-21). This unconditional covenant that God made with Abram is generally referred to as the Abrahamic Covenant. The land was promised as an everlasting possession and the physical descendant of Abram/Abraham would be perpetuated from generation to generation.

There is a day coming when the nation of Israel will dwell safely in the Promised Land, a land they will occupy forever and ever as God's chosen nation. What God has promised to the descendants of Abraham, He will do.

Because Christ is Alive!

W. Edward Bedore

Dr. W. Edward Bedore, Editor
BBI Bulletin, BABQ

God
ALWAYS
KEEPS HIS
Promises

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Timothy 3:16



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QUESTION: In what sense did Jesus Christ “take away the sin of the world” (John 1:29) and “put away sin” (Heb. 9:26)?

ANSWER: First of all, we must take note of the fact that while victory over sin was most assuredly won at the Cross, sin is still present with us today. Just looking at the state of our society today, it is obvious that sin has not been abolished yet. People are still sinners by nature and in practice, and those who die in their sins will just as assuredly suffer God’s wrath at the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15). It is also important to remember that sin is not a commodity that can be stored and moved around. It proceeds out of the heart (Matt. 15:18-19) and is manifest in the thoughts, words, and deeds of men and women.

Verses from John and Hebrews are referenced in this question. The Scripture statements in question are: “*behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world*” (John 1:29) and that, “*He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself*” (Heb. 9:26). Of course, the forgiveness and salvation of individuals is in view in both of these passages, but we believe it also has to do with the fulfillment of Israel’s prophetic future in relation to the New Covenant. This is a time when God’s chosen nation will finally be purged of all sin. In Hebrews 8:6-10:12 Christ’s sacrifice of Himself is shown to be acceptable to God and His blood sufficient to meet the requirements for the establishment of the New Covenant as it will be applied to Israel in the coming Millennial Kingdom and on into the Eternal Kingdom that will follow. With the coming of His Eternal Kingdom and the New Heaven and the New Earth, sin will finally and forever be put away and its curse completely removed.

QUESTION: I know that the Bible teaches that the unsaved are depraved, but what about believers who the Scriptures say are regenerated?

ANSWER: Even a casual look at the world and the shameful things that take place daily should convince us about the overall depravity of the human race. But, what about the kindly grandmother who has a sweet disposition and is always helping her family and others? How about the doctor who volunteers his time to treat the homeless and destitute at an inner-city free clinic? And then there are those who have given their lives to causes they believe will result in the betterment of mankind? Are they depraved? Shouldn’t we view these kinds of people as being selfless and good?

The truth is that what is seen on the outside is not always an accurate depiction of what is on the inside. If we could see into the hearts and minds of others, we would find sin, just as they would in ours. Resentment, impatience, lustful desires, bitterness, and hatreds would all be exposed as their hiding places were opened up to our gaze. The depravity of the old nature continues to live in the heart of every believer, whether they will admit it or not. The Apostle Paul understood this and laid his soul bare for us that we might learn to admit it to ourselves in order to experience the victory over the flesh that Jesus Christ has won for us (see Rom. 7:15-25).

Although sin is not eradicated from their heart at the time of salvation, believers have the power available to them to overcome its dominance over them. That power is the resurrection power of Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:15-20) that is bestowed on us by grace and may be accessed

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by faith (Rom. 5:1-2) as needed, which is continually. It is the power of our Living Savior being lived out in our lives as we submit to God's will as it is made known to us through His Word and the illuminating and empowering work of the Holy Spirit. Our old nature will not be completely eradicated until we depart this body of flesh to be with the Lord (II Cor. 5:8), or we are changed physically at the moment of the Rapture (I Cor. 15:49-53).

INTERESTING BIBLE FACTS

"Bible Bottle Names"



For some reason at least three sizes of large wine containers have been named after Bible characters from the Old Testament.

A "Jeroboam" is an oversize wine bottle that holds about 3.08 liters, or approximately 3qts, 8 oz. It is named after King Jeroboam "*who made Israel to sin*" (I Kin. 22:52, etc).

A "Jorum" can refer to a large drinking vessel or its contents. It is thought to be named after a man named Joram in the Bible. He was sent by his father, King Toi, of Hamath (a city about 125 miles north of Damascus) with vessels of silver, gold, and bronze as gifts to honor David after he defeated their common enemy, King Hadadezer of Damascus (II Sam. 8:9-10).

A "Methuselah" is a jumbo sized wine bottle that holds about 6.15 liters or a little more than 2 ½ gallons. Its name comes from Methuselah, who holds the longevity record for all mankind, having lived to be 969 years old (Gen. 5:25-27).

"Jeremiah's in Scripture"

While we usually associate the name Jeremiah with the prophet who wrote the Bible book of Jeremiah, there are also eight other men called by that name in the Bible. **(1).** A Benjaminite warrior who joined David at Ziklag, c. 1015 B.C. (I Chron 12:4). **(2) (3).** Two Gadites who were part of David's band in the wilderness, c. 1015 B.C. (I Chron. 12:10, 13). **(4).** A leader of the tribe of Manasseh around the time of Israel's deportation by the Assyrians in 722 B.C. (I Chron. 5:24). **(5).** A man from Libnah who was the father of Hamutal, wife of Josiah and mother of Jehoahaz and Zedekiah, c. 625 B.C. (II Kin. 23:31; 24:18; Jer. 52:1). **(6).** A priest who went back to Jerusalem with Zerubbabel in 536 B.C. (Neh. 12:1). **(7).** One of the twenty-two priests in Jerusalem who signed Nehemiah's covenant of repentance and separation in 445 B.C. (Neh. 10:2). **(8).** A man of the Rechabites who was the son of Habazaniah and father of Jaazaniah. His son, Jaazaniah seems to have been the leader of the Rechabites when Jeremiah the prophet tested them with the offer of wine, c. 628 B.C. (Jer. 35:3ff). **(9).** The prophet Jeremiah was a priest whose prophetic ministry in Jerusalem lasted forty years covering the reigns of the last five kings of Judah, c. 526-486 B.C. (Jer. 1:1-3). The main theme of his prophetic ministry was the captivity of the Kingdom of Judah and the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple and God's promise of Israel's future restoration. Although it is broken into fewer chapters, Jeremiah has 5,618 more words than Isaiah, making it second only to Psalms in length, which with 42,682 words has 28 more than Jeremiah. With the 3,411 words of Lamentations, Jeremiah's contribution to the written Word of God is an impressive 46,065 words. Only Moses wrote more with Genesis through Deuteronomy totaling 156,736 words. (Word counts from the KJV).



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COMMON SAYINGS FROM THE BIBLE

“A House Divided Cannot Stand”

When accused of being empowered by Satan to be able to cast out demons, the Lord Jesus Christ replied, *“Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls”* (see Lk. 11:14-17ff). The meaning is pretty clear. If He was defeating demons by the power of Satan, then Satan would be fighting against his own army, which would only speed up his own final destruction. The Lord Jesus used this illustration to show the absurdity of the charges against Him. While the principle behind it is true, we must remember that Satan, at times, might put on a show to deceive people by allowing false teachers to “appear” to cast out demons from possessed people. In this case, the demons would go out at the command of the satanically influenced false teachers to make it seem like they are exercising power over the demons in order to help carry out Satan’s quest for spiritual domination of the world and the destruction of God’s people. The false teachers themselves may even be deceived by this Satanic ploy into thinking they have God’s power. Matthew 7:21-23 appears to be this kind of situation at the end of the Tribulation. The Apostle Paul warns us that in this present Dispensation of Grace to *“be strong in the Lord and the power of His might”* putting on the *“whole armor of God”* that we will *“be able to*

stand against the wiles of the Devil” (Eph. 6:10-11). This is necessary because the battle we are in is not a physical conflict but a spiritual one (see Eph. 6:12-18).

“You Can’t Take It With You”

This saying, or some variation of it, is commonly heard today. It comes from the Apostle Paul who put it this way; *“For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out”* (I Tim. 6:7).

The principle behind it is that; when we die we cannot take our material possessions with us. We have no choice, but to leave them behind. Regardless of this fact, many people live their lives as if whatever wealth they can accumulate in this life can provide security and give meaning to their life. The Lord Jesus illustrated the futility of this approach to life in the parable of the Rich Fool whose abundant wealth gave him a false sense of well-being (see Lk. 12:16-21ff).

Every person should give some serious thought to this truth when planning their future. That which has true value is found only in a personal relationship with the Creator God of the universe. Untold wealth is to be found in the riches of God’s grace; riches that are only accessible through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior; eternal riches that cannot be lost, stolen, or destroyed.

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