

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Eddy Dickinson

Opening Prayer: David Key

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery
Servers - Bradley Box
Ralph Burleson
Blake Eddy

Closing Prayer: Josh Berryhill

Preparing the Lord's Supper Deborah Box

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Bible Study | 10:00 am |
| Morning Worship | 10:45 am |
| Evening Worship | 5:00 pm |

Wednesday

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Bible Study | 7:00 pm |
|-------------|---------|

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Minister: Greg Lowery

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Who Influences You In Making A Decision



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



Questions from the Beginning

By Hiram Kemp

The Bible is a book full of answers. The Bible furnishes us with everything we need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). However, the Bible is also a book filled with questions. Sometimes there are questions asked by those who feel as if God deserted them (Psalm 10:1). God had a host of questions from Job when He appeared out of the whirlwind after Job complained about His absence (Job 38:1-3). The Pharisees had questions for Jesus, and Jesus had questions for them that they would not answer (Matthew 21:23-27).

The Book of Genesis is the book of beginnings. The word Genesis means beginning. As we open our Bibles to the first book in the Bible, we read of the beginning of the world, the beginning of God’s fellowship with man, the beginning of sin and the beginning of questions. There are several important questions asked in the first few chapters of Genesis that still need to be answered today.

Where Are You?

After Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God, He confronted them in the Garden (Genesis 3:1-6). God came to them, but He was not welcomed by Adam and Eve. Instead, they hid from Him as their guilt consumed them (Genesis 3:7-8). God asked Adam, “Where are you?” God was not asking Adam where he was because He could not find him. God created the Garden and all of its intricacies (Genesis 1:31). God knows everything and does not need anyone to teach Him anything (Romans 11:33-36). So, why did He ask Adam where he was? He wanted Adam to examine himself and see what he had allowed sin to do to him and to his relationship with God. Adam, who had once enjoyed genuine and uninterrupted fellowship with God, hid in shame from his Maker.

This question is important and still needs to be answered today. Each individual should take careful consideration of where he stands spiritually. Are you in Christ where all spiritual blessings are present (Ephesians 1:3)? Are you walking in the light with Jesus and being cleansed by His blood (1 John 1:7)? Are you in the church that Jesus is coming back to save (Ephesians 5:23)? Are you involved in works of the flesh that will keep you from the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:19-21)? The question of where we are does not relate to our geographic location. Instead, it relates to our spiritual location. Are we on the Lord’s side or on the side of the devil (Exodus 32:26)? Adam was ashamed of what he had done and where it placed him. He claimed that he was afraid, and his fear was no doubt caused by his sinful actions (Genesis 3:10). If this question causes fear in our

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Patty Berryhill: having problems with a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Buddy Frazier: undergoing cancer treatments, please keep him in your prayers

Hunter Coal Corkren: treating his kidney problem with medicine, please be praying that this problem clears up with this treatment

Felicia Berryhill: she is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that she will be able to receive the right medical treatment to help her

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

David Warren: he is fighting cancer, please be praying that his cancer will be defeated

Bobby Sanderson: continues to improve, please pray he has no further problems

Gunner Pendley: recovering from severe brain injury, please keep him and family in your prayers

Janet Spann: has severe COPD and other health problems, please keep her and her family in your prayers

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Wyatt Spann: his health is decreasing every day; please keep him and his family in your prayers

Frank Farris: is recovering from a stroke, please keep him in your prayers

Kye Jackson: (Lindsey’s son) has some health problems, please pray that the doctors will be able to help him

Jeff Upton (Donna Martin’s Co-worker): weakness in his legs, please pray that this will improve

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please pray that she will improve

Ren Garrison (Donna Martin’s Nephew): is still dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that this issue will be dealt with successfully

Tyler Upton: is in Atlanta going through rehab for injuries received in an automobile accident, please keep him and his family in your prayers

W. H. Box: recovering from recent bypass surgery, please pray that he will have a successful recovery

Winfred York: bladder cancer has returned, he will have a procedure to clean out his bladder, please be praying for him and Mrs. Vertie

Larry Eads: (member at Carbon Hill) diagnosed with stage 4 esophagus cancer, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Jack Willis (Meg Rutledge’s Father) is fighting cancer, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Tommy Housh: was unable to have surgery due to complications with his lungs, please pray that they will be able to successfully deal with his bladder cancer

hearts, we can repent, realign our lives and leave fear behind. God wants us where He is, and this happens as we reorient our lives to have them shaped by His Word.

Who Told You That?

The second question that God asked Adam was, “Who told you that you were naked?” (Genesis 3:11). God was getting at the heart of Adam’s disobedience and trying to get him to see that the reason he realized he was naked was because he sinned. Adam had been naked his entire life up to this point, and it never bothered him, but now he was ashamed of it. Adam was not getting his information from God. Adam was getting his information from himself and trying to maneuver in the way that he thought was best.

Today in religion there is a lot of information being passed around. Many never stop to consider who is telling them the things they are believing. Paul was disappointed in the churches of Galatia as they were being moved away from the true Gospel due to the influence of false teachers (Galatians 1:6-9). Paul asked them who bewitched them (Galatians 3:1). He wanted to know if they received the Spirit by the hearing of faith or by the works of the law (Galatians 3:2). Paul asked them how they began in the Spirit and now were trying to be made perfect through the Law of Moses (Galatians 3:3). Through these questions, Paul hoped to get those Christians to see their inconsistency.

We might ask similar questions concerning some issues that come up in our own day. Who told you that you can drink as long as you don’t get drunk (Ephesians 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:7-8; 1 Peter 4:1-4)? Who told you that one church was as good as another (Matthew 16:18-19; Ephesians 4:4)? Who told you that evening worship and Wednesday night services were optional (Hebrews 10:25)? Who told you that as long as your heart is in it, God doesn’t care how you worship (Matthew 15:7-9; John 4:23-24)? There are many more questions that we could ask here. Nevertheless, the point is we should consult the Word of God and not the words of men.

Have You Disobeyed God?

God asked Adam if he had eaten of the tree that He told him from which not to eat (Genesis 3:11; 2:16-17). God simply asked Eve, “What have you done?” (Genesis 3:13). God did all that He could to get Adam and Eve to admit their wrongdoing, but they failed to do so. They shifted the blame toward one another and eventually to the serpent. God knew that they disobeyed, and He laid out their punishment. The world is

forever changed because of their disobedience (Romans 5:12). They were evicted from the Garden, and they would die (Genesis 3:22-24; 5:5). All of this happened because they disobeyed God.

While every hardship in our lives is not a direct correlation to our disobedience, sometimes we suffer because we are disobeying God. King Saul learned the hard way that to obey is better than sacrifice (1 Samuel 15:22). Our love of God is seen when we keep His commandments (1 John 2:3-5; 5:3). When we are in uncomfortable circumstances, we should ask if the reason we are in the particular position is because we have disobeyed God. Every act of disobedience comes with a price tag. We will not be sinless, but we can make wise decisions. We need to look inwardly to be sure that our disobedience has not complicated our lives.

Where Is Your Brother?

Cain killed his brother Abel because his works were evil, and his brother’s works were righteous (Genesis 4:1-7; 1 John 3:12). God appeared to Cain and asked him, “Where is your brother?” (Genesis 4:9). Cain avoided the question and shirked his responsibility to his brother. Abel’s blood was crying from the ground, and Cain’s nonchalant attitude could not silence it (Genesis 4:10).

Where is our brother? Where is our sister? We should be sure that if they have strayed from the Lord that we are working to bring them back (James 5:19-20). If they are struggling and overtaken in a fault, we should be helping them to overcome (Galatians 6:1-2). If they are rejoicing, we should rejoice as well (Romans 12:15). If our brother or sister is suffering, we should experience suffering with him or her (1 Corinthians 12:26). God wants us to be our brother’s keeper and to be concerned about where he stands. This was true for the first set of brothers, and it is also true for us today.

Conclusion

The Book of Genesis gives us a lot of answers. The first few chapters have eternal questions that the rest of the Bible helps us answer. God often teaches us today through questions, if we read His Word closely enough. The Bible is a book of questions, and it is also a book of answers.

Obtained at: www.gospelgazette.com

The Christian's Walk

- ☞ A Christian should walk worthy of his vocation { Ephesians 4:1
Colossians 1:10
- ☞ A Christian should walk by faith { 2 Corinthians 5:7
- ☞ A Christian should walk in love { John 15:10
Ephesians 5:120
- ☞ A Christian should walk circumspectly { Ephesians 5:15
- ☞ A Christian should walk separately { Ephesians 4:7
2 Corinthians 6:14-17
- ☞ A Christian should walk honestly { 2 Corinthians 4:2
1 Thessalonians 5:12
- ☞ A Christian should walk even as He walked { 1 John 2:6

Barnes' Bible Charts

| Upcoming Events | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Today | Nursing Home | 2:00 pm |
| January 19 th | Fellowship Meal | |
| January 19 th | Bible Bowl {Tidwell Chapel} | 2:00 pm |
| January 26 th | Tri-County Singing {Here} | 2:00 pm |