

November Questions / Answers

**The following questions are taken from emails and are printed below exactly as I received them. Names and contact information have been removed. The answers are in note form (sorry for any of my grammar errors) to be studied through. You'll have to examine each Scripture below to see the points. Please be mindful that there are often circumstances and details to every question that could potentially change the answer (there are generally no blanket answers to Bible questions).*

1. "Can you help me understand Luke 13:28?"

- You have to back up to **Luke 13:22** and start studying from there (**Luke 13:22-30**).
- Jesus was teaching as He was journeying toward Jerusalem. One individual asked him "are there few that be saved"? Jesus answered by saying strive to enter into the strait gate for many would seek, but not be able. He then used a brief Parable that contained principles taught in other contexts too (**Matthew 25:1-13** and **Luke 6:43-46**).
- An easier explanation of this text is found in **Matthew 7:13-23** which includes a teaching about false teachers too.
- The weeping and gnashing of teeth (**Matthew 13:36-43**).
- When Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, are seen in the kingdom of God (IN THIS CONTEXT) is about the inheritance coming to them through Christ (**Hebrews 9:15**).
- The gathering of the saved from every direction (**Matthew 25:31-34**).
- The last first and the first last (**Matthew 19:28-20:16**).
- Caution: Do not confuse this context with a different lesson taught in **Matthew 8:5-13** which taught certain Jews that the kingdom was going to be taken from them and given to others (cf. **Matthew 21:33-45**).

2. "Hello, I would like to know your understanding or conviction on whether a castrated eunuch can really marry. Thank you in advanced, for your attention."

- My "understanding or conviction" really does not matter one bit (**I Corinthians 4:1-6**).
- Being a eunuch is a preventative measure keeping one from being able to marry (**Matthew 19:3-12**).
- Sex is a responsibility that is expected to be fulfilled in a marriage (**I Corinthians 6:16-7:9** and **Hebrews 13:4**). Therefore, a Eunuch has no business getting married.
- If one is lonely and needs company, yet is unable to sexually perform (for medical or even spiritual reasons - i.e. **I Corinthians 7:10-11**), that is one of the many reasons we have brothers and sisters in Christ (**Proverbs 18:24**, **Romans 16:1-16**, **Philippians 2:25-30**, **I Thessalonians 5:11**, **Hebrews 3:13**, **Hebrews 10:23-25**, **Hebrews 13:1**, and **I John 3:14-18**).

3. "So who created pain??"

- God created the earth and man upon the earth without any suffering, death, etc. (**Genesis 1:1-2:25**).
- Man brought pain, suffering, and death into this world through sinful actions (**Genesis 3:1-24**, **Romans 5:12**, and **I Corinthians 15:21**).
- The consequence of breaking God's law was death (**Genesis 2:16-18**).

4. "I am involved in a church and reading your articles make me wonder if I am in the right track of becoming a righteous Christian. Yes, I understand the Gospel, I confess my sins daily (when I'm not doubtful of the faith that I have), I was baptized in our church, and I am in a process of discipleship to share the word someday. I know, well, myself that I'm not being obedient to God and I think I'm completely not in good terms with Him. It's just that knowing that there are so many doctrines about the truth makes me so confused and makes me want to reject my belief and become just like any unbelievers out there that live their life without having the burden of Christianity. I know that if I did I will be in complete danger but I don't even know if my belief in God is correct. This realization makes me want to just give up in life because things just doesn't make any sense. I don't know if you get me but I just want to share this thoughts because it feels that God hates me right now. I also hate myself for this. I have discovered that I am sexually attracted with the same-sex and it is making me question why, in the world, would God allow me to have this feelings if in the first place he hates the homosexuals. Also, with this discovery, I hated myself because of what I have realized with my identity. It feels that God abandoned me. It became a heavy burden. Should I feel hopeless?"

- It is good that you are searching. You are not hopeless, but your words indicate you know very little if any at all of the truth of God. I can help if you are willing to learn. Please let me help you aside from this question and my brief answer. There is so much to say, there is no chance I will say it all not understanding why you are such a mess. I am going to try and give you some jolting, thought producing things to consider.
- For the sake of clarity... You stated that you wonder if you are becoming a "righteous Christian". I am inferring from that statement that you might think there are different "types" of Christians. Scripturally, you are either righteous, in the Lord, or not (**Matthew 12:30, Luke 6:43-46, John 5:28-29, I Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 5:1-11, II Timothy 2:19, and II John 1:9**). When the Scriptures refer to weak Christians that is only in reference to the conscience on matters of lawful liberties (**Romans 14:1-15:7**).
- On another point, you said you understand the Gospel. If you understood the Gospel, you would not be so confused concerning your salvation (**Matthew 13:13-15**).
- And again, another point, why are you sinning daily to have to confess them? Do you not understand that you are supposed to STOP doing the things you confess (**Proverbs 28:13** and **Acts 26:18-20**)?
- You're not supposed to be doubtful (**Luke 12:29**; cf. **James 1:8; 4:8**).
- Why were you baptized with the understanding "in our church"? What does that even mean? Are you talking about a building (which is not the church - **I Corinthians 12:27** and **Ephesians 1:22-23**)?
- Why were you baptized before learning, understanding, and repenting (**Acts 2:38; 3:19** and **Romans 6:17**)? From your words, your baptism is most certainly not a proper, Scriptural part of conversion. For one, baptism is part of being a disciple (**Matthew 28:18-20**). After being baptized, a properly converted person has already completed becoming a follower of Christ (**Romans 6:3-16**).
- I am sorry to read about your struggles. Once you are sure of the truth (**John 8:31-32**), you will find that faithfully serving Christ is not burdensome (**I John 5:2-3**).
- Why does awareness of false doctrines make you "want to reject"? Why are you so perplexed and unstable (**Ephesians 4:14**)? The existence of wrong should not cause you to reject the right. The opposite should occur (**Psalms 119:97-104**).

- You are struggling with your carnal, fleshly desires and whether or not you want to fulfill those desires of yours or to do the will of God. God has given all of mankind freewill (**Deuteronomy 5:29, Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Joshua 24:14-16, Ecclesiastes 7:29, Acts 2:37-41, Philippians 2:12**, etc.). In other words, God is not sitting in Heaven and controlling your thoughts and actions. He allows us to think and act on our own. If you want to die today, you can commit suicide. He will not stop you (**Matthew 27:1-5**). If you want to do right today in each thing you do, God will not hinder you from doing so (**James 1:13-16**). The choice is yours!
- In each person there is the choice to serve the spiritual side or the carnal side. As long as you are leaning towards fulfilling those carnal desires you have, you will be at conflict (**Galatians 5:17**). Whether it be homosexuality or any other carnal desire, you have to chose whether or not you want to please yourself or to please the Lord. That is where you are? Think about it. You can give up the Lord and do whatever YOU want. On the other hand, if you chose to serve the Lord, you have to give up what YOU want and only do what He wants (**II Corinthians 5:14-15**).
- Regarding homosexuality and the normal defense of “you are who you are”, consider this: <http://www.wordsoftruth.net/wotvol13/wotbulletin05192013.html>
- For more regarding the practice of controlling your thoughts, please consider this study: (<http://www.wordsoftruth.net/wotvol15/wotbulletin02012015.html>).

5. “Are parents always the blame of children losing their place with God? There is the common belief that parents are always to blame for their children's conduct, whether the children be ten years of age or fifty years of age and regardless of the godly training the parents have provided.”

- I am not sure what you are meaning by “children losing their place with God.” Thus, I will refrain for trying to answer this question from that standpoint.
- Parents have responsibilities in the spiritual upbringing of their children (**Proverbs 19:18, Proverbs 22:15, Ephesians 6:4, I Timothy 3:1-7, II Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17, and Titus 1:5-9**).
- Children that require supervision must be supervised (**Proverbs 29:15**).
- Sometimes a parent is responsible for their children being lost (**I Samuel 2:12; 22-36**).
- It is common to misunderstand **Proverbs 22:6**. However, it must be understood in light of other Scriptural facts...
 - * Children have freewill (**Proverbs 20:11**).
 - * That freewill means that children have to choose to listen to their parents (**Proverbs 1:8; 2:1; 3:1**).
- We should understand that God does not hold the parent responsible for the choices of the child or vice versa (**Ezekiel 18:1-32**).
- All of us parents do understand though, we are affected personally over what our children do regardless of them being young or old (**Proverbs 10:1; 15:20; 17:25; 23:24-25**).