

September 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. "How were there disciples in Mark 9:38-41 that the apostles did not know about?"

- The twelve were not the only one's working for the cause of Christ. John was actually working before Jesus or His disciples really began to teach (**Mark 1:1-11**).
- During some of the time Jesus was teaching and His disciples, John was teaching and he had disciples too (**Matthew 11:1-19** and **John 3:22-36**).
- Sometimes this caused other questions (**Matthew 9:14-17**).
- Eventually, the Lord's disciples were aware of what John taught His disciples (**Luke 11:1**).
- If there were others, I cannot tell for sure. If they were doing in miracles in the name of Christ, they were good (**Mark 9:39-40**). Principles we later read about confirm that (**I Corinthians 12:3-11** and **I John 4:1-6**).

2. "I was raised to put my career as my top priority. Be the man have a plan. I have done that and have a good career. I am finding now that managing my career has left me without a wife with most importantly I do not feel my relationship with Jesus has gained ground. Does the bible tell how to manage to have a career, marriage and Jesus?"

- There is a principle you need to think about. That principle is, when you covet [eager to want more; Strong's # 4123] something, that is your idol (**Ephesians 5:5** and **Colossians 3:5**).
- The Lord wants to be your first love (**Matthew 10:34-39**, **Mark 12:28-30**, and **Revelation 2:1-7**).
- To properly prioritize your life, put the Lord first and allow His word to instruct you on the rest (**Colossians 3:1-25**). Things will fall in-line (**II Timothy 3:14-17**).
- As long as your career is your top priority, you're in sin (violating the Scriptures above; **I John 3:4**) and nothing will be proper in your life.
- If you cannot control your thinking to get your spiritual life in order, DO NOT LOOK FOR A WIFE. While authorized by the Lord (**Proverbs 18:22** and **I Corinthians 7:1-5**), marriage is also a distraction (**I Corinthians 7:32-35**).
- Please consider this study: <http://www.wordsoftruth.net/BulletinSeptember092018.pdf>

3. "The husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the Church. to what extent does this give the husband rule over the wife?"

- The husband is the head of the wife and she is supposed to submit to him as is fit in the Lord (**I Corinthians 11:3-15**, **Ephesians 5:22-33**, and **Colossians 3:18-19**).
- This does not mean the husband should be some sort of power hungry monster who controls his wife (**I Peter 3:7**). Even God, the ruler of all things (**I Chronicles 29:11-12**), permits freewill.
- A godly woman will really be self-motivated (**Proverbs 31:10-31**).

- The fact is, when a married couple are both faithful saints, the Lord is the real head of the household (**Matthew 28:18** and **Colossians 3:17**). Acting as faithful disciples of Christ, they will try to please each other (**Romans 12:10; 16** and **Galatians 5:13**). Two mature Christians, whom are married, should not have this question!
- Why are you using the word “rule”? Is it because of one of the qualifications of an elder (**I Timothy 3:1-7**). What do you mean by the word “rule”? In **I Timothy 3:4**, the word translated “ruleth” (KJV) means: “to stand before, i.e. (in rank) to preside, or (by implication) to practice: — maintain, be over, rule. To set or place before to set over to be over, to superintend, preside over to be a protector or guardian to give aid, to care for, give attention to profess honest occupations” (Strong’s #4291). Be careful with the idea of a man “ruling” over his wife and what could be misunderstood by that.

4. “I Have Started My Own Business > The eldership has told me not to market in the Church. They would not explain why. I think Lydia a seller of purple is an example of a christian marketing to the Church. Am I right and can the eldership forbid me to market in the Church?”

- I am not sure what you mean by your terms. I am going to answer this question by understanding the word “market” as a gathering for purchase and sale of merchandise. I am not sure if you mean “church” incorrectly as a building or if you mean the assembly of saints. I am going to answer this question as if you mean the saints locally assembled (**I Corinthians 12:27**). If you mean something different, please let me know so that I can better answer your question.
- The first question is, do you have Scriptural authority to use the body of Christ for your business gains (**Luke 11:28, Ephesians 5:10, Colossians 3:17, and Revelation 22:18-19**)? I can think of no Scripture that authorizes such. You have twisted what you have said about Lydia. Read all of **Acts 16** and you’ll find no such thing.
- Regardless of what the elders said, Jesus Christ reacted violently to something similar to what you seem to be wanting to do (**Matthew 21:12-13, Mark 11:15-19, Luke 19:45-48, and John 2:13-17**).
- Without more information about the eldership you are referring to, I am going to decline to comment on their part in this (**I Timothy 5:19**).

5. “What happened to Simon the Magician after he sinned?”

- After the account of **Acts 8:5-24**, I am unaware of anything else written about Simon. All that we can know is that he was told to repent and that he verbally indicated that he did not want to be condemned.

6. “I want to find out on this question " Should we follow Old Testament today" and the answer being “No”, Is this question asking about the Law (commandments) or the Old testament books (Genesis, Exodus....) ??”

- In general, when people speaking of the “Old Testament” they normally mean the books of Genesis-Malachi.
- The truth is, **Genesis 1:1-Exodus 3:1** was a period of time before Moses began to be a prophet in Israel. The heads of the households were the lawgivers prior to Moses receiving the law at mount Sinai. You can even see this in Moses’ days (**Exodus 18:24**). After that, you have Law of Moses and the prophets (**Exodus 20:1-Malachi 4:6**). Those things were only for the children of Israel (**Deuteronomy 4:44**).

- Here is where things get a bit difficult to follow. The Law of Moses and the prophets were in effect, for Israel, until changes began to occur when John began to prepare the way for Christ (**Matthew 3:1-18**) as was prophesied under the Law of Moses (**Malachi 3:1-2**; cf, **Mark 1:1-3**). The Law was being changed (**Matthew 11:13** and **Luke 16:16**), but was still in effect until it was fulfilled (**Matthew 5:17-19** and **Luke 24:44**) and then ended on the cross (**Colossians 2:14** and **Hebrews 9:15-10:22**).
- It is important to understand the the Law of Moses and the prophets was for the children of Israel, not the world at large (**Exodus 34:27**). Those outside of Israel were a law unto themselves (**Romans 2:12-15**).
- Today, there is only one law. That law is the Law of Christ (**Galatians 6:2**). Such is known as the Gospel (**Mark 16:15-16**), the words of Christ (**I Timothy 6:3**), the New Testament (**II Corinthians 3:6**), etc.
- That is a simple explanation, but there is complexity to it as well. Many twist the Scriptures because of their ignorance (**II Peter 3:15-17**). There are things written in the New Testament that do not apply today such as spiritual gifts (**I Corinthians 12:3-13:13**). You have to be very careful how you handle the Scriptures and make sure you understand and keep them in their proper contexts (**II Timothy 2:14-18**).
- Having said all of that, all of the Scriptures are profitable for teaching, learning from, etc. (**Romans 15:4**, **I Corinthians 10:1-13**, and **II Timothy 3:14-17**).