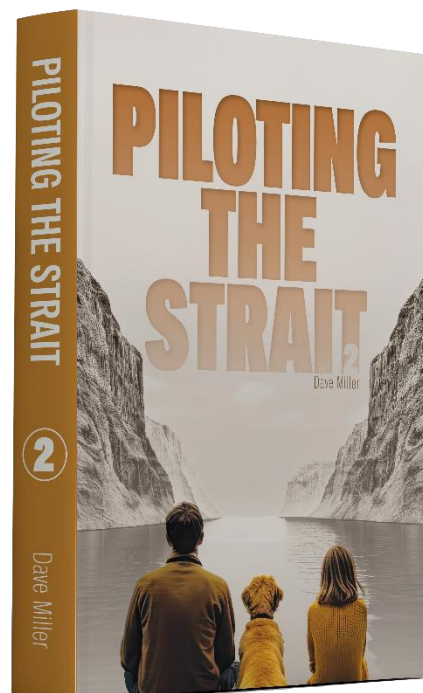


# PILOTING THE STRAIT 2

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



# Study Questions

## Introduction

1. What has happened to the Church in the last 30 years?
2. What has been the impact on those whose family members have capitulated to these changes?
3. What do Churches desperately need to **read** today—and **realize**?
4. Despite discouraging conditions, list 3 indications of “good news.”
5. Why do we have much reason to be thankful and excited?
6. With what two things have the faithful remained content and thrilled?

## CHAPTER 1

7. What may well be the #1 threat to doctrinal purity and faithfulness among those churches that have drifted to the left?
8. How are “law” and “grace” unbiblically defined?
9. What has the cultural inclination of the “no law/all grace” ideology dramatically influenced many Christians to do, and what have they exchanged in its place?
10. To what does the “liberty” of the New Testament **not** refer, and to what does it refer?
11. What is ironic about those who say we don’t have to keep the law?
12. If the “liberty” of the New Testament does not refer to freedom from law, to what does it refer?
13. How do “grace only” advocates interpret Romans 6:14?
14. What was Paul saying in context about those who have obeyed the Gospel?
15. Once God’s law is violated, what does the law **not** contain within itself?
16. What are the only 2 things law can do once you violate it?
17. What did Paul mean when he said we are not under law?
18. From what does embracing the Gospel allow us to be rescued? Cite the verse.
19. In Galatians 6:2, to what does Paul say we are still subject?
20. Identify 3 observations that clarify the meaning of John 1:17.

## Definition

21. According to the Greek lexicons, what is the essential and common meaning of *charis*/grace?

## Critical Clarification

22. What is, in fact, the “grace” of the New Testament?

23. In order to enjoy the grace of God, what 2 actions are all human beings under divine obligation to perform?
24. What have the “grace not law” advocates deluded themselves into thinking?
25. What did Solomon say happens when there is no revelation/law from God? And who did he say is “happy”? Cite the verse.
26. Of what does the “grace only” viewpoint rob a person?
27. What does Psalm 119 extol? What marvelous reminder does it provide?
28. What is God’s law specifically intended to do? Cite a passage.
29. What are those who introduce manmade worship innovations actually doing?

### **Grace in Romans**

30. How many times does *charis* occur in Romans?
31. To what does the term refer the vast majority of the time?
32. To repeat: what is the grace of the Bible?
33. How do people meet the preconditions of forgiveness?

### **Summary Observations**

34. What is, perhaps, the worst feature of the “grace only” doctrine?
35. What did Paul declare the law and commandments to be? Cite the verse.
36. In what way is the law **never** depicted in Scripture?
37. What exclamation did the psalmist direct toward God concerning His law? Cite the verse.

### **“Legalism”**

38. List 5 practices that have caused members of “traditional” Churches of Christ to be branded as “legalistic”?
39. What 4 necessities have Churches of Christ stressed that have caused them to be deemed immature, pharisaical misfits?
40. In its negative classical usage, what is “legalism”?
41. What is the actual **focus** of legalism?

### **The Classic Legalists**

42. Who were the classic exemplars of “legalism”?
43. List the 3 behavioral factors that characterized the Pharisees.
44. For what were the Pharisees **not** condemned?

### **Righteousness is Right Doing**

45. What has God always been vitally concerned about? Cite a passage.

46. With what did Jesus equate crucial sensitivity to obedience?
47. By definition, what is “faithfulness”?
48. By definition, what is “righteousness”? Cite a verse.
49. With what has God never been impressed?
50. What has God’s simplicity always challenged?
51. How can man’s arrogance manifest itself?

### **The Obedience of Faith**

52. What have those who misrepresent and misdefine the grace of God failed to grasp?
53. How has Protestant denominationalism defined “works” in Romans?
54. How has Protestant denominationalism defined “faith” in Romans?
55. What does Romans actually contrast on the one hand?
56. What does Romans actually contrast on the other hand?
57. What is not included in the term “works” as used in Romans?
58. How are the human actions that God requires **prior** to His bestowal of physical or spiritual gifts **not** seen by Him to be? What are they given by Him to be?
59. In what sense is salvation **unconditional**?
60. In what sense is salvation **conditional**?
61. Cite a verse that specifies human involvement in one’s salvation.
62. In what 2 verses in Romans did the Holy Spirit establish the definition of “faith,” and what do the two Greek terms mean?
63. What does “faith” in the book of Romans **include**?
64. What does biblical faith **include** and what does grace not **exclude**?

### **Modern Examples**

65. From the perspective of the religious liberal, what are speed limits, signal lights, and stop signs?
66. What did God design human existence to involve?
67. What results from minimizing obedience to rules in worship?
68. What does the Bible never pit against each other?
69. What business are we charged by God to be about? Cite the verse.

### **“Illegalism”?**

70. From whence arose God’s laws, and with what are those laws consistent?
71. What have God’s legal restrictions always been?

72. What did Moses tell the Israelites was the reason that God commanded them to keep His commandments and statutes?

73. What did the psalmist state repeatedly concerning God's laws?

74. What ultimately happens to a society that either disdains law, or recklessly enjoins laws that conflict with God's laws?

75. What will be the result of a failure to implement the full force of the law against lawbreakers?

76. What are citizens and their elected officials doing when they see themselves as qualified and authorized to ignore the law, or make their own exceptions to the law?

77. When Moses informed the Israelites that the law of God was not a "futile thing," what did he then say that the law is? Cite the verse.

78. If loving obedience to God's laws is not "legalism," what are those who excuse or justify any infraction or departure from God's directives?

79. How does God insist is the way to be **loving**? Cite a verse.

### **"Spirit vs. Letter of the Law"?**

80. With whom have those who have embraced an unbiblical understanding of grace aligned themselves?

### **2 Corinthians 3:4-18**

81. What two verses are marshalled by those who support the "spirit vs. letter" antithesis?

82. What do those who take such a position assume to be the meaning of the words "letter" and "spirit"?

83. In stark contrast, to what does "letter" and "spirit" refer according to Paul allegory?

84. What expressions did Paul use in Romans 7:6 that make the same point, and to what do they refer?

### **Attitude & Action**

85. It is impossible to represent faithfully "the spirit of the law" (i.e., to have the right attitude) while doing what?

86. If it is possible to obey and not love, what is it **not** possible to do?

87. The only worship that has ever been acceptable to God has been worship undertaken with what 2 components?

88. Cite the verses where Jesus made this fact clear to the Samaritan woman.

89. What do situationism, antinomianism, and liberalism share in common?

90. What 2 actions is all that God seeks from people?

### **Hezekiah's Passover**

91. What cultural phenomenon is pervasive in American society?

92. To what do the majority of those who bandy about the term “legalistic” apply the term?

93. What would one expect to happen throughout Christendom and throughout the nation if obedience to God’s laws were to be denounced as “legalism”?

94. What impression is left with the reader regarding a number of individuals from the northern tribes who ate the Passover?

95. What have some further concluded that this incident proves?

### **The Context**

96. What provision did the Law of Moses make regarding observance of the Passover if the individual had come into contact with a corpse?

97. What if that individual happened to be unclean on the 14<sup>th</sup> of **both** months?

98. When the northern tribes proceeded to observe the Passover in an unclean state, what were they guilty of doing?

99. What did David admit regarding God’s condemnation of his efforts to move the Ark of the Covenant to its rightful location? Cite the verse.

100. What was the whole point of Hezekiah’s restoration movement?

### **The Grammar**

101. What does the Hebrew grammar suggest regarding **when** the northern tribes ate the Passover: **before** or **after** Hezekiah prayed for them?

102. As conscientious as Hezekiah was shown to be, what is logical to assume he did as soon as he learned of their violation?

103. Cite two passages in which the Israelites deviated from divine protocol, only to have intercession made for them by a faithful leader.

104. In what way do these incidents reflect affinity with Hezekiah’s Passover?

### **Summary**

105. Give 2 actions required by Christianity today that are not parallel to Hezekiah’s Passover.

106. Give 2 more accurate analogies with this Old Testament text.

107. What does the Bible teach with great clarity regarding baptism?

108. What can and will God **not** do until a person complies with this divinely designated prerequisite to salvation?

### **God Has Not Changed**

109. By comparing baptism or New Testament worship to Hezekiah’s Passover, what grave mistake is being made?

### **Conclusion**

110. What does Hezekiah’s Passover **not** offer?

## **Did Jesus Sin When He Touched the Leper?**

111. What do some claim Jesus' touching the leper illustrates?

112. What else do they maintain regarding this incident?

### **Obedience Always Necessitated**

113. For whom is Jesus the author of eternal salvation? Cite the verse.

### **Spirit vs. the Letter of the Law**

114. What does the "spirit vs. letter" approach to Scripture impose on the biblical text?

115. What is the biblical truth on this matter?

116. What did Paul mean when he declared that "love is the fulfillment of the law"? Cite the verse.

117. In God's sight, when is it impossible to express true love?

### **Legalism?**

118. Ironically, who today are like the Pharisees? Explain the parallel based on Jesus' remark in Matthew 5:19-20.

119. According to Jesus, what demonstrates a conscientious regard for pleasing God?

### **Jesus Never Sinned**

120. What 3 things did Jesus **never** do?

121. What is wrong with the interpretation of the account of the leper that maintains that Jesus violated the law?

### **Mosaic "Uncleanness" Was Not Sinful**

122. What were many of the injunctions in the Law of Moses, in which God prescribed procedures to be enacted under certain circumstances, intended to do?

123. How did God use Levitical instructions pertaining to bodily discharges?

124. What did such occurrences have **nothing** to do with?

125. Of what did being placed in a state of uncleanness **not** make the individual guilty?

126. What were those in Numbers 9 not guilty of when they were made unclean by contacting a dead body and were thus exempt from observing the Passover?

127. How did God **not** approach the matter?

128. Under most circumstances, what are we to conclude from Mosaic injunctions pertaining to uncleanness?

129. How does this conclusion pertain to Jesus touching the leper?

### **The Priesthood of Jesus**

130. What did the various actions by the priests include in cleansing the leper?

131. Even though the rank-and-file Israelite would have been made unclean if he touched a leprous person, to whom did that law **not** apply?

132. As the ultimate, quintessential priest, what did Jesus have the legal right to do?

### **Summary**

133. What was Jesus' touching of a leper **not** an instance of?

### **Hananiah: Preacher of "Grace"**

134. As in our day, what were the false prophets in Jeremiah's day more willing to do?

135. What message was Hananiah preaching?

136. How did Hananiah seek to comfort the people?

137. How did Hananiah seek to characterize God?

138. How did Hananiah falsely portray God?

139. What fatal misconception did Hananiah leave with the people?

140. Of what are those guilty who justify unauthorized worship innovations and do so under the guise that they are merely "living out the implications" of a Gospel of grace?

141. Of what 2 things did Jeremiah say Hananiah was guilty?

142. To what must we conform and what must we resist?

### **Divine Love Defined**

143. What fundamental flaw characterizes the "all grace" mentality?

144. Though God is all-loving and has never done anything that is unloving, what has He said He will do?

145. With what can the distorted view of grace that prevails in our day **not** be reconciled?

146. What does false grace dismiss? Cite the verse.

147. What does false grace maintain?

148. On what is the fact that trillions will occupy hell **not** a reflection, and to what will it constitute a testimony?

149. Define "worldly lusts."

150. Why are manmade inventions like praise teams, instruments, and candle lighting services to be considered worldly lusts?

151. By definition, how does the grace of God relate to such practices?

152. In view of the meaning of biblical love, by definition, what are human worship innovations?

### **Conclusion**

153. What, in reality, is the "grace" that has been discovered by those who digress?



154. If God's grace has been offered to all people, and yet, most people will be lost eternally, what makes the difference?

## **CHAPTER 2**

155. What is the fundamental difference between "traditional" Churches and those that have gone their own way?

156. What question are we all under obligation to ask and face?

157. What is the only way to know how God wants us to conduct ourselves?

### **The Hierarchy of Authority**

158. With what constant question must we approach the Bible?

159. What do we human beings have no right to formulate?

160. What must we have for everything we do?

161. What thinking has characterized the digressive element?

162. What have they believed concerning an action that God does not specifically forbid?

163. What does the "as long as not forbidden" view do?

164. Identify 2 prohibitions not stated in the Bible?

### **Colossians 3:17—"in the Name of"**

165. What guiding principle of authority did Paul articulate? Cite the verse.

166. To summarize the linguistic data, what did Paul mean when he insisted to the Colossians that everything that they said or did was to be done "in the name of the Lord"?

167. In addition to meaning being obedient to His directives and doing what He says to do, what else does engaging in any action "in the name of the Lord" mean?

### **Old Testament Examples of "In the Name of"**

168. Select 1 of the 7 Old Testament examples of the expression "in the name of" and explain how the instance illustrates and verifies the meaning of the phrase.

### **New Testament Examples of "In the Name of"**

169. Select 1 of the 4 New Testament examples of the expression "in the name of" and explain how it refers to the necessity of receiving God's authority for belief and practice.

### **Summary**

170. What does it mean—and not mean—to speak or act in Jesus' name?

171. What does doing something "in the name of the Lord" generally mean?

### **Additional Old Testament Examples of the Authority Principle**

172. Select 1 of the 10 Old Testament examples of the authority principle and explain how the instance illustrates the principle.

### **Additional New Testament Examples of the Authority Principle**

173. Select 1 of the 6 New Testament examples of the authority principle and explain how the instance illustrates the principle.

174. How do we know that God wants us to come together for worship on Sunday, to pray, to observe the Lord's Supper, to sing, and to have public reading of the Bible in our worship? Cite verses.

175. What fact should we face regarding playing, humming, or clapping in our worship? Cite the passage from Ezekiel.

### **Modern Examples of the Authority Principle**

176. Cite 1 example of the authority principle in everyday life.

177. From what do restaurant workers receive authority from you?

178. By what do you **not** give restaurant workers authority for their actions?

179. What ludicrous thinking, as used by a proponent of instrumental music in Christian worship, if used by a fast-food worker, would cause her to lose her job?

180. Explain the misguided line of thought that claims, "New Testament commands to sing neither prescribe nor prohibit instrumental music"?

181. What does God's entire communication to the human race absolutely depend upon?

## **CHAPTER 3**

182. On what is much of the disruption and division that has been generated by the progressive element in the Church over the last several decades centered?

### **What Is Worship?**

183. To what idea do the biblical terms for "worship" refer?

184. What has God always—from the very beginning of human history—stipulated to human beings?

185. Biblically, what are the only expressions of worship that God approves and accepts?

186. Cite 2 biblical examples that demonstrate that worship is activity that occurs at a specific place and time?

187. Cite 1 example of an action that occurs in the church worship assembly that is **not** worship.

188. What do all such activities constitute?

189. Cite 3 actions that occur in the church worship assembly that do not constitute worship.

190. What divine mandate is the Christian under for worship outside the regular church worship assembly?

191. What becomes abundantly clear regarding worship when we come to the New Covenant?

192. By what term does the Hebrews writer label Old Covenant practices? Cite the verse.

## **Kinds of Worship**

### **1. Ignorant Worship**

193. What made the Athenians' worship "ignorant"?

194. What term did the Hebrews writer use (in the ESV) for proper worship? Cite the verse.

195. What are those doing who fail to worship God the way He instructs them to worship?

### **2. Will Worship**

196. How did Paul label the commandments and doctrines of men in his remarks to the Colossian Christians in the NKJV, KJV, and ESV?

197. According to the DLNT translation, what is the **source** of such worship?

198. While God wants our mind, will, and volition engaged when we worship Him, what does He require us to do?

199. What statement did Jesus make prior to His death that exemplifies this necessity? Cite the verse.

200. List 5 examples of "will worship."

201. What fundamental misconception is betrayed by the introduction of a host of manmade, humanly concocted worship practices that humans genuinely enjoy? Cite God's declaration through Isaiah.

## **Indulgence of the Flesh**

202. To what do our human-invented worship innovations appeal? What are they specifically calculated to do?

203. What is spiritual worship **not** intended to do? What is spiritual worship intended to do?

204. What ought our driving desire to be when we worship, and how is it accomplished?

## **Entertainment?**

205. In our day, what line has been significantly blurred:

206. What overriding concern ought to dominate our very being when we worship?

207. What should we resist and reject in our worship?

## **Sincere and Spontaneous?**

208. What is the meaning of the Late Latin term from which the English word "spontaneous" actually comes?

209. List 3 meanings of the word "spontaneous" that indicate behaviors that God would not approve.

210. When it comes to worship, what does God **not** want the worshipper to “bring to the table”? What does He want?

211. What does worship **not** have to be in order to be sincere, genuine, and pleasing to God?

### **3. Vain Worship**

212. What practice in Matthew 15 had the Pharisees adopted before sitting down to eat a meal? What was **not** its intended purpose? What **was** its intended purpose?

213. What distinction did Jesus make in the washing of hands?

214. Why would washing hands as a religious ritual be wrong?

215. What expression did Jesus use to label the ritual?

216. What did Jesus mean when He stated that their hearts were far from Him?

217. Based on Jesus’ own declaration, what are those guilty of who worship God using mechanical instruments, praise teams, candle lighting, etc.?

218. In what way are those who engage in self-imposed worship guilty of “false humility”?

219. What are manmade worship innovations “of no value against”?

220. How does self-imposed, will worship placate the flesh?

221. What, however, does vain worship actually do and why?

### **The Source of Unbiblical Worship**

222. Contrast what has been the ongoing source of manmade worship innovations?

223. Cite one passage of Scripture that states what has been the source of such actions.

224. What do human innovations in worship constitute? Cite the passage from Ezekiel.

225. From whence does God desire religion to emanate?

226. What are preachers in our day guilty of when they promote instrumental music in Christian worship and other manmade additions—claiming that the Lord approves of their worship innovations—when the Lord has not spoken His permission? Cite the verse from Ezekiel.

### **Emotional Euphoria vs. Spirituality**

227. In what does much of the desire to refurbish worship appear to be rooted?

228. What to many people is the definition of “spiritual” worship?

229. To what do the Greek lexicons indicate that the word “reasonable” pertains in Romans 12:1?

230. In what 2 senses is our worship “spiritual”?

231. By definition, what in worship is **not** “spiritual”?

232. With what, then, does the word “spiritual” have **nothing** to do?

## **Spiritual Junk Food**

233. What is much of the worship that is occurring in “liberal” churches nothing more than?

234. What will spiritual junk food spoil and to what will it inevitably lead?

## **Carnality**

235. What can one **not** be in submission to while gratifying the flesh in sinful ways?

236. What do manmade worship practices amount to?

237. How does Paul use the word “carnal” in his first letter to the Corinthians?

238. In light of Paul’s remarks in 2 Corinthians 10, what does the theatrical, fleshly-stimulating worship of many churches constitute?

239. Though God created our emotions, how must they be guided?

240. What did Philip’s question posed to the eunuch imply concerning Christianity?

241. Why is all manmade religion weighted toward the emotional?

242. Since true religion is not some “better-felt-than-told” emotional experience, what is it?

243. When the eunuch heard the Word and sought to be baptized, how did Philip respond?

244. What, then, must follow rational assessment of the truth?

245. What is the rightful sequence of response to God in life and worship, and the proper place of human emotion in New Testament Christianity?

## **“You’re Killing My Joy!”**

246. How does Paul categorize “joy” in his letter to the Galatians? Cite the passage.

247. If “joy” is not an emotion, what is it?

248. Not being an emotional trait, where may biblical joy exist?

249. Under what conditions could Paul and Silas still be joyful in their worship?

250. What will a person who is joyous also generally experience?

251. What can one experience **without** emotion?

252. What do praise teams, choirs, arm waving, etc. actually create?

253. If God has stipulated external actions by which we are to worship Him, what are we **not** permitted to do?

254. What 3 requirements indicate how we may express our joy?

255. To what may humanly originated worship action that God has not approved be likened? Cite a verse.

#### **4. Spiritual/True Worship**

256. What is exciting, thrilling—and humbling—about the worship of God?
257. What did Jesus say are the necessary components of “true,” acceptable worship? Cite the verse.
258. To what does the first component refer?
259. To what does the second component refer?
260. Identify 3 scriptural examples elsewhere in the Bible where the mandatory dual worship components of both attitude and action occur.
261. What two things does God never leave to humans to decide for themselves?
262. When humans presume to approach God in worship, what are they under rigid obligation to do?

#### **The Purpose of Worship**

263. In worship, what are we “channeling”?
264. Though our desire to reach out to and worship God be sincere and genuine, what can we actually do?
265. What would be presumptuous and disrespectful to God?
266. Cite 1 passage that accentuates the deep, cautious, reverential worship that we ought to convey in response to God’s holiness.

#### **Self-Worship**

267. Why would humans throughout the Old Testament make up idols and then fashion specific actions which they claim those imaginary deities required of them?
268. What is all unbiblical worship?
269. What happens to the person who gives himself over to humanly-devised religious practice?
270. Why would the Israelites pursue depravity when they actually knew in their hearts that their gods were purely fictitious?
271. What is easier to do than buffet one’s body and bring it under subjection to the will of God?
272. By introducing manmade worship activity into the Church, what is the liberal element in the Lord’s Church following?
273. Ultimately, who are they worshipping?
274. What do “fleshly lusts” do to us? Cite the verse.

### **CHAPTER 4**

#### **Instrumental Music**

275. How has history now repeated itself?

276. What is the desire for mechanical instruments in worship a transparent manifestation of?
277. Identify 5 arguments that have been used to justify instruments in public worship.
278. Where may answers to each of these allegations be found?

### **Instruments in *Zamar*?**

279. What is, perhaps, the most challenging argument advanced in support of instrumental music in worship?
280. State the argument in syllogistic form.
281. What have those who advance this claim completely misconstrued?
282. What does Psalm 18 **not** purport to be?
283. Why did Paul quote from the psalm?
284. In his quotation of the psalm in Romans 15:9, to what do the 2 Greek terms that Paul used refer?
285. What was the original root meaning of the Hebrew term *zamar*?
286. What does the linguistic data prove regarding the contention that *zamar* in Psalm 18:49 authorizes the use of instrumental music in Christian worship in Romans 15:9?

### **Instruments in *Psallo*?**

287. What do those who seek to justify instrumental music in worship argue regarding the dominant meaning of *psallo* in the Septuagint?
288. What does this view ignore regarding the early church?
289. What does this view ignore regarding the Septuagint?
290. Where did those who oppose instrumental music get the idea that by the first century, *psallo* included the idea of singing or perhaps **only** singing?

### **Summary of Lexical Data on *Psallo***

291. In case after case, lexicon after lexicon, what do the Greek authorities explain occurred by the first century with regard to the meaning of *psallo*?

### ***Psallo* and English Translations**

292. What do the hundreds of scholars responsible for translating the Greek New Testament into English **not** do?
293. What is all the more remarkable regarding these translators who exclude instruments in their translations?

### **Summary**

294. What does the significant Greek lexical evidence, multiple English translations, as well as Greek dictionaries and commentaries constitute?

### Which Instrument in Ephesians 5:19?

295. Assuming that the original meaning of *psallo* is the meaning intended by the Holy Spirit in Ephesians 5:19, and the object on which the action occurs does not inhere in the word, what would one have to have?

296. Assuming the original, radical meaning of *psallo* was intended, even then, why cannot sanction for **mechanical** instrumental music in worship be extracted from its use in Ephesians 5:19? What is that object?

297. Since one cannot physically pluck/play the mind, what is obvious concerning the Holy Spirit's use of *psallo*?

298. To what was the Holy Spirit calling attention?

299. By comparing *psallo* in Ephesians 5:19 with Colossians 3:16, what words line up with *psallo*?

300. To what do “making melody” and “with grace” both refer?

301. Since the action of *psallo* takes place in the heart, what is that action independent of?

### Grammatical Parallels

302. Explain 1 precise parallel that may be drawn between *psallo* and other Greek verbs.

### Quibble: Heartily?

303. In order to evade the conclusion that the heart is the instrument with/on which the *psalloing* is to be done, what have a few maintained?

304. How do most Greek scholars view this quibble?

305. Explain Alford's remark.

306. Identify and explain 1 verse from the Psalms that uses grammatical construction that parallels Ephesians 5:19—demonstrating that the action of *psallo* is separate and distinct from the object on which the action is performed.

307. In Figure 19, what does “in your heart” line up with and is parallel to?

308. What are we forced to conclude regarding instruments in the New Testament?

### Who Must *Psallo*?

309. What do the reflexive pronouns used reciprocally in Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16 **require**?

310. Given the very nature of congregational singing, when do all the actions of these participles occur?

311. **When** must the action of “making melody” take place and by **whom**?

312. If a manmade, mechanical instrument is inherent in *psallo* in Ephesians 5:19, what is the only way to comply with God's directive? And what would every Christian have to do?



313. Based on the contention that instrumental music is contained in *psallo* in Ephesians 5:19, what has been the case for literally centuries for all the churches that have refrained from using instruments in their worship?

### **Early Church History**

314. What do church historians conclude about the historical evidence concerning the Church of the first century and the early centuries that followed in their rejection of instrumental music in their assemblies?

### **Summary of *Psallo***

315. What exists that disputes the claim that *psallo* automatically included a mechanical instrument?

316. What would first century Christians and non-Christians have certainly understood?

317. Regarding whether opponents of instrumental music are guilty of trying to make “sing” to mean “sing **only**,” answer the following 3 questions: Why do we sing? Why do we make melody? Why do we omit mechanical instruments of music?

### **“Matters of First Importance”?**

318. What do some conclude when they point to a passage here and there?

### **1 Corinthians 15:3**

319. What have some maintained regarding this verse?

320. In what sense did Paul stress the death, burial, and resurrection as matters “of first importance”?

321. Without Jesus’ death, what matters?

322. If Jesus did not atone for human sin, what 2 things would not matter?

323. What are those guilty of whose agenda prompts them to use this passage to label some doctrines as not “of first importance”?

### **Worship Is Not of Secondary Importance**

324. What would Paul surely be shocked to hear?

325. What has always been of great concern to God?

### **Other Matters of Considerable Importance**

326. Identify 5 doctrines that are of considerable importance—though not directly tied to the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

327. Regarding such doctrines, what did Paul certainly **not** mean? What **did** he mean?

### **The “Greatest” Commandment**

328. Regarding Jesus’ remarks in Matthew 22:37-40, what did Jesus **not** say?

329. What, then, did Jesus mean? What 2 verses did He allude to that clarified His point?

330. So what is the way to love both God and one’s fellowman?

331. In what sense did the Law and the Prophets “hang” on two commands?

332. In what passage did Paul make the same point?

333. If loving God means obey His commandments, what is included in those commandments?

### **The “Weightier” Matters**

334. What false conclusion do some draw from their assessment of Matthew 23:23?

335. What definitive refutation of such thinking did the Lord include in His remarks?

### **Summary**

336. To what is all teaching from God—including how to worship Him—inherently tied?

337. What conclusion is **not** established by the fact that Christians have questioned the number of cups to be used in distributing the fruit of the vine, or whether we should support orphan homes, or whether we can use instruments in worship?

338. While not everything in Scripture is plain or clear, what is **not** one of those things?

### **Equal Importance?**

339. Regardless of whether some have inappropriately emphasized certain doctrines, what have Churches of Christ historically maintained?

340. Having misconstrued the notion of “weightier matters” and matters “of first importance,” what will a person inevitably do?

341. Cite 2 verses that this false hermeneutical procedure fails to take into account.

342. Name 3 issues in the early church—though not directly tied to the death, burial, and resurrection—that merited the extensive amount of Scripture, time, and effort expended on them at the time?

### **Just Reading Through the Bible**

343. What is the central doctrine of Christianity?

344. Just reading through the New Testament, what else would I come away with?

345. If a person sits down and reads the New Testament with a view toward understanding how God would have a Christian to worship Him, what idea would a person never get?

346. Instead, what would one **clearly and unmistakably** conclude concerning God’s desire for worshippers?

347. Omitting Revelation, to what does every verse that says anything about music in the New Testament refer exclusively?

### **Obedience Has Always Been Crucial**

348. What is so glorious about the work of Christ on the cross?

349. What do many people’s perceptions of God and His grace serve to minimize?

350. In what way does this attitude manifest itself?

351. While doctrinal purity does not necessarily guarantee a right relationship with God, what is a right relationship with God impossible without?
352. What does the existence of Pharisees in the Church most certainly **not** justify?
353. More often than not, what are those items that humans brush aside as unimportant and trivial?
354. Describe the crux of man's problem.
355. What does such an attitude and approach suggest?
356. Cite 1 incident (out of the 7 given), with the Bible chapter, where people were punished for seemingly minor infractions.
357. Why were each of these individuals rejected by God?
358. To what do we need to be attentive?

### **The Lord's Supper**

359. What is a more recent wrinkle of innovation regarding observance of the Lord's Supper?

### **Four Key Preliminary Factors**

360. What does how Churches observed the Lord's Supper beginning in the book of Acts unquestionably reflect?
361. Cite 2 (out of the 6 given) occasions where the New Testament assigns special meaning to **Sunday**.
362. How does the New Testament treat Saturday regarding whether it possesses any special significance for Christianity?
363. What is reflected in early church history by the general practice of both the first century churches as well as post-first-century churches?
364. To what were Jesus' death and resurrection intimately connected?
365. What does observance of the Lord's Supper on any day other than Sunday do?

### **Specific Scriptures**

#### **Acts 2:42,46**

366. How is the Hebrew idiom "breaking bread" sometimes used in Scripture?
367. What can one **not** assume regarding every occurrence of the idiom?
368. What contextual indicator occurs in Acts 2:52 that points to the Lord's Supper, and what does it indicate?
369. What is "breaking bread" listed among?
370. What parallel thought is conveyed by the double use of the correlative conjunction throughout the context of Acts 2:46?
371. What contrast is reflected by their participation together?

372. To what, then, does “breaking bread” refer in Acts 2:46?

373. What does Acts 2:46 **not** provide?

#### **Acts 20:7**

374. What does the infinitive “to break bread” denote?

375. What, then, was the primary purpose for the assembly?

376. What did Luke’s use of “when” as a stylistic device denote?

377. By subordinating an additional action within a separate clause, prefaced with “when,” what does Acts 20:7 show?

378. What apparently caused Paul to delay his rushed scheduled to get to Jerusalem?

#### **Saturday Night or Sunday Night?**

##### **Days & Hours**

379. What is one meaning for the term “day” as a solar or astronomical day?

380. What has differed from culture to culture in the reckoning of this day?

381. Throughout the Bible, when did the Jews commence their day? Cite a verse.

382. When did the Jewish Sabbath come to a close and Sunday begin?

383. What method of counting time did Luke use in Luke and Acts?

384. How does Luke’s linguistic usage come into play in Acts 20:7?

#### **Acts 20:11**

385. What linguistic reason exists for concluding that “broken bread” in this verse refers to the Lord’s Supper as in vs. 7? (See the explanation of Blass, Debrunner, and Funk’s discussion).

386. Since “broken bread” in verse 11 refers to the Lord’s Supper, to what does “eaten” refer in the same verse?

387. Regardless of Roman or Jewish time, what do scholars with virtually one accord affirm?

#### **Two Quibbles**

388. If the Jewish Christians partook of the Lord’s Supper on our Saturday evening, why can’t we?

389. To what must our observance of the Lord’s Supper conform?

390. When does God expect Christians to observe the Supper?

391. Though Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper on a Thursday, when did Jesus say the observance would commence? Cite the verse.

#### **1 Corinthians 16:1-2**

392. In light of the grammar in 1 Corinthians 16:2, what did Paul unquestionably invoke?

393. To what did the Jews understand the Sabbath observance to apply?
394. What was Paul legislating under the guiding influence of the Holy Spirit?
395. What did the churches obviously **not** come together to do?
396. Why, then, did the churches meet?

### **“As Often As”**

397. What have some claimed is the meaning of the phrase “as often as” in Paul’s instructions to the Corinthians? Cite the verses.

### **The Grammar & Context**

398. On what is the contextual focus of the phrase?
399. What does the Greek word rendered “as often as” most certainly **not** provide nor exclude?
400. What does the grammar **not** intend to imply?
401. Give 1 example from the 3 that illustrates the meaning of “as often as.”

### **Summary**

402. What do neither the Greek nor the English convey regarding frequency of observance of the Lord’s Supper?

### **Implications**

403. What did the Jews fully understand concerning God’s directive to “remember the Sabbath?”

### **An “Occasional” Letter?**

404. What is meant when it is noted that New Testament epistles are “occasional”?
405. How is their “occasional” nature used to dismiss Sunday observance of the Lord’s Supper and weekly contribution?
406. Though “occasional,” what purpose did God intend the canon of the New Testament to serve?
407. What charge did Jesus give to His apostles?
408. In what chapters did Jesus assign apostolic responsibility in His farewell remarks to the apostles?
409. What do the claims to inspiration that the apostles made throughout the New Testament demonstrate?
410. When God gave instructions to one congregation concerning how to worship Him in the assembly, what did He intend for that instruction?

### **Conclusion**

411. What conclusion is to be drawn from the New Testament information concerning the day and frequency of the Lord’s Supper?

## **Praise Teams**

412. What is indispensable in ascertaining what God approves versus what He disallows?

### **Attempts Made to Justify Praise Teams**

#### **I. Praise Team Members...**

413. In order to fulfill the requirement for the entire congregation to participate **together** in the singing portion of their worship, what 4 criteria are unavoidable and inevitable that someone must perform?

414. What do these 4 criteria **define**?

415. For what purpose is a song leader authorized by God?

416. If a song leader adds actions beyond what is involved in just song leading, why would his actions be unauthorized and unjustified?

#### **Biblical Guidelines for a Song Leader**

417. Give 2 reasons why praise teams cannot be justified on the grounds that they are nothing more than song leaders.

#### **II. By Singing Different Parts...**

418. Why is a praise team not justifiable on the grounds that worshippers can be trained by them?

#### **III. A Praise Team is Simply an AID...**

419. If a praise team is unnecessary to fulfill the divine expectations of 1 Corinthians 14:15, Ephesians 5:19, and Colossians 3:16, what does it cease to be?

420. What does a praise team exceed?

#### **IV. A Praise Team “improves” and “enhances”...**

421. If praise teams “enhance” and “improve” worship, what was the status of the worship of Churches of Christ who have been worshipping God for centuries without praise teams?

422. What would God have done if our worship needs to be “enhanced”?

423. Has God, in fact, indicated how our worship can be enhanced? Cite the verses.

### **Five Reasons Why Praise Teams Are Unscriptural**

424. Give 2 reasons why praise teams are unscriptural.

#### **Is Worship a Matter of Talent?**

425. What 3 requirements does God itemize in Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16?

426. What is absolutely **not** required by the first injunction?

427. What matters **not** to God when a person sings?

428. What has led to instrumental music, choirs, solos, and praise teams?

429. What 2 things, then, are such devices? Cite the verses.
430. What is **not** required to fulfill the third injunction?
431. What do the 3 actions **not** necessitate?
432. On what is the obvious focus in worship from God's point of view—and on what does He **not** focus?
433. What is every addition to God's simple spiritual prescription for worshipping in song ultimately designed to do?
434. What false notion is implicit in the praise team concept?
435. On what do such definitions center?
436. Why does the singing required by God of every worshipper **not** include vocal skill as defined by humans?
437. How may the implication, that some people can worship God “better” or “more effectively” than others based on humanly assessed vocal talent, be described?
438. Wherein lies the inherent flaw in praise teams?
439. What further assumption is made? Cite a relevant verse.

### **Conclusion**

440. Cite 1 crucial question (out of the 4 given) that ought to be asked before implementing a praise team at a congregation.

### **Clapping in Worship—“Laud”?**

441. What recent contention has surfaced that seeks to justify handclapping in worship?
442. From whence does the English term “laud” come and what does that word mean?
443. How is this action achieved, and what does it have nothing to do with?
444. From whence does the English term “applaud” come and what does that word mean?
445. What are we to conclude from these linguistic facts?
446. What does the Greek term translated “laud” in Romans 15:11 mean?
447. What is completely absent in all 6 occurrences of the Greek term?
448. What English translations translate Romans 15:11 with the term “clap”?
449. What Old Testament verse is quoted by Paul in Romans 15:11 and what is its meaning, according to the Hebrew authorities, in that verse?
450. How does the Hebrew term compare with its Greek counterpart?
451. What Old Testament verse uses the term and how does it demonstrate that the meaning of “clap” is incorrect?

## **Arm Waving**

452. What would be a better description of what is being practiced today under the guise of “lifting up **hands**?

453. What verse is, ostensibly, offered as justification for this practice?

## **Biblical Prayer Postures**

454. How many distinct prayer postures are discernible in the Bible?

## **Uplifted Hands as a Prayer Posture**

455. What kind of posture is, unquestionably, alluded to in 1 Timothy 2:8?

456. Summarizing the literature concerning the same prayer posture among non-Hebrews in the ancient world, what two things may be observed?

457. What do both the Old and New Testaments authorize concerning prayer postures?

## **Description of the Posture**

458. What form did this prayer posture take, i.e., how were the arms and hands positioned, as summarized by the description of the Orans posture?

## **Purpose/Intent of Prayer Postures**

459. What does every prayer posture depicted in Scripture carry?

460. Of what do all prayer postures in the Bible (that have the approval of God) **not** consist?

461. Indicate what deliberate attitude and mindset each prayer posture intentionally conveys.

## **The Meaning of Lifting Up Hands...**

462. What conclusion does the scholarly literature on the subject of lifting hands confirm?

## **Bible Verses**

463. Select 1 passage (out of the 11 given) where hands are lifted up as a prayer posture and explain how the passage corroborates that it constitutes the posture of request and supplication.

## **Summary**

464. What do Christians have authority and God’s permission to do with regard to prayer postures?

465. While various prayer postures are incidentally depicted in Scripture, on what is the overwhelming emphasis?

466. Though one need not assume an actual prayer posture at all, if one chooses to do so, to what should one conform?

467. What do all authorized prayer postures possess and convey, and what do they **not** constitute?



468. What is difficult to see concerning modern arm waving?
469. By what has pagan religion always been characterized?
470. In contrast with the frenzied physical movements of false religion specifically calculated to whip up emotion and bolster courage, what has the worship of God always been characterized by?
471. What has God stripped from worship?
472. Cite two examples in which secular culture practices the same posture as the corrupt form of “lifting up hands” that has swept Christendom.
473. Describe what these actions do for the participant.
474. When it comes to the worship of God, contrast where renewal, genuineness, sincerity, and zest for worship must come from.
475. What follows if awareness of the Lord of the Universe does not evoke genuine, heartfelt, energized, exciting, sincere worship—without the external manipulation of artificial body movements?
476. What will happen if we always have to be doing something different to keep worship “fresh”?

### **Inconsistencies**

477. What are those who advocate lifting up hands likely to do?
478. What are swaying arms from side to side or holding up only one hand **not** to be identified with?
479. If one were sincerely lifting up hands in a biblical manner, i.e., to make a request of God in hopes of receiving, what would follow?
480. Where in Scripture does God call for individuals to lift their arms as a symbol of surrendering to Him?
481. When is it only appropriate and sensible to lift up hands as a prayer posture?

### **Other Postures?**

482. What is implied by the fact that there are many different, acceptable postures in Scripture?
483. What distinction must be made regarding prayer postures?
484. Identify 3 merely **coincidental** bodily actions that are not intended to be offered to God **as worship actions**.
485. What are such movements necessary to do? What are they—if not intended as an expression of worship in prayer?
486. To what are such movements parallel, and what are they **not** intended to be?
487. When does the problem arise regarding intended prayer postures or expressions of worship?
488. What opens the floodgates to any and all worship innovations?

489. When a person brings his body parts into play with specific movements or actions that are intended to accompany and compose a part of his expression of worship in prayer, he has entered into a realm where what 2 things are necessary?

490. For what does authority exist and for what does it not exist?

### **Conclusion**

491. How may the spontaneous actions of jumping up, clapping hands, and running around the auditorium be described?

492. What was glaringly absent from the first-century New Testament churches as well as the Protestant churches that existed at the founding of America?

493. What is the notion that worship must be updated in order to be “contemporary”—and what 3 implications follow?

494. Why should we be cautious about introducing prayer postures into a congregation that would naturally arouse unnecessary attention?

### **Foot Washing**

495. What was the washing of feet in first-century Palestine?

496. Who normally would have performed the task of washing a guest’s dusty feet?

497. Why were the disciples disgusted?

498. What, then, was Jesus’ point?

499. Since the disciples of Jesus were **already** practicing foot washing, what was Jesus doing?

500. What impression was Jesus **not** intending to leave?

501. What are Christians doing when they think they are showing humility by washing feet in the assembly?

502. What is far more difficult and meaningful to do ?

503. Name a modern equivalent to what Jesus did when He washed the disciples’ feet.

504. What was Jesus’ central point?

505. What is washing feet in worship today?

### **Fasting**

506. Name one form of fasting that is practiced by everyone.

### **Observation #1**

507. Fasting was not invented by nor limited to whom?

### **Observation #2**

508. What do many instances of fasting in the Old Testament have nothing to do with?

509. What was fasting primarily intended to be?

510. Cite the verses where Jesus linked mourning with fasting.

511. What 3 reactions did David and those with him manifest when they received news of Saul's death, and from what were these reactions disconnected?

512. David's refraining from food was no more a **religious** act than his refraining from what 3 other acts?

### **Observation #3**

513. What does fasting often appear to be, even when some religious concerns are present?

514. If Daniel's refraining from anointing his body and fasting were not **religious** expressions, what were they?

515. When the Jews were threatened with extinction in Esther's day, what was the purpose of them tearing their clothes, putting on sackcloth and ashes, weeping and wailing, and fasting?

516. While authorized by God, refraining from eating while in the midst of sorrow or distress is **not** undertaken with what connotations?

517. In such instances, what was the purpose of abstaining from eating?

### **Observation #4**

518. Where does the normal Hebrew word for "fasting" **not** occur?

519. With what Mosaic observance is the phrase "afflict the soul"—implying fasting—used?

520. Why were the Israelites to refrain from eating on that day?

521. To what was refraining from eating parallel—and why?

522. Apart from this one fast, what other fasts did God require in the Law of Moses?

523. In Acts 13:1-3, what was going without eating due to?

524. What was the fasting of Acts 14:21-23 simply the simultaneous result of?

525. What must singing necessarily be accompanied by?

526. What does refraining from eating and all other distracting activities allow an individual to do?

527. Since the first Church of Christ was composed entirely of Jews, what was not unusual for them to do?

528. What must we distinguish between?

### **Observation #5**

529. Though sometimes accompanied by religious concerns, what was fasting never intended to be?

530. How do prayer, singing, and partaking of the Lord's Supper differ from fasting?

531. Unlike divinely stipulated acts/avenues of worship, what is fasting?

532. To repeat, how was fasting typically “coincidental”?

533. What can God-ordained worship acts be accompanied by and what do they not possess?

534. List 6 actions in the New Testament that are not acts of worship.

### **Observation #6**

535. What did Jesus stress in the Sermon on the Mount concerning fasting?

536. Even as He instituted the Lord’s Supper, what could Jesus have instituted in the Church but did not do so?

537. What was much of the Sermon on the Mount intended to correct?

538. Since God created our bodies to take in sustenance by eating, wherein lies the sole value of fasting?

539. In what way do fasts not “stand on their own”?

540. If one encounters a difficult situation in life, what would be the point of ceasing eating, drinking, and bathing?

541. Though God created our bodies to need sleep (just like food), and foregoing sleep carries with it no inherent spiritual merit, what should Jesus’ disciples have **not** done in Gethsemane, and what did they thus forfeit?

### **Observation #7**

542. What 3 things may be said about the humbling that accompanies fasting?

543. What 2 things do suffering hardship and self-deprivation of basic needs tend to cause a person to do?

544. Again, since not a religious act, what purpose does fasting serve?

### **Observation #8**

545. If fasting is an appropriate—even required—behavior in the practice of New Testament Christianity, what necessarily follows concerning other forms of abstinence in antiquity? List 5 of these forms.

### **Conclusion**

546. What occurs when the body undergoes physical challenges like fasting?

547. What happens every time the body feels the discomfort, and what is the person driven to do?

### **Candle Lighting Services**

548. Regardless of the meaningful remarks made by those who seek to justify candle lighting services, what do those remarks represent?

549. If a person desperately desires to submit himself to the God of the Bible, what would that person forgo and do?

550. What should be sufficiently satisfying for the spiritually-minded person?

551. What does the Bible have to say about lighting candles in worship?

552. What served as the light of the ancient Near East?

553. What purpose did the Menorah serve in the Holy Place?

554. What does the idea of “candle lighting services” **not** have?

### **Summary**

555. With regard to worship corruptions, what should we resist?

556. What must we receive, so desiring it that we will set aside all fleshly desires and stimulations? Cite the verse.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **Immodesty**

557. What seemingly suggests a lack of thought regarding the clothing worn in recent years?

558. Cite 2 passages where the New Testament speaks regarding modesty.

559. What is truly heartbreaking about Christians posting pictures of their girls?

### **Divorce/Remarriage**

560. What is God’s premiere thesis for the marriage institution? Cite the passage.

561. What have a host of elderships done and determined?

### **The Meaning of “Fornication”**

562. What confusion has existed over the years in various religious circles concerning divorce and remarriage?

563. While the diversity of rendering of “fornication” among English translations is subject to some confusion, what general agreement do they convey?

564. What English word is imprecise?

### **Three Observations**

565. To what do the Greek lexicons refer when they refer to fornication “of every kind,” “in general,” or “a class of crimes”?

566. Identify 3 (out of the 8 cited) forms of sexual intercourse listed in Figure 29.

### **Conclusions**

567. Give 3 examples of terms that are synonymous with the meaning of the term “fornication” from older lexicons and dictionaries.

568. What practice does not fall within the purview of the meaning of “fornication” in the New Testament?

### **The Meaning of “Whoever”...**

569. What have some maintained regarding the application of Matthew 19:9?

570. What do they mean when they say Matthew 19:9 is “covenant legislation”?

571. Based on this claim, what allegation is made?

572. What is one attempt made to defend this viewpoint?

573. What does the underlying Greek rendered “whoever” **not** carry?

### **Reasons Why Matthew 19:9 is Not...**

574. To whom was Jesus speaking in Matthew 19:9, and to whom was He not speaking?

575. What did the Jews in Matthew 19 desire to know concerning Jesus’ divorce policy?

576. When did Jesus’ teaching in Matthew 19:9 commence its application?

577. Select one verse from the New Testament and one from the Old Testament where the word “whoever” occurs and explain how it does **not** refer to one who is necessarily in covenant relationship with God.

578. State the flawed rationale set forth concerning the term “whoever” in Matthew 19:9.

579. What do the Hebrew and Greek terms that underlie the English word “whoever” **not** do?

### **Alcohol/Marijuana**

580. Into what have Christians been drawn in recent years?

### **Gambling**

581. To what claim have many Christians succumbed?

582. What remains at odds with biblical principles?

### **Abortion**

583. How many unborn babies have been ruthlessly butchered since 1973?

584. What can we be assured of concerning the God of heaven?

585. Cite a verse where God stated that it never entered His mind to have the Israelites to kill their own children.

### **Homosexuality/Transgenderism**

586. What did the highest court in the land do when it legalized and sanctioned homosexuality?

587. Where will those on the Court who conspired to perpetuate this outrageous travesty one day stand?

### **A Christian Response to Transgenderism**

588. What are a substantial percentage of people in our nation now in the throes of?

589. Who do those who are striving to reflect behavior that God intends us to convey sincerely love?

590. What are we **not** guilty of simply because we believe the Bible teaches against such behaviors?

591. By definition, what is love?

### **Definition**

592. As human culture inevitably experiences moral degeneration, how is behavior that was once considered to be deviant, abnormal, immoral, and sinful inevitably redefined?

### **The Bible**

593. Who defined gender and of what does it consist?

594. Cite a passage where Jesus endorsed the origin of gender.

595. Cite the verse in the Old Testament where the Law of Moses explicitly forbade cross-dressing.

596. What was intended by God to provide the order and stability that humanity needs to function properly?

597. Biblically, which determines and defines gender—the body or the mind?

598. What are the respective roles of male and female in the Church affected and informed by?

599. What is gender, as it relates to role function in the Church, a matter of?

600. What do Paul's instructions in 1 Corinthians 11 demonstrate concerning males and females?

### **The Science**

601. How do male and female bodies created by God compare?

602. What gender is every single cell in the female body? What gender is every single cell in the male body?

### **Sexual Orientation**

603. What does the science show that the LGBT community suffers from?

604. What does the science indicate about the idea that people are "born that way"?

605. What is the rate of lifetime suicide attempts across all ages of transgender individuals?

### **Gender Identity**

606. What does the scientific research show regarding gender identity being an innate, fixed property of human beings that is independent of biological sex—that a person might be "a man trapped in a woman's body" or "a woman trapped in a man's body"?

### **Not Genetic**

607. If the Bible affirms explicitly that homosexuality is sinful, what can we then know about such behavior?

## **How To Reach**

608. What is the only way to reach the transgender community?

609. What must we do enough to try to reach them?

## **Three Recommendations**

610. List 3 “steps” to implement in one’s evangelistic strategies to influence transgender persons.

611. In what way do parents participate in their children’s “sex they were assigned at birth”?

612. In what way does this “assignment” go back to God?

613. For what is absolutely no credence given in Scripture by God for a person to decide?

614. With what does gender have nothing to do?

615. If such matters as gender are determined by what a person thinks or feels, what could a person theoretically come to believe?

616. What is the only antidote to a troubled mind, and what is that antidote specifically designed and calculated to do?

617. Where must we always remember the power lies for changing people? Where does it **not** lie?

618. What is the only real motivation for restructuring one’s beliefs and practices?

## **Encourage Them to Face Their Past**

619. Since we know a person is not “born that way,” and that genetics do not support homosexuality or transgenderism, what follows?

620. What high probability exists that turned a person, altering his or her normal sense of gender?

621. Since God so fine-tuned and calibrated human sexuality, what can result from the least bit of tampering with the delicate sensibilities and psyche of a child?

622. Since children do not retain early memories, if a person has abnormal sexual interests/appetites “for as long as he can remember,” what would he be inclined to conclude?

623. What inevitably must happen to any country or society that enshrines morally deviant behavior by undermining the biblical definition of marriage?

624. For whom do genuine Christians possess compassion?

## **Conclusion**

625. What happens the darker human civilization grows spiritually?

626. Cite the 3 verses where Jesus, Paul, and John urged Christians to transcend the spiritual darkness of the world.



## CHAPTER 6

627. What two great spiritual truths of time and eternity must we keep ever forefront in our thoughts?

### **The Plan of Salvation: The Cross**

628. What was the **only** means by which God could forgive sin? Cite a verse.

### **The Plan of Salvation: The Church of Christ**

629. Having achieved atonement, and having returned to His eternal glorified state within the Godhead, Who did Jesus send and what did He achieve?

630. What has denominationalism, by definition and by its very nature, promulgated?

631. Conversely, what does denominationalism seek to legitimize?

632. When one grasps the full significance of God's divine plan, what does denominationalism become?

633. What would all those who profess to be Christians do well to abandon?

634. To what 4 critical features of Christianity does the prophecy in Isaiah 62:1-2 refer?

635. Rather than being content with the wisdom of God, what has denominationalism infused into Christ's religion?

### **The Only Acceptable Human Response**

636. As one reads through the book of Acts, what becomes readily apparent?

637. What did God choose as the dividing line between lost and saved?

638. What have those who think they are saved **before** they are immersed in water failed to do?

### **Will God's Mercy Exempt Anyone?**

639. What does the New Testament plainly teach regarding the only contact point for the blood of Christ?

640. What simply cannot be contacted unless one is immersed in water for the remission of sins?

641. What does use of the expression "unless" in John 3:5 mean?

642. What would God be guilty of violating if He were to make exceptions and exempt some from the necessity of water baptism?

## CONCLUSION

643. What has the digressive element of the Church essentially done?

644. What has happened to the "faithful" segment of the brotherhood?

645. What, perhaps, is the condition of God's people in this country compared to previous generations?

646. When one reads Deuteronomy to see what happened to the Israelites, what was inherent in Israel's spiritual weakening and eventual apostasy?
647. If there was ever a time, what does the church desperately need to study, teach, and preach?
648. Who would not exist if the preaching of the prophets were to emanate from their pulpits?
649. How can we be assured that we are not "part of the problem"?
650. According to Zechariah, what came from God when the people refused to hear the law and the words of the Lord? Cite the verse.
651. What designation did the prophet Zechariah use to refer to Israel that well describes our own country, and what did God do to that land?
652. As our nation moves farther and farther away from God and Christian principles, what do we have?
653. What have some within the Church caused by "harping" on matters that do not merit the attention they give?
654. What do we need to portray to the world and why?
655. What is mind-boggling that God would do?

# Answers to Study Questions

## Introduction

1. More illicit doctrinal change (p. 1)
2. Grief, sorrow, pain, anguish (p. 1)
3. **Read** the Old Testament prophets—and **realize** their dire spiritual state and deserved punishment from God (p. 1).
4. (1) A host of congregations have found liberal tenets wanting; (2) Many rank-and-file members remain unimpressed with the entertainment theatrics and lack of Bible substance; (3) They have continued to feed on God's Word and withstand carnal allurements (p. 2).
5. Many of the Lord's people have remained faithful (p. 2).
6. (1) Content with pure, undiluted New Testament Christianity; (2) Thrilled to be members of the unique...Church of Christ (p. 2)

## CHAPTER 1

7. A distorted message of grace (p. 4)
8. "Law" is defined as any restrictive, dictatorial restraint; "Grace" is defined as freedom to be unrestrained by commandments (p. 4).
9. Sever themselves from a sense of obligation to conform to the external forms of worship prescribed in the New Testament; An endless variety of manmade innovations and inventions (p. 4)
10. **Not** freedom from law, but rather freedom from sin (p. 5)
11. They have made a law (p. 5).
12. Freedom from sin (p. 5)
13. "Since grace covers you, you need not worry about law-keeping" (p. 5)
14. They have placed themselves under a grace system rather than a strictly legal system which can only condemn (p. 5).
15. The means by which the lawbreaker may be exonerated (p. 6)
16. (1) Condemn you and (2) state the punishment (p. 6)
17. He meant we are not under law **alone** (p. 6).
18. The curse of the law—Galatians 3:13 (p. 6)
19. The law of Christ (p. 6)
20. (1) The law of Moses did not exclude truth (p. 6); (2) God's grace was available throughout the Old Testament (p. 6); Christianity does not exclude law (p. 7).

## Definition

21. Favor (p. 8)

## **Critical Clarification**

- 22. The redemptive scheme of God's Son dying to atone for sin (p. 8)
- 23. (1) Obey the Gospel (through faith, repentance, oral confession, and water immersion); (2) Live a life of obedience to God's directives for faithful living (p. 8)
- 24. That if they were to be concerned about law/legal restrictions, they would be guilty of legalism and not living by grace (p. 8)
- 25. The people cast off restraint; he who keeps the law—Proverbs 29:18 (p. 9)
- 26. The tremendous blessings afforded to those who respect and strive to conform to law (p. 9)
- 27. The grandeur and indispensability of law; Abundant blessings and positive contributions to human life available **only** via God's law (p. 9)
- 28. Provide life—Leviticus 18:5; Deuteronomy 30:15-16; Psalm 119:50; Romans 7:10 (p. 10)
- 29. Depriving themselves of the positive benefits to be accrued when we conform to God's law (p. 10)

## **Grace in Romans**

- 30. 25 times (p. 10)
- 31. The Gospel (p. 10)
- 32. God making it possible for people to be forgiven of their sin (p. 11)
- 33. Conform to the instructions/prescriptions (laws) God has given to receive that forgiveness (p. 11)

## **Summary Observations**

- 34. Its blatant, inherent manifestation of disrespect for God (p. 11)
- 35. Holy, just, and good—Romans 7:12 (p. 11)
- 36. As bad, negative, undesirable, or oppressive (p. 11)
- 37. "Oh, how I **love** Your law!"—Psalm 119:97 (p. 11)

## **"Legalism"**

- 38. Acappella, congregational singing (vs. instrumental music); Congregational singing (vs. solos, choirs, and praise teams); Male leadership in worship; Sunday (only) observance of the Lord's Supper; No religious observance of Christmas and Easter; No handclapping in worship; Divorce/remarriage for fornication only; No drama or swaying arms in worship; No candle lighting services; etc. (p. 12)
- 39. (1) The necessity of correct doctrine; (2) The necessity of obedience to receive God's grace; (3) The necessity of pleasing God rather than self; (4) That God's grace does not sanction antinomianism (p. 12)
- 40. Trusting one's own goodness (pp. 12-13)

41. One's attitude (p. 13)

### **The Classic Legalists**

42. The Pharisees (p. 13)

43. (1) Hypocrisy; (2) Neglected matters of greater importance; (3) Misinterpreted Mosaic law and added to it (pp. 13-14)

44. Being too zealous about strict obedience to God's will (p. 14)

### **Righteousness is Right Doing**

45. That those who wish to be pleasing to Him give great care to obey the details and particulars of His instructions—2 Samuel 6:1-7; 1 Chronicles 15:12-13 (p. 14).

46. With love (p. 14)

47. Obedient trust, heartfelt compliance with God's laws (p. 15)

48. Right doing—Acts 10:34-35; 1 John 3:7 (p. 15)

49. Human ingenuity (p. 15)

50. Man's humility (p. 16)

51. In a desire to fashion worship to please himself (p. 16)

### **The Obedience of Faith**

52. The central necessity of biblical faith (p. 16)

53. Any human effort (p. 16)

54. Mental assent/accepting Jesus without any actions to be performed (p. 16)

55. The prevailing Jewish notion that they could be saved on the basis of their fleshly connection to Abraham and Mosaic law alone (p. 17)

56. The sole necessity of rendering obedience to Christ and the Gospel (p. 17)

57. Actions humans perform that God requires—like baptism (p. 17)

58. Meritorious works by which a person earns or deserves the gifts He provides; Conditions (p. 17)

59. God enacted the means by which humans may be forgiven without any involvement on their part (p. 17)

60. God requires the exercise of the human will in the reception of salvation (p. 18)

61. Acts 2:40; Philippians 2:12 (p. 18)

62. 1:5; 16:26; Obedient faith/trust (p. 18)

63. Obedience to external acts **preceding** forgiveness (p. 19)

64. Obedience; Biblical faith (p. 20)

## **Modern Examples**

- 65. Legalistic (p. 21)
- 66. Rules (p. 21)
- 67. Spiritual chaos (p. 21)
- 68. The grace of God and the necessity of obedience (p. 21)
- 69. “Bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ”—2 Corinthians 10:5 (p. 21)

## **“Illegalism”?**

- 70. Out of God’s nature; His character and His divine attributes (p. 22)
- 71. Completely appropriate, absolutely perfect, and for human well-being (p. 22)
- 72. For their **good** (p. 22)
- 73. That he **loved** them (p. 22)
- 74. That nation will experience social chaos, confusion, and eventual collapse (p. 22).
- 75. The undermining of civilization by encouraging further disrespect for legal standards (p. 24)
- 76. They place themselves above the law, and contribute to the destruction of the very underpinnings of society (p. 24).
- 77. “Your life”—Deuteronomy 32:47 (p. 24)
- 78. Illegalists (p. 24)
- 79. By being **legal**—John 14:15; Romans 13:8-10; Ecclesiastes 12:13 (p. 24)

## **“Spirit vs. Letter of the Law”?**

- 80. Secular situation ethicists (p. 25)

## **2 Corinthians 3:4-18**

- 81. 2 Corinthians 3:6,17 (p. 25)
- 82. “Letter” = the commands of God (p. 25); “Spirit” = one’s attitude or feelings (p. 26)
- 83. “Letter” = Old Covenant; “Spirit” = New Covenant (p. 26)
- 84. “Newness of the Spirit” = the Gospel; “Oldness of the letter” = the Old Testament law (p. 27)

## **Attitude & Action**

- 85. Acting out of harmony with the specific details of the law (p. 27)
- 86. It is not possible to love and **not** obey (p. 27).
- 87. (1) a proper attitude, frame of mind, and disposition conducive to spirituality and (2) faithfulness to the specific items that God pinpointed as the proper external acts to be performed (p. 28)

88. John 4:23-24 (p. 28)

89. Their mutual aversion to law keeping (p. 29)

90. (1) Conformity to His laws, (2) out of hearts full of sincerity, earnestness, and love (p. 29)

### **Hezekiah's Passover**

91. The predilection to be averse to law, restriction, and limitation (p. 29)

92. Too much attention to legal detail (p. 30)

93. One would expect society's standards of morality to be shaken at their very foundation, eliciting a corresponding widespread relaxation of moral behavior (p. 30).

94. That they did so in direct violation of the Law of Moses and yet were "excused" or accepted, despite their disobedience, on the basis of their earnest, sincere hearts (p. 31)

95. That full compliance with Bible directives like water immersion as opposed to sprinkling for baptism is flexible and optional when the "seeker" is genuine and sincere (p. 31)

### **The Context**

96. That individual could observe the Passover one month later (p. 32).

97. That individual would be excused from observing the Passover for that year (p. 32).

98. Violating Mosaic injunction (p. 33)

99. "We did not consult Him about the proper order"—1 Chronicles 15:13 (p. 34).

100. To bring the nation back to complete compliance with the **details** of the Law of Moses (p. 34)

### **The Grammar**

101. **Before** Hezekiah prayed to God on their behalf (p. 35)

102. That he would have confronted the offenders, rebuked them for their violation of the law, urged them to repent, and then prayed to God on their behalf (p. 35).

103. Numbers 16:41-49; Numbers 25:1-13 (p. 36)

104. Those who ate the Passover in violation of the law—though apparently sincere—were nevertheless susceptible to divine retribution (p. 36).

### **Summary**

105. (1) Whether baptism is sprinkling or immersion, (2) whether instrumental music may be used in Christian worship (p. 36)

106. (1) A Christian traveling to worship on Sunday experiences a mechanical breakdown of his automobile, physically preventing him from arriving at the assembly in time to observe the Lord's Supper; (2) An automobile accident or serious illness that prevents a person from assembling (pp. 36-37)

107. That one must be immersed in water prior to receiving forgiveness of sin (p. 37)

108. Apply the blood of Christ to the believer's sin-stained spirit (p. 37)

### **God Has Not Changed**

109. Attempting to pit God's Word against itself (p. 37)

### **Conclusion**

110. Justification for violating specific worship regulations laid down by God's Law (p. 37)

### **Did Jesus Sin When He Touched the Leper?**

111. His willingness to set aside the "letter of the law" while retaining the "spirit of the law" (p. 38)

112. Jesus technically violated Mosaic law by touching the leper, but that this legal infraction was excused, superseded, or justified on the basis of the compassion that the violation enabled Jesus to confer upon the diseased man (pp. 38-39).

### **Obedience Always Necessitated**

113. All who obey Him—Hebrews 5:9 (p. 39)

### **Spirit vs. the Letter of the Law**

114. A humanly-devised hermeneutical grid (p. 40)

115. The so-called spirit, purpose, or intent of the law is inherently contained within the letter of the law and cannot be excised from it (p. 40).

116. He meant that the only way to love your neighbor is to obey God's laws which, in turn, constitute the sole expression of love—Romans 13:10 (p. 40).

117. While disobeying His commands (p. 40)

### **Legalism?**

118. Those who speak derisively of those who stress obedience by labeling them "legalistic"; Both justify breaking the least of God's commands and teach others to do so (p. 41).

119. Careful attention to all of God's commandments—including those deemed "least" (p. 41)

### **Jesus Never Sinned**

120. (1) He never violated any law of God; (2) He never exempted Himself from the laws of God; (3) He never encouraged anyone to stray from rigid obedience to the laws of God (p. 41).

121. It is in direct contradiction to the life that Jesus lived on Earth (p. 42).

### **Mosaic "Uncleanness" Was Not Sinful**

122. Continually remind the Israelites of the distinct and separate lives they were living (p. 42)

123. As another opportunity to emphasize separateness (p. 42)



124. Sinful activity (p. 43)

125. Sin (p. 43)

126. Sin (p. 43)

127. With the faulty “spirit vs. letter of the law” theory (p. 43)

128. It was not sinful for a person to enter into a state of uncleanness (p. 44).

129. He would not have been guilty of sin merely for touching the leper (p. 44).

### **The Priesthood of Jesus**

130. The actual touching of the leper (p. 44)

131. To the priests (p. 45)

132. Touch the leper in order to convey cleansing to him (p. 46)

### **Summary**

133. Breaking “the letter of the law” (p. 46)

### **Hananiah: Preacher of “Grace”**

134. Accommodate human inclination to resist the restraints authored by God (p. 47)

135. A message of “grace” (p. 47)

136. By telling them what they preferred to hear (p. 47)

137. As unwilling to treat people with a firm expectation of obedience to His Word (p. 47)

138. As willing to compromise His Word to accommodate human desire (p. 47)

139. That God is too loving and gracious to punish people (p. 47)

140. Promoting a fake grace that displeases and misrepresents God (pp. 47-48)

141. (1) Making the people trust in a lie; (2) Teaching rebellion against the LORD (p. 48)

142. We must conform to God’s protocols; We must resist the human impulse to please ourselves (p. 48).

### **Divine Love Defined**

143. A false definition of love (p. 48)

144. Confine the vast majority of the human race to an eternal hell that will entail ongoing, permanent torment (p. 48)

145. A host of affirmations of Scripture (p. 48)

146. The reality of the severity of God—Romans 11:22 (p. 48)

147. That once a person is in “the grip of grace,” he or she will remain there and cannot be dislodged from God’s acceptance (p. 48)

148. The infinite, perfect love of God; The human defiance toward God's Word—an unwillingness to deny self while living life on Earth (p. 49)

149. Those unauthorized , illicit actions, behaviors, and practices that appeal to our flesh rather than to our spirits (p. 49)

150. They are specifically calculated to appeal to our fleshly lusts (p. 49).

151. It forbids such practices (p. 49).

152. Selfish and self-centered (p. 49)

## **Conclusion**

153. The Calvinistic grace that has characterized Protestant denominationalism for the last five centuries (p. 50)

154. God requires all human beings to render obedience to His divine scheme of redemption (p. 50).

## **CHAPTER 2**

155. The matter of biblical authority (p. 51)

156. “How do we please God?” (p. 51)

157. Understand how He authorizes (p. 51)

## **The Hierarchy of Authority**

158. “Lord, what would you have me to do?” (p. 52)

159. Our own ideas concerning religious truth (p. 52)

160. God's approval (p. 52)

161. That we should not violate direct Bible commands, but then we are free to make our own decisions on everything else (p. 52)

162. We are free to do it (p. 52).

163. Throws open the doors to human inclination to do whatever one chooses to do—as long as the specific act is not explicitly forbidden (pp. 52-53)

164. “Thou shall not sniff cocaine”; “Thou shall not have a pope”; “Thou shall not worship Buddha”; “Thou shall not accept Muhammad as a prophet of God”; “Thou shall not use hamburgers for the Lord's Supper”; “Thou shall not molest children” (p. 53).

## **Colossians 3:17—“in the Name of”**

165. “Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus”—Colossians 3:17 (p. 53).

166. He meant that their words and actions must conform to the Lord's instructions (pp. 53-54).

167. Engaging in nothing without His approval or permission (p. 54)

### **Old Testament Examples of “In the Name of”**

168. See pp. 54-58.

### **New Testament Examples of “In the Name of”**

169. See pp. 58-61.

### **Summary**

170. To speak or act—not to His honor—but under His sanction and with His approval (p. 61)

171. To do it with the authority/permission of God—doing specifically and precisely what God has said to do (p. 61)

### **Additional Old Testament Examples of the Authority Principle**

172. See pp. 61-72.

### **Additional New Testament Examples of the Authority Principle**

173. See pp. 73-78.

174. He said so!—1 Corinthians 11:18,20; 14:16; 1 Timothy 2:8; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:20; Ephesians 5:19; 1 Timothy 4:13; Colossians 4:16 (pp. 78-79).

175. The fact that such human additions are not the result of His having spoken to us and instructed us to do so—Ezekiel 13:7 (p. 79)

### **Modern Examples of the Authority Principle**

176. See pp. 79-80.

177. From what you **say** to them—not from what you do **not** say (p. 80)

178. By your silence (p. 80)

179. “There is no New Testament command to sing **only** a cappella” (p. 80).

180. Playing instruments are prohibited in worship—not because the command to sing includes or excludes them—but because there are no New Testament passages that enjoin them (p. 81).

### **Summary**

181. A proper recognition and observance of the pervasive principle of authority (p. 81)

## **CHAPTER 3**

182. A desire to alter worship (p. 83)

### **What Is Worship?**

183. The idea of approaching God by offering to Him specific acts that are intended to express adoration, honor, praise, and reverence to Him (p. 83)

184. Specific acts or avenues through which humans are obligated to approach Him in their efforts to worship Him (p. 83).

- 185. Those that He has stipulated as acceptable acts of worship (p. 83)
- 186. Select from the listing on pp. 84-85.
- 187. See the list of 9 actions on p. 85.
- 188. **Preparation** for worship (p. 84)
- 189. See the discussion on p. 86.
- 190. To worship God according to His instructions (p. 87)
- 191. That God made changes in worship behavior that must be observed without reverting to Mosaic worship activities (p. 88)
- 192. “Obsolete”—Hebrews 8:13 (p. 88)

## **Kinds of Worship**

### **1. Ignorant Worship**

- 193. Though they were engaging in worship, and though they were directing that worship to God, they substituted worship actions that were manmade and unauthorized (pp. 88-89).
- 194. “Acceptable”—Hebrews 12:28 (p. 89)
- 195. Worshipping Him “in ignorance” (p. 89)

### **2. Will Worship**

- 196. “Self-imposed religion,” “will worship,” “self-made religion” (p. 90)
- 197. “the will of the worshipper” (p. 90)
- 198. We **must** conform and confine our will to **His** will (pp. 90-91).
- 199. “not My will, but Yours, be done”—Luke 22:42 (p. 91)
- 200. See Figure 10 on p. 92.
- 201. That God is like us in that He surely enjoys, prefers, and approves what **we** enjoy, prefer, and approve—Isaiah 55:8-9 (p. 92)

### **Indulgence of the Flesh**

- 202. Our fleshly appetites; Assuage our desire to be entertained and emotionally stimulated (p. 93)
- 203. Indulge the flesh; Nurture and develop the spirit (p. 93)
- 204. To please God; By conforming to His instructions with no manmade additions (p. 93)

### **Entertainment?**

- 205. The line between worship and entertainment (p. 93)
- 206. The fact that everything we do in worship must have the prior approval of God, i.e., be authorized by Him (p. 94)

207. The human craving for fleshly entertainment (p. 94)

### **Sincere and Spontaneous?**

208. “Of one’s own accord” (p. 95)

209. See Figure 12 on p. 95.

210. Not his own actions; But his own sincerity and willingness to conform to God’s specified worship actions (pp. 95-96)

211. Spontaneous (p. 96)

### **3. Vain Worship**

212. Dipping their hands in water; For cleanliness; As a religious ritual (p. 96)

213. Between washing hands for hygienic purposes and washing as a religious ritual (p. 97)

214. Because God did not authorize it (p. 97)

215. A “commandment of men” (p. 97)

216. That they worshipped the way **they** wanted (p. 97)

217. Their hearts are far from God (p. 97).

218. Though passionate, they act as if they are humble, sincere, and submissive to God in their worship when, in fact, they are arrogantly flaunting God’s directives (p. 98).

219. The indulgence of the flesh (p. 98)

220. By stimulating emotions and creating euphoria in the worshipper (p. 98)

221. Dull the spirit, since it is carnal, not spiritual (pp. 98-99)

### **The Source of Unbiblical Worship**

222. The hearts of the worshippers—not the heart of God (p. 100)

223. See the listing on p. 100.

224. Idols with which worshippers are enamored and to which they pay homage—Ezekiel 14:3 (p. 101)

225. From **His** mind—not **human** minds (p. 101)

226. They constitute the modern equivalents of the false prophets of Israel that led God’s people astray in their day—Ezekiel 22:28 (p. 102).

### **Emotional Euphoria vs. Spirituality**

227. A virtual addiction to emotional stimulation (p. 102)

228. Worship that allows a person to express emotions (p. 102)

229. To reason; rational, spiritual, pertaining to the mind, carefully thought through (p. 102)

230. (1) It entails the engagement of our spirit/mind/intellect/thinking; (2) It conforms to the will of the Holy Spirit Who has informed us how to worship Deity (p. 102).

231. Absolutely anything to which the Holy Spirit has not given His official sanction (p. 103)

232. Our emotions (p. 103)

### **Spiritual Junk Food**

233. Spiritual junk food (p. 104)

234. Your appetite for true Christianity; spiritual malnutrition and eventual spiritual death (p. 104)

### **Carnality**

235. God's laws (p. 104)

236. Self-centered gratification of the flesh (p. 104)

237. He uses it to describe the person who is ruled by his fleshly appetites unguided by God's Word (p. 105).

238. Prideful pretension in the face of God's directives (p. 105)

239. By God's Word, allowing it to regulate our behavior (p. 106)

240. Christianity is first and foremost a religion of the mind, the intellect, understanding, and comprehension (p. 107).

241. Because they do not have the truth and so must play up the emotional in order to create the impression of legitimacy (p. 107)

242. It is a careful, reasoned examination of God's words—rational, logical analysis of truth (p. 107).

243. He responded by noting the prerequisite of obedient faith and then baptizing him (p. 107).

244. Conformity to that truth (p. 107)

245. Facts, faith, and feeling (p. 107)

### **"You're Killing My Joy!"**

246. As a fruit of the Spirit—Galatians 5:22 (p. 108)

247. A state of mind, a sense of well-being, contentment, happiness, and satisfaction—being at ease with one's moral, spiritual condition (p. 108)

248. Even in the midst of adversity, pain, and disappointment (p. 108)

249. Even though in great pain due to a beating and though fastened in stocks (p. 109)

250. Emotional excitement, simulation, and euphoria (p. 109)

251. Joy (p. 109)

252. Artificial, fake "joy" (p. 109)

253. We cannot add our own (p. 109).

254. (1) Every worship action must be authorized; (2) God requires me to muster joy, interest, love, and excitement in my own heart; (3) God expects me to express that to Him via only God-approved expressions/avenues (p. 109).

255. Like pagan religion throughout history—1 Kings 18:25-29; Matthew 6:7 (pp. 109-110)

#### **4. Spiritual/True Worship**

256. That God **wants** us to worship Him (p. 110)

257. Spirit and truth—John 4:24 (p. 110)

258. The human spirit and its condition during the act of worship, i.e., engaged, sincere, reverent, and genuine (p. 110)

259. One's worship must be conformed to the specific instructions given by God for worship (p. 110).

260. Select from Figure 16 on p. 111.

261. What is acceptable to Him, nor does He permit humans to invent their own acts of worship (p. 111)

262. Engage in worship actions that He has previously sanctioned, conforming themselves to His precise worship directives (p. 113)

#### **The Purpose of Worship**

263. Our adoration, gratitude, and desire to reach out to Him to express our love (p. 113)

264. Be insulting and self-serving (p. 113)

265. To assume He is pleased with the way **we** choose to worship Him (p. 113)

266. Isaiah 6:1-3,5; Ezekiel 1:28; 2:2; Revelation 4:3-8 (p. 114)

#### **Self-Worship**

267. Those people wanted to be able to indulge their fleshly desires under the guise of religious obligation (p. 115).

268. Idolatrous, self-worship (p. 115)

269. The further and deeper the person will inevitably go into a quagmire of pleasure and carnal indulgence (p. 115)

270. Because we humans tend to want to indulge our fleshly appetites in ways that provide us with pleasurable sensations that are contrary to God's will (p. 115)

271. To pursue the pleasures of the flesh (p. 115)

272. The exact same pathway to self-indulgence, self-worship, self-stimulation, and their own form of pagan idolatry (p. 115)

273. Themselves—not the great God of the Universe (pp. 115-116)

274. They war against our souls—1 Peter 2:11 (p. 116)

## CHAPTER 4

### Instrumental Music

275. Instrumental music has, once again, become a prominent idol that those seeking change have embraced (p. 117).

276. Fleshly, carnal human desires (p. 117)

277. Select from the list of 13 arguments on p. 118.

278. In the book *Richland Hills & Instrumental Music* available free at: <https://apologeticspress.org/issue/richland-hills-instrumental-music/>

### Instruments in *Zamar*?

279. The claim that the Old Testament Hebrew word *zamar* includes instrumental music (p. 119)

280. (1) In Romans 15:9, Paul quotes Psalm 18:49 in which the Hebrew term *zamar* is used; (2) the Hebrew lexicons include musical instruments in defining the term; (3) Therefore, by quoting Psalm 18:49, Paul endorsed the use of instruments in Christian worship (p. 119).

281. The lexical evidence (p. 119)

282. A description of what is done in the Church of Christ (pp. 119-120)

283. To show the necessity of both Jew and Gentile accepting one another as fellow citizens in the kingdom (p. 120)

284. To oral, verbal expression to the exclusion of instrumental music (p. 120)

285. “To cut, prune” (p. 120)

286. That neither the world’s premiere Hebrew lexicographers, nor the Septuagint, nor the world’s standard English translations, nor highly respected commentators support this contention (pp. 124-125)

### Instruments in *Psallo*?

287. That it meant to pluck and then to play a stringed instrument, and that since the Bible of the first Christians was the Septuagint, they would have understood *psallo* to mean “to play” or “to pluck” (p. 125)

288. The fact that the early church had, in addition to the Old Testament Scriptures, the apostles and miraculous gifts that gave them immediate instruction on how to worship God—and so did not have to rely on the Septuagint (p. 125)

289. The fact that many of its words had changed meaning during the intervening two and a half centuries—and early Christians would have recognized the transformation and made adjustments accordingly (p. 125)

290. They derived it from the Greek authorities themselves (p. 126).



## Summary of Lexical Data on *Psallo*

291. In the New Testament, *psallo* means “to sing” (p. 129).

## *Psallo* and English Translations

292. They do not support the pro-instruments contention that *psallo* in Ephesians 5:19 refers to instrumental music (p. 130).

293. Most, if not all, belong to denominations that use instrumental music in worship (p. 130).

## Summary

294. Abundant proof that it is simply not true that “the bulk of scholarship” supports the claim that instruments are included in *psallo* (p. 134)

## Which Instrument in Ephesians 5:19?

295. Some indication in the context as to what instrument Paul intended (p. 134)

296. For the simple reason that the instrument/object on which the action of *psallo* is to be done is explicitly stated in the passage; The human heart—the mind of the worshipper (p. 134)

297. He spoke figuratively (p. 134).

298. The fact that while one engages the lips and vocal chords in order to sing, it is essential that the worshipper also engage/enact the heart and mind as well (p. 134)

299. “With grace” (p. 134)

300. They both refer to what occurs **spiritually** on the **inside** of the worshipper while he/she is **physically singing** on the **outside** (p. 135).

301. The outward expression of singing (p. 136)

## Grammatical Parallels

302. Select from the parallels on pp. 136-137 as depicted in Figure 18 on p. 137.

## Quibble: Heartily?

303. That “in your heart” is used adverbially to mean “heartily,” and so refers to the **manner** with which a mechanical instrument is to be played (p. 137)

304. They do not support this understanding of the underlying syntax (p. 137).

305. The presence of the possessive pronoun “your” makes a rendering of “heartily” nonsensical—“in your heartily” (p. 138).

306. Select from Figure 19 on p. 139.

307. The mechanical instruments specified in each of the psalms (p. 140)

308. That the instrument on which the Lord requires music to be made is the human heart (p. 140)

### **Who Must *Psallo*?**

309. That all members assembled for worship are to participate in the actions together (p. 140)

310. At the same time (p. 140)

311. At the same time and by the same ones who are doing the singing, speaking, teaching, and admonishing (p. 140)

312. **Every** Christian in the assembly must play an instrument; Play an instrument at **every** service (p. 141).

313. They have been displeasing to God in their worship since they have failed to engage in the alleged action prescribed by the use of the term *psallo* (p. 141).

### **Early Church History**

314. The evidence is “virtually universal, uniform, and unanimous” (p. 142).

### **Summary of *Psallo***

315. Abundant linguistic and historical evidence (p. 143)

316. That the instrument does not inhere in the word itself, since context must establish the intended instrument (p. 143)

317. We sing because the New Testament instructs us to do so; We make melody with our hearts because the New Testament tells us to do that, too; We omit mechanical instruments because the New Testament does not instruct us to play them (p. 143).

### **“Matters of First Importance”?**

318. That some doctrines are of such significance that the Christian is justified in treating other doctrines as trivial, peripheral, and optional (pp. 143-144)

### **1 Corinthians 15:3**

319. That instrumental music may be used in Christian worship since it is not a matter “of first importance” (p. 144)

320. In the sense that they constitute the defining event in redemptive history (p. 144)

321. Nothing else (p. 144)

322. What we believed or how we behaved (p. 144)

323. They are guilty of under-emphasizing (or outright dismissing) doctrines that Jesus intends for everyone to observe (pp. 144-145).

### **Worship Is Not of Secondary Importance**

324. Preachers using this verse to create the impression that all other doctrines of Christianity—if not directly tied to the death, burial, and resurrection—are of less or even minimal concern and can, consequently, virtually be deemed optional (p. 145)

325. How Deity expects to be worshipped (p. 145)

### **Other Matters of Considerable Importance**

326. The Church; Covetousness; Forbidding to marry and ordering them to abstain from foods; Failure to provide for one's relatives; Concern about the poor and needy; Adultery; Lying; Murder; Sexual immorality; Greed; Envy; Deceit; Arrogance; Slander; Disobedient to parents (pp. 145-147)

327. He did not mean that such actions are "secondary"; He meant that if God had not orchestrated the atoning work of Christ, all who commit such actions are permanently doomed, and all other doctrines will not matter in eternity (p. 147).

### **The "Greatest" Commandment**

328. That two commands mean more to God and are of greater concern and significance than all others (p. 147)

329. He meant that when you look at **all** the laws God gave to the Jews, they can **all be summarized** in the words of two Mosaic statements; Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18 (pp. 147-148).

330. Obey all the laws that God has given humans to obey—since every single one of them is intended to express proper love (p. 148).

331. The Law and the Prophets merely expound, elaborate on, and apply the principles of love for God and love for fellowman (p. 148).

332. Romans 13:8-10 (p. 148)

333. How He says to worship (p. 148)

### **The "Weightier" Matters**

334. That as long as we focus on being just, merciful, and faithful, we can use instrumental music in worship (p. 148)

335. "These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone" (p. 148).

### **Summary**

336. To what Christ has done for us (p. 149)

337. That we cannot arrive at truth on each of them and ascertain whether they are obligatory in God's sight or purely optional (p. 150)

338. How to worship God (p. 150)

### **Equal Importance?**

339. That if we truly love God, we will obey Him; we will be concerned about **every matter that He places before us** (p. 150)

340. Conceptualize Bible doctrines in terms of his own idea of "importance" (p. 151)

341. Psalm 119:160,172; 119:6,86,151; Romans 7:12; Luke 17:10; Matthew 28:20 (p. 151)

342. Circumcision, keeping the Law of Moses, eating meat offered to idols (p. 151)

### **Just Reading Through the Bible**

343. The person of Jesus and His sacrifice on the cross (p. 152)

344. A strong realization that I must obey God in everything (p. 152)

345. That God desires the use of instrumental praise (p. 152)

346. That He desires worshippers to **sing** (pp. 152-153)

347. Vocal music (p. 153)

### **Obedience Has Always Been Crucial**

348. We can be forgiven for our disobedience—if we access that forgiveness according to God’s own directives (p. 153).

349. The necessity of being overly concerned about strict, loving obedience to every command of God (p. 153)

350. In the idea that arriving at correct doctrine is irrelevant to establishing and maintaining a right relationship with God (p. 153)

351. Doctrinal purity (p. 153)

352. Corrupting divine worship with manmade mechanical contraptions (p. 154)

353. The very items on which God places great importance (p. 154)

354. **We** decide what **we** think is important and then proceed to structure **our** religion around those self-stylized premises, assuming divine sanction and “grace” (p. 154).

355. Great arrogance and disrespect (p. 154)

356. Adam/Eve (Genesis 3); Nadab/Abihu (Leviticus 10); Moses (Numbers 20); Saul (1 Samuel 15); Uzzah (2 Samuel 6); Uzziah (2 Chronicles 26); Ananias/Sapphira (Acts 5) (pp. 154-155)

357. Because they deviated, ever so slightly, from His stipulated instructions (p. 155)

358. “All the counsel of God”—even those portions that humans deem peripheral or “no big deal” (p. 155)

### **The Lord’s Supper**

359. That it may be observed on days of the week other than Sunday (p. 156)

### **Four Key Preliminary Factors**

360. Apostolic influence and inspired precedent (p. 156)

361. (1) The resurrection of Jesus occurred on Sunday; (2) After His resurrection, Jesus met with His disciples on Sunday; (3) The Church was established on Sunday; (4) New Testament Churches assembled on Sunday; (5) They observed the Lord’s Supper on Sunday; (6) Disciples began calling Sunday “the Lord’s day” (p. 157)

362. With deafening silence (p. 157)

363. Observance of the Lord’s Supper on Sunday (p. 157)

364. To Sunday observance of the Supper (p. 158)

365. It weakens its doctrinal significance (p. 158).

## Specific Scriptures

### Acts 2:42,46

- 366. For the Lord's Supper (p. 159)
- 367. That it refers to the Lord's Supper (p. 159)
- 368. The use of the article "the"; It indicates that a particular event, as opposed to a common meal, is under consideration (p. 160).
- 369. Other unmistakably **religious** activities of the Church (p. 160)
- 370. The unity or togetherness that the disciples enjoyed (p. 161)
- 371. While they participated together in their **religious** activities, they also continued their togetherness in their **nonreligious** acts of domestic socialization (p. 161).
- 372. Not to the Lord's Supper, but to common meals (p. 161)
- 373. Authority or evidence to warrant the conclusion that the church can partake of the Lord's Supper on some day other than Sunday (p. 161)

### Acts 20:7

- 374. Purpose of action of the principal verb (p. 162)
- 375. To partake of the Lord's Supper (p. 161)
- 376. A regular procedure that the reader should know and understand (p. 162)
- 377. That Luke was making reference to that which was recognized as standard protocol among Christians: Sunday observance of the Lord's Supper (p. 162)
- 378. He desired to meet with the entire church at the formal, weekly worship assembly (p. 163).

## Saturday Night or Sunday Night?

### Days & Hours

- 379. The 24-hour rotation of the Earth on its axis (p. 165)
- 380. The point at which one begins to count this single revolution (p. 163)
- 381. In the evening—Leviticus 23:32 (p. 164)
- 382. At approximately 6:00 p.m. on our Saturday evening (p. 164)
- 383. Jewish—not Roman (p. 164)
- 384. The disciples came together on the evening of our Saturday—**their Sunday**—with Paul ready to depart on **the next period of daylight**, which would be sometime after dawn the next morning—which would still be their (and our) **Sunday** (p. 166).

### Acts 20:11

- 385. If a proper name is used, *arton* (bread) in verse seven, and the same noun is used thereafter in the same context preceded by the article, *ton arton* (the bread) in verse 11, the second occurrence of the noun generally refers to the earlier occurrence (p. 167).

386. A common meal (p. 168)

387. That the Lord's Supper was observed on Sunday (p. 168).

### **Two Quibbles**

388. Because our Saturday evening was not Saturday evening to a Jew—**it was Sunday** (p. 169).

389. To the reckoning of time indigenous to **our** culture (p. 169)

390. On the first day of the week—however that day is reckoned in a given society (p. 169)

391. “New...in my Father's kingdom—Matthew 26:29 (p. 170)

### **1 Corinthians 16:1-2**

392. Weekly contributions for the churches: “on the first day of **every** week” (p. 170)

393. To **every** Sabbath (p. 170)

394. He was legislating frequency for first-century churches (p. 170).

395. Merely to offer a financial contribution and then go home (p. 170)

396. To engage in all five acts of worship—the Lord's Supper being prominent among them (p. 170)

### **“As Often As”**

397. That the Corinthians were permitted to take of the Lord's Supper anytime they decided to without any limitations on the day or the frequency (p. 171)

### **The Grammar & Context**

398. The perpetual nature of the Lord's Supper until the end of time (p. 172)

399. Indication that the reader is free to select his own frequency; nor does it exclude a stipulation of frequency that might be indicated elsewhere in the New Testament (p. 172)

400. That a divinely fixed day is excluded and therefore Christians are free to pick and choose their own days (p. 173)

401. (1) “Whenever you celebrate your birthday, be sure to invite me”; (2) “As often as you celebrate your birthday, express gratitude to the parents who bore you”; (3) Every time you wash your laundry, be sure to use Tide as your detergent” (p. 173).

### **Summary**

402. The idea that Christians are free to select their own day for partaking of the Lord's Supper (p. 174)

### **Implications**

403. That they were to observe the Sabbath every Saturday and only on Saturday (p. 175)

## **An “Occasional” Letter?**

404. They were written to address specific issues that arose in local churches, without them being intended to apply to all churches for all time (p. 175).

405. Just because God told the Corinthians to contribute on the first day of the week does not mean that we are confined to that same day and that same procedure (p. 175).

406. As the sole repository through which New Testament Christianity was to be instigated, promoted, regulated, and perpetuated for the rest of human history (pp. 175-176)

407. Carrying forth His instructions with regards to the establishment of His Church and the launching of His religion (p. 176)

408. John chapters 13-17 (p. 176)

409. That what they taught the various churches to do were instructions from the Lord that were normative for all Churches of Christ for all time (p. 177)

410. That same instruction applies to all church worship assemblies throughout the world and throughout the Christian Era (p. 177).

## **Conclusion**

411. Since Christians met every Sunday, and a central purpose for such assemblies was to observe the Lord’s Supper regularly and consistently, it follows that the early church partook of the Lord’s Supper every Sunday—and only on Sunday (p. 178).

## **Praise Teams**

412. Familiarity with the biblical principle of authority (p. 179)

### **Attempts Made to Justify Praise Teams**

#### **I. Praise Team Members...**

413. (1) Select the song; (2) Pitch the song; (3) Start the song; (4) Keep the group together (p. 180)

414. The meaning of “song leader” (p. 180)

415. In order to carry out the command to “sing” (p. 180)

416. He would not be functioning as a song leader in those actions that are unnecessary to leading singing (p. 180).

#### **Biblical Guidelines for a Song Leader**

417. (1) Multiple song leaders for the same song serve no necessary purpose; (2) Praise teams introduce into the worship event human-centered performance, thus calling attention to the praise team members’ talent rather than focusing on God and the song lyrics (p. 181).

#### **II. By Singing Different Parts...**

418. The worship assembly is not the time or place to teach people how to worship (p. 182).

### **III. A Praise Team is Simply an AID...**

419. An aid (p. 183)

420. The purpose of song leading as well as the nature and purpose of an aid (p. 183)

### **IV. A Praise Team “improves” and “enhances”...**

421. Their “unenhanced” and “unimproved” worship was, nevertheless, acceptable to God (p. 183).

422. He would have told us how to do so (p. 183).

423. Yes, He has—Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, 1 Corinthians 14:15 (p. 183).

### **Five Reasons Why Praise Teams Are Unscriptural**

424. See the list of 5 on p. 184.

### **Is Worship a Matter of Talent?**

425. (1) Sing; (2) Speak words; (3) In your heart (pp. 184-185)

426. Musical talent (p. 184)

427. How a person sounds (p. 184)

428. Humans placing much stock in such carnal matters (p. 184)

429. Blatant examples of the manmade “will worship” of Colossians 2:23 and the vain worship devised by the commandments of men in Matthew 15:8-9 (pp. 184-185)

430. Musical or vocal talent (p. 185)

431. The musical talent, skill, or ability that humans require and expect from praise teams and choirs (p. 185)

432. On the words and the heart—not the tune or vocal skill (which have no spiritual value) (p. 185)

433. Assuage human lust, fleshly desires, emotions, and worldly expectations (p. 185)

434. The false notion that human definitions of “skill” and “talent” prevail (p. 185)

435. The **non**-spiritual aspects of singing, i.e., what sounds better to **humans** or is judged by **humans** to be superior (p. 185)

436. Because many humans cannot attain to such skill (p. 185)

437. It is demeaning and unloving (p. 185).

438. Mere humans have set themselves up as the standard of “what sounds good” and “who sings better” (pp. 185-186).

439. That what sounds good or better to them sounds good or better to God—that He endorses their humanly-contrived opinions and preferences—Psalm 50:21 (p. 186)



## Conclusion

440. (1) Is it scripturally authorized? (2) Is it truly necessary to fulfill God's worship commands? (3) Is the desire for a praise team more about making the singing sound "better"? (4) Does the desire for a praise team signal a need for a singing class? (p. 186)

## Clapping in Worship—"Laud"?

441. That the term in Romans 15:11 translated "laud" in the KJV and NKJV includes the idea of handclapping (p. 186)

442. The Latin word *laudare* meaning "to praise, commend, extol, honor, compliment" (p. 187)

443. Orally with words; It has nothing to do with clapping (p. 187).

444. The Latin word *applaudere* meaning "to strike, beat, clap" (p. 187)

445. That "laud" and "applaud" are separate and distinct Latin terms—not synonyms (p. 188)

446. To praise or commend (p. 188)

447. The idea of clapping (p. 188)

448. No known English translation so renders it (p. 188).

449. Psalm 117:1—"to praise, sing praises, laud, glorify" (p. 189)

450. It bears no connection to the meaning "clap" (p. 189).

451. Psalm 63:3—Lips don't "clap" (p. 189)

## Arm Waving

452. "Holding up one's **arms**" (p. 189)

453. 1 Timothy 2:8 (p. 190)

## Biblical Prayer Postures

454. Five (p. 191)

## Uplifted Hands as a Prayer Posture

455. A **prayer** posture (p. 191)

456. All the instances of lifting up hands involve **prayer** and (2) the prayers are framed as **requests** (p. 192)

457. Lifting hands in prayer (p. 193)

## Description of the Posture

458. "Extended arms or bodily attitude of prayer, usually standing, with the elbows close to the sides of the body and with the hands outstretched sideways, palms up" (p. 194)

## Purpose/Intent of Prayer Postures

459. A very specific meaning (p. 194)

460. Meaningless, thoughtless body movement (p. 194)

461. Kneeling = humility before God; Bowing the head = respect; Standing = the attitude of the slave before his master; Lying face down = complete dependency, resignation; Lifting up outstretched hands = a request is being made (pp. 194-195)

### **The Meaning of Lifting Up Hands...**

462. That lifting up hands is the posture of request (p. 195)

### **Bible Verses**

463. See pp. 197-201.

### **Summary**

464. Emulate them in their prayer life (p. 201)

465. The attitude of the one praying and the appropriateness of the thought of the prayer itself (pp. 201-202)

466. To one or more of the authorized, meaning-laden postures specified in Scripture (p. 202)

467. Meaning; They do not constitute meaningless body movements (p. 202).

468. How it even remotely parallels the biblical practice of lifting up hands (p. 202)

469. By non-rational actions that allow the worshipper to express passion—actions that are “better felt than told” (p. 202)

470. A controlled, intellectually meaningful expression of spiritual concepts (p. 202)

471. Elements that are potentially self-serving, mindless expressions of emotion, designed to impress the participants rather than focus on God (p. 203)

472. (1) Raising arms, palms forward, when riding on a roller coaster; (2) Lifting one or both arms at a rock concert (p. 203)

473. They “enhance” one’s physical experience; They stimulate the participants by increasing their level of engagement; They take the physical and emotional sensations to “the next level”; They intensify the thrill, enliven pleasure, energize excitement, and arouse greater euphoria (pp. 203-204)

474. From within rather than from external, carnal manipulation (p. 204)

475. Something is wrong with the worshipper (p. 204).

476. There will be no end to the perpetual parade of unscriptural practices foisted upon the church (p. 204).

### **Inconsistencies**

477. Hold up hands during the sermon or the musical portion of the service as during prayer (p. 204)

478. The biblical prayer posture of lifting up hands (p. 205)

479. Not only would the hands portray an act of receiving, the arms would not sway from side to side (p. 205)

480. No where (p. 206)

481. When the words of the prayer specifically pertain to requesting, asking, supplicating, or pleading with God, and with the mind directed toward expecting to receive (p. 206)

### **Other Postures?**

482. That they are optional, i.e., they do not **have** to be assumed (p. 206)

483. Between actions that are **intended** to be part of one's worship expression versus actions that are **not** so intended (p. 207)

484. Breathing; Blinking; Shifting the body; Scratching one's nose (p. 207)

485. To prepare ourselves to do what God wants us to do; Aids (p. 207)

486. Pitch pipes and songbooks; To be offered as worship actions (p. 207)

487. When individuals invent body movements that are nonsensical, that have no legitimate scriptural or spiritual meaning, and implement them as intended prayer postures or expressions of worship (p. 208)

488. The faulty "standard" of human sincerity and personal opinion (p. 209)

489. (1) He must have biblical authority for worship actions; (2) He must not engage in mindless, meaningless, self-concocted physical stimuli that are "better-felt-than-told" (p. 209).

490. For incidental, unrelated body positions while praying; Not for body positions that the worshipper has concocted for his or her own "religious" self-gratification (p. 209)

### **Conclusion**

491. Unrestrained, impulsive, human-originated, and unguided by God (p. 210)

492. The popular worship practices of today—handclapping, instrumental music, praise teams, waving arms, etc. (p. 211)

493. A flawed concept; (1) That past worship has been inferior; (2) That God's directives become irrelevant; (3) That humans deserve to be allowed input as to how God ought to be worshipped from generation to generation (p. 211)

494. Lest we unwittingly distract fellow worshippers, discourage the confused, and disrupt the corporate worship assembly (p. 212)

### **Foot Washing**

495. A common cultural amenity that was necessary due to the dry, dusty road conditions and the footwear of the day (p. 212)

496. A servant of the host (p. 213)

497. That Jesus would lower Himself to perform such menial—if not demeaning—labor (p. 213)

- 498. They needed to be humble servants (p. 213).
- 499. Simply using the common cultural custom to teach a spiritual principle (p. 213)
- 500. That He was instituting foot washing as a Christian ritual in the assembly (p. 214)
- 501. Taking the easy way out (p. 214)
- 502. To muster the time, money, and effort to serve others throughout the week (p. 214)
- 503. Change a flat tire for an elderly member; Repair a leaking roof for a poor member; Transport the sick to the doctor (pp. 214-215).
- 504. That lowering oneself to do menial labor for others is the kind of humility and servant attitude that He desires from His disciples (p. 215)
- 505. An unauthorized, meaningless, ritualistic, theatrical act that constitutes melodramatic, sensual self-gratification (p. 215)

### **Fasting**

- 506. Refraining from eating during the night; When doctors tell patients to refrain from some foods; When patients refrain from eating or drinking anything after midnight prior to undergoing medical tests or procedures; Diets (p. 215)

### **Observation #1**

- 507. Israel (p. 216)

### **Observation #2**

- 508. Religion (p. 217)
- 509. A culturally related outward expression of distress or grief (p. 217)
- 510. Matthew 9:14-15 (p. 217)
- 511. Mourning, weeping, fasting; Disconnected from **religion** (pp. 217-218)
- 512. Bathing, using body lotions, and wearing clean clothes (p. 218)

### **Observation #3**

- 513. Abstinence from the usual amenities associated with daily grooming with no inherent affiliation with religion (p. 219)
- 514. The coincidental features of his period of mourning (p. 219)
- 515. They were all coordinate expressions of grief and mourning (p. 221)
- 516. Religious connotations, i.e., in order to please God by engaging in religious ritual (p. 221)
- 517. A means to an end and not intended to be an expression of religious devotion (pp. 221-222)

### **Observation #4**

- 518. In the Law of Moses (Pentateuch)

519. Day of Atonement (p. 222)

520. So that they could give complete and total attention to mourning over their sins and manifesting gratitude for God's magnificent, forgiving love (p. 223)

521. Refraining from working; Abstinence from every activity that would cause a person to shift attention away from God's bestowal of forgiveness (p. 223)

522. No other fasts (p. 223)

523. The fact that they were simultaneously engaged in prolonged, sustained prayer (p. 224)

524. Devoting themselves to the appointment of elders which included prayer (pp. 224-225)

525. Fasting (p. 225)

526. Give complete, undivided attention to performing a religious/spiritual act (p. 225)

527. To bring into their practice of Christianity various observances that were associated with their former Jewish lifestyle (p. 226)

528. The early Jewish disciples' actions that were permissible under Christ's law—but not obligatory (p. 226)

#### **Observation #5**

529. An act of worship (p. 226)

530. They are inherently sanctifying before God, possessing intrinsic spiritual efficacy (p. 226)

531. A means to an end—not an end in and of itself (p. 226)

532. It accompanied a separate spiritual activity—often prayer—which was the actual reason for fasting (p. 227).

533. Non-worship acts which possess no inherent spiritual merit (p. 227)

534. See the right column of Figure 27 on p. 228.

#### **Observation #6**

535. Its **private** nature (p. 228)

536. Fasting (p. 228)

537. Jewish misconceptions, misinterpretations, and misapplications of their own law (p. 329)

538. In the coincidental fact that it enables attention to be given to **spiritual** activity—which **is** of value (p. 229)

539. As if they possessed inherent spiritual efficacy (p. 230)

540. If a person needs to set aside attending to physical needs in order to give undivided attention to the distressful circumstance that has arisen (p. 230)

541. Sleep; By sleeping, they deprived themselves of the **spiritual** merit of watching with Jesus, praying, and avoiding entering into temptation (pp. 230-231).

#### **Observation #7**

542. (1) The humbling is **distinct** from the fasting; (2) The fasting is not the **cause** of the humbling; (3) The humbling can occur **without** fasting (p. 231).

543. Either (1) to complain and become disgruntled or (2) to look to God and His Word (p. 232)

544. An avenue through which a person will or will not return to God and His religion (p. 232)

#### **Observation #8**

545. They are equally appropriate: wearing sackcloth, shaving our heads, cutting our beards, sitting in ashes, putting dust on our heads, tearing our clothes, lying prone on the floor, refraining from changing our clothes, showering, or anointing ourselves with perfumes and lotions (p. 233; also Appendix E).

#### **Conclusion**

546. The mind is forced to center on the body's nagging reminder that an effort is being made to focus on **spiritual** matters (p. 233).

547. The mind is immediately drawn back to the reason for the discomfort and deprivation; To give attention to the **spiritual** aspect of the process (pp. 233-234).

#### **Candle Lighting Services**

548. Human ingenuity, human thinking, human-made religion (p. 235)

549. All humanly-contrived activities and devote himself to the religion set forth in the New Testament (p. 235)

550. Submitting to Christ's authority (p. 235)

551. It is completely silent (p. 235).

552. The olive oil lamp (p. 235)

553. To provide illumination for the priests (p. 235)

554. Biblical precedent or purpose (pp. 235-236)

#### **Summary**

555. The desire to wallow in sentimentality and emotional euphoria, allowing ourselves to generate new worship behavior that rises from the mind and mood of the worshipper (p. 236)

556. "The love of the truth"—2 Thessalonians 2:10 (p. 236)

### **CHAPTER 5**

#### **Immodesty**

557. The vulgar, lascivious nature of the clothing (p. 237)

558. 1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Peter 3:3-4 (p. 237)

559. Wearing dresses that have slits that expose their thighs, as well as low cut tops that show cleavage (p. 237)

### **Divorce/Remarriage**

560. One man, for one woman, for life, with only one exception—Matthew 19:4-6 (p. 237)

561. “Restudied” the issue and determined that violations of Jesus’ words in Matthew 19 do not require adulterous unions to be terminated (p. 238)

### **The Meaning of “Fornication”**

562. The meaning of the word “fornication” in Matthew 19:9 (p. 238)

563. That the ground for divorce centers on sexual sin (p. 238)

564. “Immorality” (p. 238)

### **Three Observations**

565. They are referring to multiple forms or types of sexual intercourse (p. 239).

566. See Figure 29 on p. 239.

### **Conclusions**

567. “Lewdness”; “Unchastity”; “Debauchery”; “Whoredom”; “Uncleanness”; “Impurity”; “Commerce”; “Incontinence”; “Sexual immorality” (p. 241)

568. The viewing of pornography (p. 241)

### **The Meaning of “Whoever”...**

569. That the verse does not apply to **non**-Christians (p. 241)

570. That it applies only to those who have already entered into Jesus’ covenant (pp. 241-242)

571. That non-Christians who have been divorced and remarried for reasons other than fornication may “start fresh” when they become Christians and remain in whatever marriage relationship they are in at the time they are baptized (p. 242)

572. The claim that the word “whoever” generally refers to those who are already in covenant relationship with God (p. 242)

573. It carries no peculiar application to Christians, as if its use indicates that those being referenced are in covenant relationship with God (p. 242).

### **Reasons Why Matthew 19:9 is Not...**

574. Specifically to Jews—not Christians (p. 342)

575. They desired to know His will for Jews right then (p. 242).

576. When first uttered to the entire race in Genesis 2:24 (p. 242)

577. See pp. 242-245.

578. Go to passages that refer only to certain people, and then conclude that since “whoever” in those verses refer to those people, “whoever” must always or generally refer to those people (p. 245).

579. They do not support this peculiar contention (p. 245).

### **Alcohol/Marijuana**

580. The quagmire of intoxicating stimulants like alcohol and marijuana (p. 246)

### **Gambling**

581. The claim that gambling is harmless and not a moral issue (p. 246)

582. The deterioration of moral civilization (p. 246)

### **Abortion**

583. More than 66 million (p. 246)

584. That He will not allow this horrific circumstance to go unpunished (p. 246)

585. Jeremiah 32:35 (p. 246)

### **Homosexuality/Transgenderism**

586. It presumptuously and contemptuously brushed aside God’s definition of marriage (p. 247).

587. Before the **real** Supreme Court—the “Judge of all the Earth” (p. 247)

### **A Christian Response to Transgenderism**

588. Full-fledged pagan immorality (p. 247)

589. The souls of homosexuals and transgender individuals (p. 248)

590. Hatred, “hate speech,” or “racism” (p. 248)

591. Wanting the best for people (as defined by God) and earnestly desiring them to go to heaven (p. 248)

### **Definition**

592. As normal and acceptable (p. 248)

### **The Bible**

593. God defined gender; male and female (p. 249)

594. Mark 10:6-7 (p. 250)

595. Deuteronomy 22:5 (p. 250)

596. The home—consisting of a male and a female joined in marriage (p. 250)

597. The body (p. 250)

598. By gender (p. 250)

599. A matter of Creation—not culture (p. 250)



600. That their respective roles are, indeed, rooted in the creation of gender by God at the very beginning of time (p. 251)

### **The Science**

601. They are genetically distinct (p. 251).

602. Female; Male (p. 251)

### **Sexual Orientation**

603. A disproportionate rate of mental health problems (p. 252)

604. Not supported by scientific evidence (p. 252)

605. Estimated 41%, compared to under 5% in the overall U.S. population (p. 252)

### **Gender Identity**

606. Not supported by scientific evidence (p. 252)

### **Not Genetic**

607. It is not genetic (p. 253)

### **How To Reach**

608. Present the Gospel to them (p. 253)

609. Love them (p. 254)

### **Three Recommendations**

610. (1) Prove to them that God exists and the Bible is inspired (p. 254); Prove to them what the Bible teaches about human sexuality (p. 255); (3) Encourage them to face their past (p. 257).

611. They contribute the DNA material that created the physical body of their child (p. 256).

612. He designed the process of procreation and intends for that process to result in offspring that is either male or female (p. 256).

613. His or her gender based on what he or she thinks or feels (p. 256)

614. Personal preference or one's own thoughts (p. 256)

615. That he is a dog or cat trapped in a human body (p. 256)

616. God's Word; To bring the mind (and body) into harmony with the Creator's thinking (p. 256)

617. God's Word; In our feeble efforts to be kind and compassionate (p. 256)

618. Coming to grips with the reality of God's will in view of eternity (pp. 256-257)

### **Encourage Them to Face Their Past**

619. Something happened to that person that redirected his mind down that particular road (p. 257).

620. An incident in childhood that he/she may not even remember (p. 257)
621. Psychological damage that will plague the child for the rest of his life (p. 257)
622. That he was “born that way” (p. 257)
623. The social stability of that nation is placed in dire jeopardy; its demise is inevitable (p. 258).
624. For those individuals whose environment has been such that they have been drawn into aberrant sexual behaviors (p. 258)

### **Conclusion**

625. The more pressure is brought to bear on Christians who are tempted to mirror the world (p. 259)
626. John 3:19, Romans 12:2, 1 John 2:15 (p. 259)

## **CHAPTER 6**

627. (1) God’s incredible love that orchestrated the scheme of redemption via Christ’s death on the cross; (2) The establishment of Christ’s Church (p. 260)

### **The Plan of Salvation: The Cross**

628. The sending of one Member of the Godhead to assume human form on Earth and atone for all human sin by shedding blood from the human body that He prepared for His indwelling—Hebrews 10:5 (pp. 260-261)

### **The Plan of Salvation: The Church of Christ**

629. The Holy Spirit; He orchestrated the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ on Earth (p. 261).
630. A decapitated Gospel, severing the Head from the body (p. 261)
631. The monstrous notion of multiple bodies attached to a single head (pp. 261-262)
632. Not merely superfluous, irrelevant, unauthorized, and unnecessary—but sinister, counterproductive, destructive, and in competition with Christ’s Church for the souls of men (p. 262)
633. Humanly-devised denominational names, confining themselves to the name intended by Deity from all eternity to characterize those who belong to Him: the name “Christian”—Isaiah 62:1-2; Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16 (p. 262)
634. (1) Salvation; (2) Jewish inclusion in that salvation; (3) Gentile inclusion in that salvation; (4) A unifying, incomparable new name (p. 262)
635. Its own names (p. 262)

### **The Only Acceptable Human Response**

636. That all those who were saved and transferred to the Church of Christ were saved by following the exact same procedure (p. 263)
637. Immersion in water (p. 264)

638. Comply with God's stated prerequisite to salvation (p. 264)

### **Will God's Mercy Exempt Anyone?**

639. The act of water immersion (p. 265)

640. The cleansing blood of Christ (p. 265)

641. There are no exceptions (p. 265).

642. His infinite, perfect nature—forgiving sin on some grounds other than the blood of Christ (p. 265)

### **CONCLUSION**

643. Faded into denominationalism and are lost to the Lord (p. 266)

644. It has undergone significant weakening (p. 266).

645. Less spiritually minded and less Bible educated (p. 266)

646. Their forgetfulness, i.e., their failure to continually go back to their Bible and be reminded of God's will for them (p. 267)

647. The Old Testament prophets (p. 267)

648. The Church of Liberalism (p. 267)

649. Recover a vibrant hunger and thirst for Bible study in our private lives (p. 267)

650. Great wrath—Zechariah 7:12 (p. 268)

651. "The pleasant land"; Made it desolate (p. 268)

652. A field white unto harvest that desperately needs our evangelism through every means possible (p. 269)

653. Unnecessary division (p. 269)

654. A united front in hopes of drawing those who seek Jesus (p. 269)

655. Condescend to make provision for we frail and unworthy creatures (p. 269)