

#2 Why Do we Answer questions, and what Kind of Questions should we Answer?

1 Let us Pray. Dear Father we have come into Thy Presence this morning to seek further light on the many truths which have been presented to us by Your Prophet William Branham. Although we recognize that we are not vindicated, yet we do believe Your Holy Spirit indwells us and that You have given us Your Mind, that You also gave to Your son Jesus. For You said, "let the mind that was in Christ be in You. And that Mind in us tells us that all things in which we say, and do must come forth from Thy Word. Therefore, Father, we come in respect to Your word, and ask that You might establish us deeper and deeper into Thy Truth, for Your word is Truth. And You are the Author and Finisher of Our faith which is based in Thy Word. Comfort us Through Thy Truth, for Thy Word is Truth. Teach us Thy ways of Lord, and we shall find rest for our souls. Be with us as we approach Thy Word for the answers that so many people around the world have on their hearts, and may we find solace in Thy Word. All this we ask in the Lovely name You gave to your Son Jesus, and in which you have given to us, Amen.

2 Now, this morning we are going to begin looking at Questions that have come to me from you that are here locally and also from other believers from all over the world. Now, I do not say this as though I am some sort of authority, but William Branham was the authority in this hour, and He took everything back to the Bible because He told us that is our absolute. And the Bible he read from is the same Bible that you have on your lap with you this morning. So there are no answers that come to us via some super duper impression, or some supernatural way. Our answers must come from God's word. And God is the Word, and therefore, where there are questions concerning Him and His word, the answers can be found in His word which was written before the foundations of the world.

3 Now, just think of that. Any question you have this morning concerning God and His Word, God Himself already knew you would have that question, even while you were yet in Him before the foundations of the world.

4 Now, I have heard people say, "no question is a dumb question, because people who ask them truly want answers. But that is not Scriptural at all. I will say this, that where there is a question there has got to be an answer.

5 Doors in door 65-0206 P:47 Oh, what does a man knock on a man's door for? He's trying to gain entrance. He's trying to get in. He's perhaps got something he wants to tell you or talk over with you. He's got a message for you. And that's the reason people knock at one another's door. They've got some reason to do it. There cannot be that happen without some reason. You would not go to a man's house unless there's some reason to go; if nothing else to visit, take him a message, or some...?... There's some reason for a man to go knock on another man's door. Wherever there's a question, there has got to be an answer. There could not be a question without an answer. So that's what we look for in the Bible, these questions of the day; the Bible has the answer. And Christ is that Answer.

6 And that is exactly the way that I am able to come up against a mixed multitude of preachers where we many have several hundred preachers in one gathering, and you know that some are just lying in wait to try to trick you with questions that you can not answer. And in fact knowing that Jesus Christ is the answer to any question concerning the Godhead, that is how I am able to stand in the face of the critics and answer their questions just as fast as they can ask them.

7 This happened in Kampala Uganda last year. The ministers were asked to have their questions in before the lunch break so I and the ministers who accompanied me on the Minister meetings tour would have time to read them and find the Scriptures to answer them. So they gave us about a dozen questions but when we got back from lunch one of the brothers warned us that many had waited for us to leave for lunch and then they go together to come up with questions they thought we could in no way answer, and then if we did not take these questions they could say that we failed to answer their questions, or we could not answer their questions, and so they could appear to their compatriots that they won the battle.

8 But God is not mocked, and when we finished the 12 questions they had given to us before lunch to study, I asked for the pile that had been withheld from us so we had no time to study them. When the minister brought up that pile, The Lord was very good to us, and with what seemed like only 5 minutes or so, I was able to read their questions and given them very explicit Bible answers and it seemed that God spoke through my mouth as rapid as a machine gun could fire, and within a mere few minutes the ministers just sat in awe and became very quiet and they asked no more questions.

9 And we read in Luke 20: 40 19And the chief priests and the scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable against them. 20And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. 21And they asked him, saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person of any, but teachest the way of God truly: 22Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no? 23But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them, Why tempt ye me? 24Show me a penny. Whose image and superscription hath it? They answered and said, Caesar's. 25And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's. 26And they could not take hold of his words before the people: and they marvelled at his answer, and held their peace.

10 And then as we read on we see that the Pharisee also asked questions trying to trick Jesus into saying something they could use against him. But his answers were so perfect that we read in verse 40 And after that they durst not ask him any question at all.

11 Again we see also this same thing take place in the following Scriptures.

12 Mark 12:13 And they send unto him certain of the Pharisees and of the Herodians, to catch him in his words. Notice their motives for being their. to catch him in his words.

13 And again in Luke 11: 54 Laying wait for him, and seeking to catch something out of his mouth, that they might accuse him.

14 And sometimes when they ask you questions and you know their motive is not right, then you just don't give them an answer. You don't have to. And Jesus Himself didn't answer every question asked of him. Luke 23: 9 Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing.

15 So you see sometimes they will use questions for motives other than to learn. In fact many times they sit and listen, not to learn but to find an opening so they can speak their own thoughts.

16 Church Age Book Chapter 9 - The Laodicean Church Age P:78 John 9:40-41. "And some of the Pharisees which were with Him heard these words, and said unto Him, Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth." The attitude of this age is exactly what it was then. People have it all. They know it all. They cannot be taught. If a point of truth from the

Word comes up and a man tries to explain his view to one with an opposing view, the listener is not at all listening that he might learn, but is listening only to refute what is being said. Now I want to ask a fair question. Can Scripture fight Scripture? Does the Bible contradict the Bible? Can there be two doctrines of truth in the Word that say the opposite or oppose the other? NO. IT CANNOT BE SO. Yet how many of God's people have their eyes open to that truth? Not even one percent, as far as I know, have learned that ALL Scripture is given by God and ALL is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, etc. If all Scripture is thusly given, then every verse will dovetail if given a chance. But how many believe in predestination unto election and reprobation unto destruction? Those who don't, will they listen? No, they will not. Yet both are in the Word, and nothing will change it. But to learn about it and reconcile the truth of those doctrines with other truths that seem to oppose, they will not take the time. But they stop their ears, and gnash with their teeth, and they lose out. At the end of this age a prophet will come, but they will be blind to all that he is doing and saying. They are so sure they are right, and in their blindness they will lose it all.

17 But as far as a dumb question? If you give a dumb question, you can expect a dumb answer. In Luke the first chapter we see the story told of two people in whom the angel Gabriel visited. One was Zacharias a priest and a righteous man. The other was the young woman Mary. Now, the angel Gabriel came with good news concerning two births. The first to Gabriel telling him that in his old age he and his wife would have a child, and what ministry that child would be called to do. The other visit was to Mary to tell her that she would conceive and bear a son Who would be the Son of God.

18 Now, sometimes the motive for the question is more important than the question itself. Mary asked some questions but her questions were not in a doubting manner, but in a manner that suggested that she believed but needed help in understanding her role in all this. God wrote about Mary in His word is that she didn't question with doubt what was said to her, even though she had some questions as to the whys and wherefores. But she said in conclusion to all she heard, "be it done unto me according to Thy word." But that wasn't the case with Zacharias. When he was told what was to happen, he doubted that it could happen to one who was as old as he and his wife. Therefore, he questioned how that could be, and he was struck dumb and could not ask any more dumb questions. So there are dumb questions and if you ask a dumb question you just might get a dumb answer. And Zacharias was stricken dumb for asking a dumb question. So he got a dumb answer.

19 Luke 1:18And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years. 19And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings. 20And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.

20 Notice he was stricken dumb for asking a dumb question when he should have know better. And notice that it had to be a preacher, because surely the dumbest questions I have heard all around the world come from those preachers who have rejected the Words of God's vindicated prophet.

21 Notice what Brother Branham said about this from his sermon called the Unchangeable word of God 60-0724 P:42 Now, Zacharias, under the shed blood of the lamb, standing there...And Gabriel came to him and said, " I'm Gabriel, I've come from the Presence of God." And He said, "You're going home. And your wife will conceive, bear a son; you'll call his name John. He will be great, and he will turn the hearts of the children of Israel back to the commandments of God." And then, when Zacharias, think of it now, a preacher, a priest in the temple, read the Scriptures, plenty examples that such as that had happened before. There was Hannah was a woman that couldn't have a child and God gave her a child. There was Sarah, at ninety years old; God gave her a child. That had happened before. But he questioned it. He said, "How could this be? My wife's old, and I'm old, and how could it be?" The Angel spoke quickly and said, "My words will be fulfilled in their day. But because

that you've doubted Me, doubted My word, you'll be dumb till the day the baby's born. But My words will be fulfilled." Hallelujah!

22 But notice the difference between him and Mary. From the same sermon brother Branham said, Unchangeable word of God 60-0724 P:55 Zacharias stayed right there on the platform, and the Angel left him. And he was stricken dumb. Now, the Angel said, "Your cousin, Mary, is already six months, as it is to be with a mother." And said, "Now, this holy Thing that's born in you, will be the Son of God." You know what Mary said? I wish we had more Marys here now. Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it unto me according to Your Word." Oh, my. She never questioned; she never questioned. And another thing, she never wait till she felt life. She didn't wait till she was positive. She didn't wait till she'd seen that something ceased by her.

23 So there are dumb question, but I am not saying this to frighten you as though your questions are dumb. But we are commanded not to answer questions which are meant to gender strife and contention.

24 2 Timothy 2: 23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

25 Now, what are foolish and unlearned questions? Well the word foolish was translated from the Greek word Moros which we get the English word Moron from. A moron is someone who is Moros. And the word for unlearned speaks of someone who is un-instructed or stupid.

26 In English we the word mo-ron is a noun. 1. A moron is a person regarded as very stupid. 2. In Psychology a moron is a person of mild mental retardation having a mental age of from 7 to 12 years and generally having communication and social skills enabling some degree of academic or vocational education. The term belongs to a classification system no longer in use and is now considered offensive. [From Greek moron, neuter of morosstupid, meaning foolish]

27 In Titus 3: 9 Paul says, But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

28 So we are told by the Apostle Paul here in 2 Timothy not to waste our time on moronic questions knowing that they only gender strife.

29 In 1 Timothy 6: 3-4 we also hear the Apostle Paul tell us to 3If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; (God-likeness) He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

30 So we see there are certain types of people who have a tendency to delve into discussions that end up provoking strife and envy and railings and surmisings. Now, what are these words that are attributes or manifestations of such men and their dumb questions.

31 Now, let's read what the Apostle Paul said again and as we read one of these words that needs further light let's insert that definition into the Words of Paul.

32 1 Timothy 6: 3-4 we also hear the Apostle Paul tell us to 3If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, (now, this word wholesome was translated from the Greek word hugiaino which means to have sound health, i.e. to be well (in body); or figuratively to be uncorrupt concerning true in doctrine: To be in health, be safe and sound, to be whole or wholesome. 3If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words,(and what doctrine is healthy?

33 What words are healthy? He continues) even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; (which is God-likeness. And there is no other doctrine that speaks of God-likeness but the doctrine of Christ so if any man teach contrary to the doctrine of Christ or the Words of Jesus) He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words,(now, what does it mean to be doting?)

34 The word doting was translated from a Greek word which means to be harping about something or to have a hankering about something, and it speaks literally of having a diseased appetite. And in so doing they bring about the following.) whereof cometh envy (which is ill-will and jealousy. And Paul said this kind of mindset also brings), strife(which is defined as debate, contention and quarreling. But not only that, but the atmosphere they created is also filled with), railings (which is evil speaking and vilification. In other words they use their mouth to cast blame and vilify others. And they also produce), evil surmisings, which are evil suspicions that they throw out to try to get you to stop viewing the truth.)

35 In other words these men produce nothing but evil gossip to put out scarecrows to keep you from entering into the truth.

36 Now, let's read this verse again with the understanding of the words which the Apostle Paul is speaking to us.

37 1 Timothy 6: 3-4 3If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words,

38 And pride cometh before a fall. And pride tells the whole story. These are proud Boasters

39 Yes, Paul even called them Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Romans 1: 30

40 And prophesied that they would be this way at the end-time. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 2 Timothy 3:2

41 So we must be wise as serpents and harmless as doves, but we must know this, that all questions have motives, and we must come to an understanding first of what the motive is before we can honestly answer the questions presented to us.

42 In 1 Timothy 1: 4 The Apostle Paul said, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.

43 Now, what are fables? Fables are made up stories with a moral to them. But William Branham, vindicated prophet of God also called the Oneness and Trinitarian doctrines fables.

44 From Questions and answers COD 62-0527 P:88 brother Branham said, I was laying the cornerstone that day of the foundation there. It's wrote, laying right there in that cornerstone now, and said:... "do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of your ministry. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall... heap for themselves together teachers, having itching ears;... and shall be turned from the truth unto fables. (That's both oneness and trinity;)

45 So you see there are certain types of people who can not possess the truth in their minds. They do not have a mind geared to God and His Word, but they themselves are geared to the gullibility of them that perish. In fact

that is what Paul also said in 2 Thessalonians 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that are geared to the gullibility of them who are perishing; this gullibility caused by the fact that they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And because of this God sends them a strong deluding influence that they should believe the lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

46 So we see there are motives in the questions people ask. And we must be able to discern the motives if we are to answer the questions that are given to us, even if they be pure legitimate questions concerning an understanding that perhaps someone is having difficulty in perceiving the answer.

47 Brother Branham said in his QA on Genesis COD 53-0729 P:1 Now, if anyone's got any questions that they want to hand in, why, just push them right on up, let some child bring them or whatever you want to. Or maybe, if we get through... I got about six here on one page, and then here, then we got two over there. Now, we want to find out. The reason we do this is to find out what's on the people's mind, what they're thinking about. See? And that's what makes a good strong church. You've got to have the times, just like you got to comb the cockleburs out like, you know, and everything, get all the things out of the way so that you can move steadily. So now that's the reason we have question night once in a while, is to find out.

48 Therefore, on the one hand we ask the people to write down their questions so we can get a feel for where they are at in their Spiritual maturity. Just like in School the teacher asks the students questions to see whether they know the material or not. We call it getting a pulse on where the people are at. And in the medical profession we check the heart to determine the health of the individual whereas in the Spiritual we also check the heart to see where the people are at with their Sovereign God.

49 Now, sometimes there are other reasons for questions as well. Sometimes we ask questions to see where the person is standing. Or we ask questions in order to judge or prove that person before we give them our confidence and trust. And that is exactly what the Queen of Sheba did when she came to Solomon.

50 1 Kings 10: 1-3 And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to prove him with hard questions. 2 And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart. And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not any thing hid from the king, which he told her not.

51 Finally in closing we will read from 1 Thessalonians 5: 21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Let us pray...