

28. ANSWERS TO COMMON OBJECTIONS MET IN SOUL WINNING

Bible Reading: I Peter 3:15

Aim: To give Christians answers to objections met in soul winning so we can win more souls to Christ.

Introduction: Many people with whom we share the gospel have genuine questions they want answered which hinder them receiving Christ. By providing clear, simple answers to these questions, many more people may get saved. Notice three things about these people:

- 1) Don't spend all your time answering objections or arguing.
- 2) Briefly answer objections. Bring the conversation back to the gospel immediately. Satan may put questions in their minds, to sidetrack you from preaching the gospel. Don't fall into this trap.
- 3) Check if they are sincere and open to the truth. Answers to common objections are:

1. What about those who have never heard the gospel, such as people in Africa? Doesn't this mean God is unjust in sending people to hell if they have never Heard?

- a) In Titus 2:11 God says that they have heard enough about God that if they follow it up they will get saved through Christ. 'The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.'
Question: How much do you know about ancient heathen individuals secret thought life? (Nothing)
- b) In Romans 1:18-21 God says that He has shown them His eternal power and Godhead through creation, so they are without excuse.
- c) In Revelation 5:9 people from 'every kindred, tongue, people and nation' that ever existed will be in heaven, singing that 'Christ was slain and has redeemed us to God by thy blood.'
- d) In Acts 17:27, God says of pagans that 'they should **seek** after the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and **FIND HIM**, though he be **not far** from everyone of us.'
This means that if pagans seek God, they will find Him. Helen Keller was born blind, deaf, & dumb. When she got saved, she said that she always knew God was there, but didn't know His Name.
- e) Jeremiah 29:13 says that if people seek God with all their heart, they will find Him. 'Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.'

2. Is Christ the only way to God? What about other religions?

- a) John 14:6 Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth & the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me'
- b) Acts 4:12 'Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is **none other name** under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.'
- c) I Timothy 2:5 'For there is one God, & **one mediator** between **God** and **men**, the man Christ Jesus'
Question: Why is Jesus Christ the only way to God?
 - a) He lived a sinless life. (John 8:46).
 - b) He was God, and had the credentials to prove it. (John 8:24; 5:18,23).
 - c) He solves the sin problem, by paying for our sin on the cross. (Isaiah 53:6).

- d) He rose from the dead. (Luke 24:39-43).
- e) The Old Testament prophets predicted details of His life. (Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; Psalm 22:16).
- f) Jesus predicted the future correctly (Matthew 24:1-34).
Only Jesus Christ deals with the sin problem by paying the penalty for our sins on the cross, which God's law required. No other religion solves the sin problem; they only tell us to do good works and hope for the best, without any certainty of eternal life. Christ promises us eternal life if we receive Him as our Saviour. Who else has Christ's credentials?

3. Won't a good life get me to heaven? I'm a good person.

You may be good compared to men, but not compared to God. Scripture states good works don't save.

- a) Isaiah 64:6 'all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags.'
- b) Ephesians 2:8,9,10 'By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast.'
- c) Titus 3:5 'Not by works of righteousness which we have done'.
Salvation is **gift**. (Romans 6:23; John 4:10; II Corinthians 9:15).

Question: If salvation is by good works, how good do you have to be?

Question: If salvation is by good works, then why did Christ have to die on the cross? Who saves man?

4. Isn't the Bible full of errors?

Name one! 'The words of the Lord are pure words . . . thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever'. (Psalm 12:6,7).

Question: Whom did Cain marry? **Answer:** His sister: 'he begat sons and daughters.'
Genesis 5:4.

The right attitude about apparent contradictions is to shelve what you don't know until you learn more.

We know the Bible is the **faultless Word of God**, because:

Jesus Christ **said it was God's Word**, proven by

Jesus Christ **rising from the dead**; and Jesus Christ **accurately predicted the future**.

5. Why does God allow suffering? Why do the innocent suffer if God is loving?

'Wherefore, as by one man (*Adam*) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.' (Romans 5:12).

- a) When man rebelled against God and sided with Satan, he brought the consequences on himself. The nature of sin is that it spreads and affects others.
- b) God allows:
 - i) The **lost** to suffer – to make them aware of the shortness of time and lengthiness of eternity;
 - as well as to shake complacent Christ-rejecting sinners out of their proud self dependence, causing them to look to God and hence be saved. It is better to suffer a while on earth and be saved, than to be well off on earth and suffer in hell for ever.
 - ii) Believers to suffer as discipline **or** to make us more like Christ. (Romans 8:28,29).
- c) The correct attitude to suffering is that because we don't know all the facts, we should not judge God, since our knowledge is so small. Job suffered, not knowing all the facts,

but he honoured God in his trials. God blessed him later with twice as much after his suffering was over.

- d) God has prepared to stop suffering later in heaven.
- e) God can turn suffering into great blessing for many. 'For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.' Jeremiah 29:11

6. What about all the hypocrites in the church?

- a) You are responsible to God for yourself, so don't judge others. 'So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God'. (Romans 14:12).
- b) Don't compare yourself with others, or with the worst, but with Christ. We are all sinners. 'For we dare not . . . compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they . . . comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.' (2 Corinthians 10:12).
- c) Some of the hypocrites in the church are proud and trust their good works for salvation, while despising others, like the Pharisees whom Christ condemned.
- d) Churches are made of people who know they are sinners and who know they need God.
- e) If you have a standard and don't keep it, then you are a hypocrite as well. You aren't perfect. Fix your own sins first before you condemn others. (Matthew 7:3,4,5).

7. What about Science opposing and disproving the Bible, eg: Evolution.

- a) True science which is based on observable facts, supports the Bible. Evolution is not observable.
- b) 'Avoid . . . oppositions of science falsely so called.' (1 Timothy 6:20).
- c) Science is learning&changing as man thinks up new theories. The Bible is God's revelation to man.
- d) The history of science is full of discarded theories. The Bible has not needed to be revised, but contains many scientific facts unknown when written, but proven true later by modern science. The Bible has a better record of being proven right than has science.
- e) Evolution is wrong because:
 - i) mutations never produce a new species of animal life;
 - ii) uniformitarianism is proven wrong by Noah's Flood;
 - iii) Transitional fossils between species are non-existent;
 - iv) Dating methods of rocks are in error, disagreeing with one another
 - v) How does evolution explain how sex & reproductive systems evolved?

8. How can miracles be possible?

- a) Ask: 'If God exists, would miracles be too hard for Him?'
- b) 'For with God nothing shall be impossible.' (Luke 1:37).

9. Some people think that God does not exist.

- a) 'In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.' (Genesis 1:1). Creation's intelligent complex life forms prove there is a Creator God.

- b) God's existence is 'clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made . . . so that they are without excuse.' (Romans 1:19,20).
- c) 'The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God.' (Psalm 14:1). Atheism is an excuse to hide behind sin. The atheist thinks, 'If there is no God, then there is no judgment, then I can sin (do what I want) and get away with it.'
- d) Atheism claims to know everything, even all that does not exist.

Questions to ask Atheists:

- i) What percent of the total knowledge of the universe do you possess? (nil or small).
- ii) Is it possible for God to exist outside your sphere of knowledge? (Yes). Therefore, because you are not infinite in knowledge, you can't say God does not exist, can you?
- e) Jesus Christ's prophecies, life, miracles, death and resurrection prove God's existence.
- f) Ask: Are you open to find out if God exists or not? Or do you have a closed mind?
- g) Ultimate proof of God lies in knowing God personally.
- h) Jesus said that God exists. This is proven by Jesus rising from the dead. This proves God exists.
- i) Conversation between an atheist and a Christian: Atheist said, 'God is dead'. Christian replied, 'That's strange. I spoke to Him 5 minutes ago and He wasn't even sick.'
- j)

10. I don't need a crutch. I'm OK!

Everyone has a sin problem with God. Some realise it, others do not. You have broken God's laws, and the penalty awaits you. Your need is to come to Christ for **forgiveness**, not a psychological crutch. You may be OK now, but you can't cope with hell forever.