



**It's your
Question**



**Frequently
Asked
Questions
Answered By
Roger Carswell**



Here are some questions I am frequently asked:

Who made God?

Would you expect a dog to buy and read a daily newspaper? No! That is not because a newspaper cannot be understood, but because it is beyond a dog's understanding.

In like manner, God is bigger than anything a mere human can grasp. If I could understand Him, He would not be God and I would not be human!

God had no beginning and will never end. Everything we know begins and ends, but God is greater than that. He is everlasting. God's word to us, the Bible, teaches that God is also absolutely holy, with no sin in Him at all. He is just, and loving. He has all power. He is everywhere. He knows everything, and never changes.

God is creator of all things. All design has a designer; behind everything made, there will be a maker; creation must have a creator. This is God. Because He is our maker; we are responsible to Him. He knows what is best for us.

The Bible says...

“From everlasting to everlasting you are God.”

Psalms 90 v. 2

Why doesn't God stop the trouble?

God created a perfect world where there was no sin, suffering, sickness, separation or death. But when humans rebelled against God, this was all turned upside down. Men and women were separated from God. God did not intend the world to be as it is, but all that He made was marred. Sin 'put a spanner in the works'!

We now live in a world where there are many unanswered questions. Sometimes the innocent suffer. Just because one person is having trouble, it does not necessarily mean that they are any worse than others. Sometimes, though, suffering is the direct result of sin.

Christ's suffering on the cross was also the result of sin - but not His own. Through Christ's death, God is able to forgive and change all those who come to Him.

God sometimes takes terrible circumstances and uses them for good. Often it is when people are at their lowest that they begin to realise how empty life is without God.

The Bible says...

“Even, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me.” Psalm

Do all religions lead to God?

Imagine you were drowning in the sea. You would not want people to stand on the shore and shout instructions about how to swim - especially if they were contradicting one another. However, if somebody dived in and rescued you, how delighted you would be!

Basically all religions, except one, are a list of 'dos and don'ts'. They aim to bring a person up to God. True religion is different. Instead of our trying to reach to God, Christianity is all about God stooping down to us. Jesus 'dived into the sea' to rescue us.

God is too big and holy for small, sinful people to reach. But God has come down to rescue and save us.

Only Jesus was pure and sinless. Only He could die to pay the price of sin. Only Christ rose from the dead.

There is great historical proof that Jesus rose from the dead. One can visit the graves of Mohammed, Buddha, Marx, the gurus, etc; but Christ's tomb is empty. Jesus is alive!

Therefore, only Christ is able to forgive all sin and bring a person to God.

The Bible says...

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" John 14 v. 6

What happens when a person dies?

Have you ever heard someone say, “Nobody has ever come back from the dead to tell us”? They are mistaken. Jesus not only died but rose again. He spoke more of life after death than anyone else in the Bible.

It is true that our bodies will die. However the last time you had a haircut did you weep over losing part of your body? Of course not! We are more than just skin and bones! When our body eventually dies, the real you and me will live on. As the song puts it:

“John Brown’s body lies a-mouldering in the grave,
But his soul goes marching on.”

Every person will die once. After this there will be a judgement. Everyone will go either to heaven or hell for ever.

It is not that ‘the good go up and the bad go down’, because everyone has done wrong. One sin is serious enough to keep us out of heaven for ever; and hell is too awful to treat lightly.

Only by trusting Christ can a person be given a place in heaven. There are no second chances after death. What we do with Jesus matters for eternity.

about heaven The Bible says...

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21 v. 4

How could Jesus die for me when I wasn't yet born?

Some time ago Prince Charles went to the Blood Transfusion Centre to give a pint of his blood. He was seeking to set an example for us all to follow. Christ's death, however; was not just an example. He died, paying the price of all our sin.

Just as a football team may have a penalty awarded against it, or a criminal has to be punished, so God must punish sin.

Out of love for us all, God became a man, clothing Himself in a human body. Jesus Christ came to be a substitute and sacrifice for our sin. God is bigger than and beyond time. He can see the past, present and future all at once. When Jesus was on the cross, God looked backwards in time to the first sin, and forwards to the last sin and took the wrong of all people and laid it on Christ. Jesus died carrying on Himself the sin of all wrong thinking, speaking and doing.

Jesus suffered, bled and died so that we might be cleansed, forgiven and united with God.

The Bible says...

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.”

1 Peter. 3 v. 18

What is a real Christian?

Most married couples remember their wedding day. It was the time they committed themselves to each other. It changed their lives. In like manner; becoming a Christian is a definite, deliberate act of commitment to Christ. The Bible calls this being converted, or born again. It is not turning over a new leaf, or even attending church, but is a moment in which:

1. You turn from sin. This is an act of the will. The Bible calls this 'repenting'. There has to be a willingness to leave wrongdoing and follow Jesus Christ

2. You turn to Jesus. This is an act of the mind. The Bible calls this 'faith'. Ask Jesus, who died for you, to forgive you. Trust Him, who rose again, to live within you as your Lord, Saviour and Friend.

3. God turns to you. This is an act of God. It is the moment of Christian conversion. God promises to live within the life of anyone who invites Him in. He will take them through life, death and eternity.

Have you trusted Jesus in this way?

The Bible says...

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." 2 Corinthians 5 v. 17

How can I become a Christian?

Many have found that praying with similar words to the ones below has helped them to put their trust in Christ.

“Dear God, I confess my sin to You and want to repent of it. Please forgive me. I believe Jesus died for me and rose from the dead. Help me to live for You day by day. Thank You for loving me. I pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Having tried to answer your questions, now let me ask you one: will you pray this prayer now?

If you will, or you want further information or another question answered, complete and post on this form:

Please send me (tick as appropriate)

- Further help in becoming a real Christian.
- Help in how to live as a Christian.
- A copy of John’s Gospel (a part of the Bible).
- The answer to the following question

Send to: Roger Carswell

Spring Cottage, Spring Road, Leeds LS6 1AD, UK
or visit www.tell-me-more.org

Name

Age (if under 18)

Address

Postcode