

Question Night

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Introduction: Questions can lead to many things, both good and bad.

A. There are some questions that should be ignored.

1. There are some questions designed to stir trouble! **(2 Tim 2:23; Tit 3:9)**
2. There are wrong motives in some questions. In many cases these questions still should be answered. **(Mt 22:35)**
3. Some are not be answered because of the character of the questioner.
(Prov 26:4-5; Mt 7:6; Lk 23:9)

B. Questions may lead one to the truth! **(1 Cor 7:1; 11:2)**

C. Remember the limitations of question night.

1. You must test my answers from the scriptures! **(Acts 17:11)**
2. These are brief answers. You need to do further study.

I. Can I commit a sin where I can no longer be forgiven? Can the "willful sin" be forgiven that is mentioned in Hebrews? (Heb 10:26-29)

A. How does a person get to a point where there is no sacrifice for his sin?

1. The blood of Christ is sufficient for any sin. **(1 Jn 2:1-2)**
2. All Christians have promises for forgiveness of any sin.
(Acts 8:22-24; 1 Jn 1:7-10)
3. The only situation I know of where a Christian cannot be forgiven is when a Christian will not repent!

B. Other verses that emphasize one who cannot repent. **(Heb 6:4-6; Mt 12:31-32)**

1. Can a person become so hard hearted that he cannot repent? Yes
2. Does a repeating of a sin mean that one is hard hearted and cannot be forgiven? Not necessarily.
3. We are warned to keep a tender heart that is able to feel the guilt of sin.
(Eph 4:17-20)
4. Do not play games with God but do not let Satan lie to you about the certain forgiveness of God. **(2 Cor 2:6-11)**

II. What sins are covered in James 5:20? Does this include the Christian who teaches the sinner?

A. The sins mentioned in this context are forgiven by the promises of God.

(1 Jn 5:14-17)

1. There is no forgiveness without repentance. Spiritual death is certain without repentance! **(Rom 6:23; 1 Tim 5:6)**
2. The brother has committed a sin and either has repented or continues in that sin.
3. When one turns to God in repentance then the way is paved for a life of repentance and forgiveness. **(1 Jn 1:7-9)**
3. Doing "good works" such as teaching others is not how one is forgiven.

B. Lessons for us.

1. Repent of every sin you commit! **(Jn 8:24; Lk 13:3)**
2. Let us pray for one another! We can help our brother walk in the light!

3. We cannot pray for one in a practice of sin. We must seek his repentance!
4. We cannot have fellowship with those involved in a practice of sin.

(Eph 5:11; 2 Pt 2:12-14)

III. How do you harmonize the teachings of 1 Timothy 5 with Acts 2 and 4? Specifically, were Christians required to sell all they had in the book of Acts? Also why were widows limited to age 60 in order to receive support in 1 Timothy 5?

- A. Christians were not required to sell all they had. Look at what the passages say.
 1. They sold possessions and goods. It does not say they sold all they had!
(Acts 2:44-45; 4:32-35)
 2. It does reveal a great commitment! They did this because of the great need of the moment, not because of a command. **(Acts 5:1-4)**
 3. In giving we may choose to go beyond what is required by God and give more!
 4. What does God require? **(1 Cor 16:1-2)**
- B. 1 Timothy 5 and Acts 2 are dealing with two different situations.
 1. In 1 Timothy 5 consider "being taken into the number." **(1 Tim 5:9)**
 - a. "Let a widow be put on the list" - NASV
 - b. "be enrolled as a widow" - ASV
 - c. "be put on the list of widows" - NIV

G2639 καταλέγω katalego {kat-al-eg'-o} α from 2596 and 3004 (in its orig. meaning);; v α AV - take into the number 1; 1 α 1) to lay down, to lie down 2) to narrate at length, recount, set forth 3) to set down in a list or register, to enroll 3a) of soldiers ..

2. This is dealing with a permanent care until death! The care in Acts and 1+2 Corinthians was temporary.
3. There are principles that apply to both situations. One's family should help before the church is called on!

IV. Why did they say Jesus arose on the third day when he had only been dead maybe 48 hours? (Friday 3:00 PM death, Sunday dawn 5:00AM, resurrection)

- A. Some have looked to Jesus earlier statement as a contradiction. **(Matt 12:40)**
 1. Christ was but two days and two nights in the grave.
(Mark 15:25, 42, 44, 45, 46; 16:9)

According to Haley, Orientals reckon any part of a day as a whole day. Thus, one whole and two parts of a day, along with two nights, would be popularly styled as "three days and three nights." Such usage is seen elsewhere in Scripture.

2. Consider the case of Jonah. He was not in the belly of the fish a complete 3 days and three nights.

“Jonah was swallowed by the fish during the day time and was vomited out during the day time **(Jonah 1:17—2:10)**. In order for that to be three days, only two nights could have been involved. Yet it is called three days and three nights.”

3. Also consider an OT example.

“Similarly, in Esther 4:16—5:1, there is a fast for ‘three days and three nights’ that begins on the first day and ends on the third day, which means only two nights were involved.”