

Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship



"We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ." Col 1:28



June/July Meeting Schedule

June 5 – Class

June 12 – No class – EPCC not available

June 19 – No Class – Father's Day

June 26 – No class – Dick with family

July 3 – No class – Holiday weekend

July 10 – No class – EPCC not available

July 17 – Class

July 24 – No class

July 31 - Class

"Dealing With Doubts"

June 5, 2022

Intro.

- Anyone and everyone doubts. Adam, Eve, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, David, Elijah, Job, Gideon, Jeremiah, Barak, the disciples, Thomas.
- Doubt is the way you process information to come to a conclusion.
- It is part of the growing process.
- There is a difference between unbelief and doubt.
 - Doubt** – "I am skeptical, uncertain."
 - Unbelief** – "I don't believe it."
- Doubt is not rejecting truth, it is questioning truth.
- We talk much about how normal it is to have faith.
- We talk little about how normal it is to have periods of doubt.
- Doubt can come from 3 different sources: 1. Personal experience. 2. World. 3. False teaching. 4. Other believers.

Barna Research Survey -

The individuals surveyed considered themselves "born again", defined as:

1. Those who have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is important in their life today.
2. Those who say they know they will go to Heaven after they die solely because they have confessed their sins and accepted Christ as their Savior.

2001 - **68%** did not believe in absolute truth

These same "born again" individuals:

40% - it does not matter what religious faith you follow because all faiths teach similar lessons about life.

77% - man is basically good by nature.

84% - in the matter of salvation, "God helps those who help themselves". They said it was the most well known verse in the Bible.

33% - we all pray to the same God and therefore faith in Christ is not absolutely necessary, so long as one is a good person.

55% - the Holy Spirit is merely a symbol of God's power and presence. (61% of general population)

34% - Jesus sinned. (42% GP)

45% - deny Satan is a real being. (59% GP)

35% - deny the physical resurrection of Jesus. (39% GP)

12 areas where believers have doubts:

1. Does God really exist?
2. Is Jesus Christ really God?
3. Is Jesus the only way to God?
4. Can I really trust the Bible?
5. Did I really become a Christian?
6. Have I lost my salvation?
7. Isn't faith just a leap in the dark?
8. If God is a God of love, then why does He allow so much suffering?
9. Is God really in control of the world?
10. Is there any point in praying?
11. Is heaven and hell real?
12. Is Jesus really coming back?

2020 Barna survey -

- 48% believe a person who is good enough or does enough good works can earn eternal salvation.
- 44% do not believe that history is the unfolding narrative of God's reality.
- 44% claim the Bible is ambiguous in its teaching about abortion.
- 43% maintain that when Jesus was on earth, He sinned.
- 42% seek moral guidance primarily from sources other than the Bible.
- 42% do not identify and confess their sins on a daily basis.
- 40% accept lying as morally acceptable if it advances personal interests or protect one's reputation.
- 36% prefer socialism to capitalism.
- 34% reject the idea of legitimate marriage as one man and one woman.
- 34% argue that abortion is morally acceptable if it spares the mother from financial or emotional discomfort or hardship.

Does God really exist?

Heb 11:6

6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, **for he who comes to God must believe that He is** and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

3 reasons God exists and the Bible is true.

1. Creation of the universe.

Ps 19:1

9 The heavens declare the glory of God;

And the firmament shows His handiwork.

Rom 1:19-20

19 that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

- Look in a microscope.
- Look in a telescope.

*From the smallest sub-atomic particle to the expanse of the universe for as far as we can see, it all declares and demands a creator, a designer, a spaceless, timeless, matterless, supernatural being.

2. Condition of man's heart.

Matt 15:19

19 "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

Jer 17:9

9 "The heart is deceitful above all things,
And desperately wicked;

Rom 3:10-12

10 "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;

11 THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS,

THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;

12 ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS;

THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD,

THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE."

Rom 3:23

3 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- Look at a newspaper.
- Listen to the news.

*Every day, month, year, decade, century, millennia is an unending succession of sinful, evil events by mankind that violates not only God's moral law, but the civil and moral laws of man. The Bible describes man exactly like he is.

- If you doubt the existence of God, you will have to try and find an alternative explanation for the existence of creation, sin, and a worldwide flood.
- The evidence and the facts that exist will force you to either believe and accept them, or you will have to suppress them.
- When you have doubts about God's existence It is essential for you to rethink the foundational truths the Bible gives us for His existence.

3. Confirmation of a worldwide flood.

2 Peter 2:4-5

4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;

5 and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

- Look at the origin of oil and coal deposits.
- Look at the existence of fossils in unusual places (top of mountains) and the formation of fossils in sedimentary limestone.

*The rapid accumulation, transportation, and sudden burial of vast amounts of vegetation that constitute the various coal beds found in the earth today, are only explained by a cataclysmic flood that covered the earth.

*The countless billions and billions of animal fossils in "graveyards" around the world testify to the rapid burial of once-living animals on a global scale in a watery cataclysm and its immediate aftermath. Often these fossil graveyards consist of mixtures of marine and land-dwelling creatures, indicating that the waters of this global cataclysm swept over both the oceans and the continents.

*From the layers of sedimentary strata in the Grand Canyon, to the fossils found on mountain peaks of the Himalayas, to the undigested fodder found in the stomachs of quickly frozen behemoths in Siberia, there leaves little doubt that a world wide cataclysmic flood has occurred as recorded in the Bible.

Is Jesus Christ really God?

Matt 16:15-17

15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

4 reasons why Jesus is God.

1. He fulfilled all of the prophecies of the O.T.

| 44 Prophecies Jesus Christ Fulfilled | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Prophecies About Jesus | Old Testament Scripture | New Testament Fulfillment |
| 1 Messiah would be born of a woman. | Genesis 3:15 | Matthew 1:20 Galatians 4:4 |
| 2 Messiah would be born in Bethlehem . | Micah 5:2 | Matthew 2:1 Luke 2:4-6 |
| 3 Messiah would be born of a virgin. | Isaiah 7:14 | Matthew 1:22-23 Luke 1:26-31 |
| 4 Messiah would come from the line of Abraham . | Genesis 12:3 Genesis 22:18 | Matthew 1:1 Romans 9:5 |
| 5 Messiah would be a descendant of Isaac . | Genesis 17:19 Genesis 21:12 | Luke 3:34 |
| 6 Messiah would be a descendant of Jacob . | Numbers 24:17 | Matthew 1:2 |
| 7 Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah. | Genesis 49:10 | Luke 3:33 Hebrews 7:14 |
| 8 Messiah would be heir to King David's throne. | 2 Samuel 7:12-13 Isaiah 9:7 | Luke 1:32-33 Romans 1:3 |
| 9 Messiah's throne will be anointed and eternal. | Psalm 45:6-7 Daniel 2:44 | Luke 1:33 Hebrews 1:8-12 |
| 10 Messiah would be called Immanuel . | Isaiah 7:14 | Matthew 1:23 |
| 11 Messiah would spend a season in Egypt. | Hosea 11:1 | Matthew 2:14-15 |
| 12 A massacre of children would happen at Messiah's birthplace. | Jeremiah 31:15 | Matthew 2:16-18 |
| 13 A messenger would prepare the way for Messiah. | Isaiah 40:3-5 | Luke 3:3-6 |
| 14 Messiah would be rejected by his own people. | Psalm 69:8 Isaiah 53:3 | John 1:11 John 7:5 |
| 15 Messiah would be a prophet. | Deuteronomy 18:15 | Acts 3:20-22 |
| 16 Messiah would be preceded by Elijah . | Malachi 4:5-6 | Matthew 11:13-14 |
| 17 Messiah would be declared the Son of God . | Psalm 2:7 | Matthew 3:16-17 |
| 18 Messiah would be called a Nazarene. | Isaiah 11:1 | Matthew 2:23 |
| 19 Messiah would bring light to Galilee. | Isaiah 9:1-2 | Matthew 4:13-16 |
| 20 Messiah would speak in parables . | Psalm 78:2-4 Isaiah 6:9-10 | Matthew 13:10-15 34-35 |
| 21 Messiah would be sent to heal the brokenhearted. | Isaiah 61:1-2 | Luke 4:18-19 |
| 22 Messiah would be a priest after the order of Melchizedek . | Psalm 110:4 | Hebrews 5:5-6 |
| 23 Messiah would be called King. | Psalm 2:6 Zechariah 9:9 | Matthew 27:37 Mark 11:7-11 |
| 24 Messiah would be praised by little children . | Psalm 8:2 | Matthew 21:16 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 25 Messiah would be betrayed. | Psalm 41:9 Zechariah 11:12-13 | Luke 22:47-48 Matthew 26:14-16 |
| 26 Messiah's price money would be used to buy a potter's field. | Zechariah 11:12-13 | Matthew 27:9-10 |
| 27 Messiah would be falsely accused. | Psalm 35:11 | Mark 14:57-58 |
| 28 Messiah would be silent before his accusers. | Isaiah 53:7 | Mark 15:4-5 |
| 29 Messiah would be spat upon and struck. | Isaiah 50:6 | Matthew 26:67 |
| 30 Messiah would be hated without cause. | Psalm 35:19 Psalm 69:4 | John 15:24-25 |
| 31 Messiah would be crucified with criminals. | Isaiah 53:12 | Matthew 27:38 Mark 15:27-28 |
| 32 Messiah would be given vinegar to drink. | Psalm 69:21 | Matthew 27:34 John 19:28-30 |
| 33 Messiah's hands and feet would be pierced. | Psalm 22:16 Zechariah 12:10 | John 20:25-27 |
| 34 Messiah would be mocked and ridiculed. | Psalm 22:7-8 | Luke 23:35 |
| 35 Soldiers would gamble for Messiah's garments. | Psalm 22:18 | Luke 23:34 Matthew 27:35-36 |
| 36 Messiah's bones would not be broken. | Exodus 12:46 Psalm 34:20 | John 19:33-36 |
| 37 Messiah would be forsaken by God. | Psalm 22:1 | Matthew 27:46 |
| 38 Messiah would pray for his enemies. | Psalm 109:4 | Luke 23:34 |
| 39 Soldiers would pierce Messiah's side. | Zechariah 12:10 | John 19:34 |
| 40 Messiah would be buried with the rich. | Isaiah 53:9 | Matthew 27:57-60 |
| 41 Messiah would resurrect from the dead. | Psalm 16:10 Psalm 49:15 | Matthew 28:2-7 Acts 2:22-32 |
| 42 Messiah would ascend to heaven. | Psalm 24:7-10 | Luke 24:51 |
| 43 Messiah would be seated at God's right hand. | Psalm 68:18 Psalm 110:1 | Mark 16:19 Matthew 22:44 |
| 44 Messiah would be a sacrifice for sin. | Isaiah 53:5-12 | Romans 5:6-8 |

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4 reasons why Jesus is God.

1. He fulfilled all of the prophecies of the O.T.

2. He claimed to be God.

John 10:30

30 "I and the Father are one."

John 14:9

9 He who has seen Me has seen the Father;

3. His miracles backed up His claim.

John 10:24-25

24 The Jews then gathered around Him, and were saying to Him, "How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly."

25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these testify of Me.

4. Those who spent time with Him testified that He was God.

John 20:27-28

27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing."

28 Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

5. Through His baptism and resurrection, God the Father confirmed that Jesus indeed was the Son of God.

Matt 3:16-17

16 After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him,

17 and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

- All of the evidence confirms that Jesus is God.
- Read the gospels to dispel your doubt.

Is Jesus the only way to God?

John 14:6

6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

1 Tim 2:5

5 For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

Acts 4:12

12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."

- It is both exclusive and inclusive.
- Anyone can come to Christ who desires to but they must come by the way of the cross which requires humility and repentance.
- That is the stickler - you can bring nothing to Christ.
- To believe there are other ways to God is to give glory to the other ways, which depreciates the glory of Jesus Christ. That, God will not allow.
- If you believe there are other ways to God, you are listening to the world. There is no "wider mercy." (Schuller, Osteen)
- Rather than balk that there is only 1 way, we should be thankful that there is a way.
- Your doubt will disappear if you stick to God's Word.