

Personal/Small Group Sermon Study

Week of June 19, 2022 A.D.

Does Faith in Christ Compel Us to Live Holy and Righteous Lives?

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read Proverbs 1:1-3

1. Refer to verse 3. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: "When it comes to the subject of human behavior, every action is either just or unjust, good or evil, proper or improper. There is nothing in between."
2. When it comes to the matter of sending people to heaven and/or hell, does God grade on a curve? When it comes to the matter of granting to people their individual eternal rewards, does God grade on a curve?
3. In your opinion, do a majority of Americans believe that (a) people are basically good with an occasional inclination toward doing evil; (b) people are basically evil with an occasional inclination toward doing good; or (c) people are equally evil and/or good depending on their current circumstances? (Consider John 3:19-21)
4. Can any culture or society endure forever without having an absolute standard by which to distinguish right from wrong? Can the human race endure forever without having an absolute standard by which to distinguish right from wrong?
5. Are you (or is any other person) qualified to establish a universal standard by which all people everywhere can and should be judged for the purpose of receiving either eternal life or eternal condemnation? If so, what is that standard?
6. Can the citizens of a democratic republic (such as the United States of America) collectively be trusted to establish a fair and impartial standard by which all of its citizens will be assigned to either (a) eternal life or (b) eternal condemnation?

7. Is it right, fair, and just for a holy and loving God to condemn every sinful human being who refuses to acknowledge Jesus as the only way to have a personal relationship with God?

Read 1 John 3:7-10

8. Does each child of God have an obligation to study the Word of God so that he or she will be able to accurately discern right from wrong? Has God created a way for every human to personally and knowingly accept or reject membership into God's family? Does God expect his human children to do that which is right? Has God provided a way by which his human children can always know that which is right and does God give to them the ability and/or power to always do what is right?
9. Does any sin come from and/or originate with God? Does God have a zero tolerance of and/or for sin? Does every child of God have an absolute duty to stop sinning?
10. If a person is not a child of God, is that person therefore a child of the devil? (Consider John 8:42-44) Has Jesus destroyed the devil's work? If not, how and when will he do so? If so, how and when did he do so?
11. Refer to 1 John 3:10. Is it accurate to say that the only way for a person to be saved is "by faith alone in Christ alone"? Is every act of righteousness always a sure sign that the person who does act is a child of God? If a person is not committed to seek and do the will of God in all matters of human affairs, should that person have a serious talk with God about their personal salvation?

Read 1 John 4:4-6

12. Who is "the one" who lives in a child of God? Who is the one "who is in the world"? Should a Christ follower ever "speak from the viewpoint of the world"? Do you know any regular Sunday worship attenders who routinely "speak from the viewpoint of the world"? If so, do you have a duty to talk to them about (a) Christ; (b) the truth; (c) their spiritual walk with Christ; and (d) their salvation? Are you striving to become increasingly committed to Christ as your Savior, Lord, and coming King?

Consider: No one who is born of God will continue to sin. Because God's seed remains in him, he cannot go on sinning. "You think about that." Amen.