



The Bible Speaks

IS GOD REALLY PARTICULAR?

While talking with her minister, a lady said, "I know that I am not doing what I should, but God will understand. I am certain that He will overlook the little sins that I do as long as I am sincere."

This seems to be the attitude of many professed Christians today. They are in effect saying by their actions that God is not particular, that He winks at sin as long as the person professes to be sincere in his sin. The Bible talks about God saving His people from their sins, but there is no place in which it speaks about His saving them in their sins.

The Bible teaches that God has certain laws in the universe and that these laws are in existence to protect the freedom of His creatures. These laws exist because God saw that the violation of these principles would bring sickness, sorrow, and death to those who violated them. In Proverbs 16:25 (OT 532) Solomon said, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

The man who drinks arsenic, thinking that it is cough syrup, will be just as dead as the man who drinks arsenic with the knowledge that it is poison. What a man thinks does not change the substance of what he drinks. Because a person thinks that wrong is right, it does not follow that wrong becomes right.

It is true that God has in times past overlooked some of the wrong acts of mankind, but now He has given man enough light so that there is no excuse for sin. Jesus said to the Pharisees, "If ye were blind, ye should have no sin; but now ye say, we see: therefore your sin remaineth." Paul in Acts 17:30 (NT 123) states that in the times of man's ignorance God overlooked his sinful behaviour, but now He commands him to repent.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. What is man's refusal to do that which he knows to be right, called by God? **James 4:17**

The Bible Answer: _____

2. What did God tell Adam would result if he partook of the forbidden fruit?
Genesis 2:16,17

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: Adam and Eve disobeyed God and partook of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. In Genesis 3:19-24 (OT 11) we are given a picture of the punishment that was visited upon man because of his refusal to obey this command of God.

3. What did God allow to happen to Lot's wife because of her carelessness in obeying Him? **Genesis 19:15-17, 24-26**

The Bible Answer: _____

4. What happened to Saul because he refused to do what God had instructed him to do? **1 Samuel 15:1-23**

The Bible Answer: _____
_____ (Verses 22,23)

5. What happens even to good men when they become careless in the way that they treat God's holy things? **2 Samuel 6:1-7**

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: God had commanded that no man should ever touch this sacred piece of furniture where the presence of God was manifested in the ancient tabernacle. God had foretold that whatever touched it would die. **Numbers 4:15**

6. What happened to the man of God who listened to another human being instead of following God's instructions? **1 Kings 13:1-26**

The Bible Answer: _____

7. From the foregoing illustrations taken from the Bible, can you see that God is particular?

Yes _____ **No** _____

8. What is Jesus going to say in the judgment day to those who profess to be His followers, but deny it by their lives? **Matthew 7:21-23**

The Bible Answer: _____

9. Who is to be saved according to this statement by the Lord? **Matthew 7:21**

The Bible Answer: _____

10. What is in the heart of the Christian that causes him to delight to do God's will? **Psalms 40:8**

The Bible Answer: _____

11. How much of this law can the individual violate without becoming a sinner? **James 2:10-12**

The Bible Answer: _____

12. What did Jesus say about the Jewish leaders' elevating tradition over the commands of God? **Mark 7:5-13**

The Bible Answer: _____
_____ (Verse 13)

13. What motivating power will cause us to be willing and particular in our service to God? **John 14:15; 1 John 5:3**

The Bible Answer: _____

God, of necessity, must be a particular God. Can you imagine the chaos that would exist in the universe today if He did not have well-defined laws governing the actions of the millions of suns and planets that He has created?

When asked which was the greatest of the commands, He merely quoted from the Old Testament, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Matthew 22:37-40 (NT 24). These two great principles of love are the guiding lines for the universe today. If we love God with all our beings, we will be ever so careful in the way that we respond to God and His will in our lives. If we love our fellowmen as ourselves we will be certain we do nothing to hurt or destroy a brother.

Billy Graham states that the Ten Commandments give a concise statement of God's moral laws and they embody man's responsibility to God and his relationship with his fellow men.

Surely, God has done so much to save us from our sins that we, from a heart filled with love and gratitude, should be willing to respond to His love. If we will surrender to Him, He will write His law in our hearts and minds so that we may know His will and desire to do it.

(If you wish to respond to these questions, place a cross in the boxes.)

I will be particular in serving God in response to His love.

Pray for me that I might be able to give my heart wholly to my Saviour.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____