Questions & Answers WEEK 1

Welcome to Redemption Church in Plano Texas. My name is Chris Fluitt and I want to welcome everyone to our brave new series – Questions and Answers.

Over the next weeks we will be taking your questions and answering them as best we can from the Word of God.

We have an anonymous text line where you can send your questions. 214-856-0550

Is the bible clear on what happens to those that pass on before the great judgement day? Do we just sleep until then, possible that some wonder around here on earth or some other holding area?

<u>1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NIV) 13</u> Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who <u>sleep in death, so that you do not grieve</u> like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. 14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 15 According <u>to the Lord's word, we tell you that we</u> who are still alive, who are left until the <u>coming of the Lord, will certainly not</u> precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And

<u>so we will be with the Lord forever. 18</u> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

How do I find comfort and peace when I have lost a loved one to death?

2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV) 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 5 For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.

God of all comfort.

Comfort abounds through Christ. Comforted so that we comfort those in any trouble.

A life in Christ is not problem free...

2 Corinthians 1:8-9 (NIV) 8 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters,[a] about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. 9 Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

RELY ON GOD who raises the dead.

Make the resurrection your centerpiece. (1 Cor 15 without the resurrection...)

I have always been taught that when Jesus came He did away with the law. Is that true? I thought He came to fulfill the law. Does that mean we don't have to keep the OT law?

Matthew 5:17-20 (NIV) 17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19 Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in <u>the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you</u>

<u>that unless your righteousness</u> <u>surpasses that of the Pharisees and the</u> <u>teachers of the law, you will certainly</u> <u>not enter the kingdom of heaven.</u>

V20 Pharisees thought they were fulfilling the law but Jesus says they weren't doing it right. DO NOT KEEP THE LAW LIKE A PHARISEE. Only Jesus perfectly kept the law.

Following verses - Murder, Adultery, and loving your enemies

How to keep God's commands - Love <u>1 Corinthians 5:14 (KJV) For the love of</u> <u>Christ constraineth us; because we thus</u> <u>judge, that if one died for all, then were</u> <u>all dead:</u> All the law and prophets hang on the command to love God, your neighbor, yourself. (Matthew 22:40).

Change our motivation from keeping the law to loving God and others.

The law reveals we are sinners in need of a savior. (Romans 7:7, Galatians 3:19)

Now that the savior has come we have an answer for our sin, and a loving relationship with the one who gives us holy commands. (The law does not rule our life, but the law giver has become our king)

There is a big difference in being FREE from our legal indebtedness and doing away with the law of the Lord.

Colossians 2:14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

Is "if you love me you will keep my commandments" part of the Ten Commandments?

John 14:15 Jesus is that same God who gave the commandments in Exodus. Jesus gave us this command... John 14: 34"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Jesus shows us the motivation for obedience - love.

Love requires more than words, but actions.

I would like to know if there is anywhere in the King James or Bible new testament old testament where it says we can be little gods for Jesus are for Christ. Thank you.

John 10:31-34 (NIV) 31 Again his Jewish opponents picked up stones to stone him,

<u>32 but Jesus said to them, "I have</u> shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?"</u>

<u>33 "We are not stoning you for any good work," they replied, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be</u>

<u>God."</u>

<u>34 Jesus answered them, "Is it not</u> written in your Law, 'I have said **you are** **"gods"**'[d]? 35 If he called them 'gods,' to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be set aside—

Complex! Is Jesus saying "we are gods?" Will we become gods? God and gods?

What does Jesus mean? HE IS QUOTING PSALMS 82.

Psalm 82:1-2 1God presides in the great assembly; he renders judgment among the "gods": 2 "How long will you[a] defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?

ELOHIM BLUE LETTER BIBLE Gods in verse 2 is Elohim. Elohim - GOD, god, judges, rulers

According to verse 1, the context here is judges. KJV says of these elohim that they "judge unjustly."

<u>Psalm 82:3-8 (NIV) Defend the weak</u> and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. 4 Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

5 "The 'gods' know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

<u>6 "I said, '**You are "gods"**; you are all</u> sons of the Most High.'

<u>7 But you will die like mere mortals; you will fall like every other ruler."</u>

8 Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are your inheritance.

So the "gods" of Psalm 82 are not spoken of positively by the true GOD.

So when Jesus uses this quote from Psalm 82 it is in the same context. He is not telling the pharisees that they too will be gods...

The context is that Jesus is calling the pharisees the unjust judges of Psalm 82. The pharisees understood Jesus' point and they were angered.

We do not become gods.. But we do become judges and rulers in the one true God's kingdom.

1 Corinthians 6:3 (NIV) Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! What is your interpretation of the biblical definition of humility?

Hebrew – Gentle, Kind, Meek

Greek - Low understanding of self

Proper view of God and you and others.