

"What Is Your Reading Of It?" #1

Frequently, the Lord engaged the Jews in a discussion of truth and right. On one occasion, the Bible tells us He was asked, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Lk. 10:25). Jesus responded, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" (Lk. 10:26). The man answered love God and fellow man, which is the basic foundation of serving God. With many questions it can be asked, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" Let's ask a couple.

"How was the world created and how long did it take?" What is written in the law? "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day" (Gen. 1:1-5). "For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it" (Ex. 20:11). So, what is your reading of it? Simple, isn't it? God created all things in six days. It takes help from skeptics to misunderstand the Bible on this point. Will we listen to them or to the inspired Word of God?

"Must one be baptized in order to be saved?" What is written in the law? "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mk. 16:16). "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). "There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 3:21). So, what is your reading of it? Simple, isn't it? Jesus and His inspired ambassadors said that one must not only believe and repent, but also be baptized to have his sins washed away, to have his sins remitted. It takes help from false teachers to misunderstand the Bible on this point. Will you listen to them or to the inspired Word of God?

Steven F. Deaton