**Topic:** Questions resolved by rightly dividing the Word

**Date:** September 11, 2019

**Proposition:** There are conflicting teachings in the Bible which many teachers have sought to resolve with their own reasoning. Some seem ignore the more difficult passages, while many simply resort to what other men have taught in the past.

This study will examine a few of the many difficult teachings found in the Bible that are readily resolved by the Bible student willing to apply 2Timothy 2:15 as instructed by Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles.

**Study:**

1. Did Jesus give His life a ransom for “many”, or for “all”?

* Matthew 20:28 “…to give his life a ransom for many…”.
* 1Timothy 2:6 “…who gave himself a ransom for all…”.
  1. To whom is Jesus speaking? Consider Matthew 10:5-7 and 15:22-26, 27, 28. Who are the many?
  2. Paul writes of Jesus a ransom for all, “…to be testified in due time.” To whom is Paul writing?
     1. What is the significance of the words, “…due time.”?
     2. Is “due time” the same as the “fulness of time”? Galatians 4:4
     3. What will yet happen in the “fulness of times”? Ephesians 1:10

1. What did the princes of this world not know (1Corinthians 2:7-8), “…for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.”?
   1. Luke 4:5-7 Satan is the prince of this world. (Note: “world”, not “earth”; God alone is the “possessor of heaven and earth” (Genesis 14:19), to which Satan aspires (Isaiah 14:14).
   2. Did Satan know that Jesus Christ would resurrect from the dead? Psalms 16:10, Matthew 12:39-40, John 2:19-22.
   3. Did Satan know that Gentiles would be saved? Isaiah 42:6, 49:6, 60:1-5
   4. Did Satan know Gentiles would be “…fellowheirs, and of the same body…”?

Ephesians 3:1-7

1. What is “the remission of sins” as spoken of by Jesus and the apostle Peter?
   1. Is it the same as “…the forgiveness of sins…” (Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:14) as spoken of by the apostle Paul?
   2. What did Jesus say those that believed on him needed to do, beyond believing for the “remission” of their sins, to be saved? Matthew 24:9-14, Mark 13:9-13, 14
   3. What did the apostle Paul write was necessary to do to be saved? 1Corinthians 15:1-4
2. The resurrected Christ gave authority (Matthew 16:19) to His disciples to forgive, or not forgive “sins” (John 20:19-23). The apostle Paul wrote, “…for there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus…” 1Timothy 2:3-7.
   1. Why did Jesus and Paul instruct differently? Consider Matthew 19:27-28 to determine the scope of the authority delegated by Jesus to His disciples.
3. A husband and wife belonging to the church in Jerusalem died for telling a lie Acts 5:1-11.
   1. Since “…grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” (John 1:17) and Paul wrote in Romans 5:20 that, “…where sin abounded, grace did much more abound…”, why did the husband and wife die? Ezekiel 18:4, 20, Matthew 28:20 Matthew 23:1-3,

Luke 13:6-9

* 1. Why do people not die today, even when they commit all manner of sins?

See 2Corinthians 5:18-19.

1. For what reason did Stephen see Jesus standing in Acts 7:56?
   1. For what sin was Stephen accused by the Jews? Acts 6:8—15
   2. What did Jesus say regarding forgiving sins? Matthew 12:31-32
   3. Stephen is described as what sort of man? Acts 7:55
   4. What sin was Jesus accused of by the Jews? Matthew 26:63-66
   5. What did Jesus say from the cross? Luke 23:32-34
   6. How does Peter speak of Jesus? Acts 2:29-36
   7. What did the Psalmist say of the Messiah in Psalms 110:1 as the reason He, the Son of man, would stand having been seated at the right hand of power (the LORD)?
   8. When did the Jews drag Stephen out of the city and commence to stone him: before or after Stephen saw Jesus? Acts 7:57-58
   9. Having been dragged out of the city the Jews commence to stone Stephen. He is then recorded as having prayed a two sentence prayer (Acts 7:59-60). How does the second line of Stephen’s prayer compare to the actions of Moses and Aaron in Numbers 16:41, 44-48?

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