

THE QUESTIONS OF THE ABSOLUTE BASICS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH*

DOCTRINE OF GOD

1 – Who is God? *God is HOLY TRINITY; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Three persons in one God.*

2 – What is God like? *God is perfect in POWER, KNOWLEDGE, and in His HOLY LOVE.*

DOCTRINE OF CREATION

3 – What did God make? *God spoke EVERYTHING into being, by His own FREE CHOICE, and it was VERY GOOD.*

4 – Why is there evil? *God gave us FREE WILL to obey and we did not.*

DOCTRINE OF THE INCARNATION

5 – Who is Jesus Christ? *The eternally begotten Son of God and the Son of Mary. Fully DIVINE. Fully HUMAN.*

6 – Why did the Son of God become human? *Because God LOVES us and wants to make us truly CHILDREN of God.*

DOCTRINE OF SALVATION – PART I

7 – What is salvation? *Through Jesus' sacrificial death and victorious resurrection, we are RECONCILED with God and RESCUED from destruction.*

8 – What is required for salvation? *We must REPENT and BELIEVE in Jesus Christ.*

DOCTRINE OF SALVATION – PART II

9 – What are the benefits of salvation? *We are PARDONED by God, made part of God's FAMILY again, and given RESURRECTION life and power.*

10 – What happens when we live out our salvation in Christ? *God CONTINUES to work in us to make us HOLY and BLAMELESS.*

DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

11 – Who is the Holy Spirit? *The ETERNAL Spirit of God, who PROCEEDS from the Father and the Son.*

12 – What does the Holy Spirit do? *The Holy Spirit LEADS us to repentance, GIVES us new life, and EMPOWERS us to follow Jesus.*

DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH

13 – What is the church? *The church is the COMMUNITY of all true believers, who are Christ's body in the world, CONTINUING the work of the apostles.*

14 – What are the church's sacraments?

DOCTRINE OF GOD

15 – What is the world's great hope?

16 – What is our future?

*Questions as outlined by Phil Tallon in The Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith, Seedbed Publishing – Franklin, TN

The Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith

WHAT ARE THE CHURCH'S SACRAMENTS?

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The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there, He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW THE "BASICS?"

1. What we **BELIEVE** matters
2. Our **BELIEFS** shape our **BEHAVIOR**
3. Our **BELIEFS** shape what we **BECOME**
4. The **BIBLE** stands as our **AUTHORITY**

THE BASICS

Q14: What are the church's sacraments?

"Baptism is the holy covenant by which we join the church, and Holy Communion is the church's ongoing act of thanksgiving. Both are means of _____ in Jesus' death and resurrection."^{*}

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Mt. 28:19-20, NLT

Sacraments are sacred or instituted _____ initiated by Jesus that the church centers its life around

A sacrament is an outward and visible _____ of grace

BAPTISM is...

1. An _____ into the life of the church
2. A _____ thing
3. Where the _____ is on what God does

“There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all.” Eph. 4:5-6

- _____ us as the people of God

“Then John went from place to place on both sides of the Jordan River, preaching that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven.” Lk. 3:3

- _____ us in to the community of faith

“Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day - about 3,000 in all.” Acts 2:41

- _____ us in to the fellowship of the Trinity

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Mt. 28:19

- _____ us in to the universal Church

“Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.” 1 Cor. 12:13

- _____ the grace of God

[Baptism] *“...is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 3:21*

- _____ the experience of New Birth

“For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.” Col. 2:12

- _____ us to become like Christ

“Growing in every way more and more like Christ...” Eph. 4:15

[Scripture quotes from the New Living Translation of the Bible, Tyndale House Publishing]

HOLY COMMUNION is...

1. An _____ celebration
2. Of the _____ of faith
3. Where we are drawn toward _____ of heart and life

- We _____ God’s mighty acts of salvation

“On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.’ In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it.” 1 Cor 11:23-25

- We _____ to God’s extravagant mercy

“He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, ‘This is my body, which is given for you.’” Lk. 22:19

“The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease.” Lam. 3:22

- We _____ God’s pardoning grace

“After supper he took another cup of wine and said, ‘This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.’” Lk. 22:20

“Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.” Heb. 9:22

“God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God.” Eph. 2:8

- We _____ ourselves for the End Times Banquet

“I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith.” Phil. 3:9

“For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.” 1 Cor. 11:26