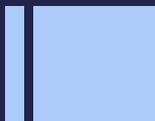


EVANGELISM

THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM JOHN?

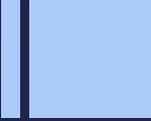
WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW



Hey Waldo,
I read through the questions and maybe
I'm not who would be the best guy to
answer them.

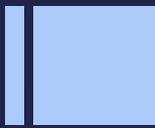
Honestly I would have to say NO to
every one of them.

I'm not a religious person.
I hope this helps though.



I just don't believe what you believe in and therefore every one of my answers would be NO. I don't believe in the story of the Bible as being factual text.

I have some very interesting views on religion and spirituality in general and I would be happy to discuss them with you. I don't think I can write them all out in the comments... so anyway.



A bit overwhelming....I got stumped at the 1st question. I don't think I'm the right person to fill this out. It's not clear to me what the question is asking - if I believe those words were stated words from God or if I believe the general idea of what the words are saying?

... not sure my brain can process this. :)

I would say that I am not a very religious person and I don't take the Bible in a literal sense.

I'm looking at the list of questions & they all seem to pertain to passages in the bible and whether I believe them or not. I would say I do NOT "believe" in the passages.

I am not sure I can help you here.

So...based on my answer...am I going to burn in hell at the end...? 😊

W: The answer to your question is found in the verses of the questionnaire.

Good one.

1.

In the beginning was the Word* (*Jesus*), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

(John 1:1-4)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [9] No [2*]

Comments:

I believe that God created everything. (W)

I don't believe that all things are made from God. I believe in evolution & natural selection; theories backed up by scientific evidence. (L)

Yes- because God was the FIRST & was to have made man & all around Him.

No- where did God Himself come from & exist? (V)

The statement "The Word was God" seems inconsistent with the position that we're to believe that He was the Son of God. (E)

4.

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

(John 3:3)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [4] No [6]

Comments:

I am a fan of Leo Tolstoy's *The Kingdom of God is Within You*, which states exactly what the title entails. In his perception, being born again would mean to accept one's sins, repent and become a new and better person who lives as an example to others. One must therefore look within to find the Kingdom of God. So, I do believe this statement in the sense that one cannot be "in" the kingdom of God until he dies, but that one can "see" (almost like a preview or a good temptation) the kingdom of God while alive because this is a motivation to better oneself. (Z)

I am not sure - I believe this statement means being one with God - in thinking, feeling, actions and being. I think there are many different interpretations of born again. (A)

I think if you are good on earth you will go to heaven. Period. (W) *(5. John3:16, 17- What's not to believe?)*

I believe we will all go to heaven (C- *only comment*)

If you believe in Him & the teachings. Someone from later on in life & who never got baptized- I do not think they would be left out. (V)

How does this account for Judaism? According to the Old Testament, the Jews were God's children/people. I cannot reconcile how God would now turn His back on them. (E)

6.

The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in His hands. ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects* the Son will not see life, for God's wrath* remains on them.

(John 3:35, 36)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [3] No [6] [?]

Comment:

I refuse to believe that a deity defined by love would have wrath upon any person. Even if a person rejects Jesus it is not from malevolence but ignorance, and a deity holding wrath for the ignorant cannot be defined by love. (D)

The Son is part of the Holy Trinity after all. (Z)

I am not sure; my interpretation of rejecting the son is rejecting love, and someone without love will have internal wrath. (A)



So if I believe and serve God but not Jesus I face his wrath? Doesn't make sense to me.(W)

Eternal life can't be proved. (L)

God loves us all. The word wrath is harsh to me. But to be put through trials & tribulations; maybe test of your faith. (V)

How does this account for Judaism. (E)

8.

“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears My (*Jesus*), word and believes Him (*God*), who sent Me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. ²⁵ Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead* will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son also to have life in Himself.”

(John 5:24-26)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [6] No [4]

Comments:

I believe that those who love will live; without love people will feel dead inside. (A)

Will come and has come? Who is the dead and if they hear his voice they will be brought back to life? (W)

Not sure how to interpret (this). Makes it sounds like they are being judged after they have passed. Rather than having a place by His side when they pass. (V)

There are many people who believe in God yet commit atrocious acts, (sometimes in the name of God). I have difficulty believing that they will not be judged, in this life or in the next. (E)

10.

Jesus declared, “And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that I shall lose none of all those He has given Me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For My Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

(John 6:39, 40)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [8] No [2]

Comments:

This is more like it. If you look to the Son and believe in Him you will go to heaven. You don't have to be reborn. Contradicting question #4. (W)

But I do not believe that only those who worship Jesus will have eternal life. I do not believe that is the only pathway to God. (E)

14.

To the those who had believed Him, Jesus said, “If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

(John 8:31, 32)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [7] No [3]

Comments:

I said no because I really don't know what is meant by the truth. (W)

Ironically, I think those who believe are chained by their beliefs & are the very opposite of free. (L)

This is true for those who are disciples of Jesus. But it is not the only path to being set free or the only path to God. (E)

15.

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

(John 8:34-36)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [5] No [5]

Comments:

I am not sure I fully understand this, but I believe that our sins keep us from pure love. (A)

I may sin but I am not a slave to sin. (W)

Are we not told to repent your sins? Know the truth & your sins will set you free so you have a place in the family. (V)

This doesn't make any sense to me. I don't understand why we should be given permission to sin on the premise that we are granted a "free pass" through religious belief. (E)

19.

Jesus declared, “My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of My Father’s hand.”

(John 10:27-29)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [6] No [4]

Comments:

There are conversions to and from all religions so some have obviously been snatched. (D)

Can the Devil and demons not snatch them and have them suffer in hell for eternity? (Z)

When we go to heaven we are there for eternity...so I hear. (W).

I do think that this reflects that there is more than one path to God & is in line with my religious beliefs. (E)

20.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die.”

(John 11:25, 26)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [6] No [4]

Comments:

I am not sure I understand this completely, I believe once we have true love and oneness it provides a deep sense of peace and joy. (A)

Again we all die. So the only way to go to heaven is to dedicate your life to Him? Must be a lonely place in heaven because there are not too many that do that. (W)

How does this account for Judaism? (E)

21.

“If anyone hears My words but does not keep them, I do not judge that person. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. ⁴⁸ There is a judge for the one who rejects Me and does not accept my words; the very words I have spoken will condemn them at the last day. ⁴⁹ For I did not speak on My own, but the Father who sent Me commanded Me to say all that I have spoken. ⁵⁰ I know that His command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told Me to say.”

(John 12:47-50)

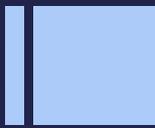
Do you believe this statement?

Yes [7] No [4*]

Comments:

I believe that not judging others is fundamental to truly loving. (A)

While God is suppose to “be Love”, (as taught to children in Sunday school), He is, if He were real, a very jealous & vengeful God- condemning billions of people simply for not believing in the face of overwhelming evidence AGAINST His existence ...not a very loving God. (L)



I caught some of that but lots went over my head. (W)

I think that this is inconsistent with what is stated in question 12. (*John 7:16, 17*) I do not believe that people who view religion differently or through a *more critical lens* are doomed to be condemned. (E)

22.

Jesus answered, “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. ⁷ If you really know Me, you will know My Father as well.

(John 15:6, 7)

Do you believe this statement?

Yes [6] No [4]

Comments:

Again, I may be interpretation this too literally, but I believe “through Me” means “through my teachings, what I have modelled, what I have shown you”. I do believe that there are people of different religions, and without a specific religion that have achieved the Way, and the Truth and the Life. (A)



We cannot get to heaven without going through Jesus first? I see; because he teaches God's word so if you follow him then you follow God too. (W)

How does this account for Judaism and any other religious beliefs? I believe that there are more than one pathway to God. (E)

Final Comment:

I consider this a sign; to have the opportunity to read these words & review the meaning of what they mean & reflect in our own way as individuals & view & apply religion in our daily lives.

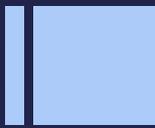
Sometimes it is too far & in between checking in with our beliefs.

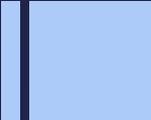
Thank you for the eye opener.

Hope this helps you out. (V)

What do we learn? What do WE need to Know?

- Creation vs Evolution
- Scientific evidence for God, heaven & eternal life
- The existence of God: Who made God?
- Titles & names for Jesus: what do they mean?
 - Word of God
 - Lamb of God
 - Son of God
 - Son of Man
 - One & Only Son

- 
- Christianity & Judaism
Old Testament & New Testament
 - Read Leo Tolstoy's- The Kingdom of God
 - Born Again: What does it mean?
 - Salvation/ Justification through Works (*W&S*)
 - Baptism
 - Jesus the ONLY path to God
 - God identified as Love (A)



- Wrath!

If He is a loving God why...

For simply rejecting Jesus claim as Son?

- God is Spirit: What does it mean that..

What is “Worship in spirit?”

- The Dead (*John 5:24-26*)

Who are they? Will hear?

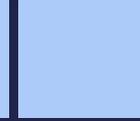
What is “A time is coming & now is”?

Brought back to life?

- Atrocities in God’s name?

- Isn't doing the will of God the pathway to heaven?
- The problem of Evil...
- What is Truth?
- Sin: What does it mean to be a slave?
Permission to sin?
- Repentance
- Blind obedience vs Faith

- 
- What about people who convert from Christianity?
 - Devil? Can't he snatch people from God's hand?
 - Is God jealous & vengeful?
 - What about people who haven't heard the Gospel, are they condemned?
 - Can people in other religions attain "The Way, Truth & Life" through their beliefs?
 - Does God only love people who love Him?



N & R



LANGUAGE

“Why is my language not clear to you?
Because you are unable to hear what I say.”

(John 8:43)

The Dialect of the Kingdom of God

“I think.... I believe...”

