

Answers Part 10

Pastor Jim Scudder, Jr.

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1. Question: Are the Holy Spirit and the New Nature the same thing? If so; how? If not, what are the differences? Also, what spirit was the old nature?

Romans 8:7a-8 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: ...⁸ So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Galatians 5:17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

After we are saved, we receive a new spiritual nature:

Ephesians 4:22-24 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;²³ And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;²⁴ And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

2 Peter 1:3-4 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:⁴ Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2. Question: "When taking the Scripture literally and the word "day" in Genesis meaning a 24-hour day ... how can we reconcile the first day of creation when God said "Let there be Light" and divided the light from the darkness and called them day and night... with the fourth day of creation when the sun, moon and stars were created. Without these heavenly bodies and the rotation of the earth, how could the first "day" be 24 hours?"

Genesis 1:1-5 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.² And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.³ And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.⁴ And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.⁵ And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

3. Question: What does God and the Bible have to say about birth control? Is using birth control the same as abortion?

Jeremiah 1:5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Anything that we do that intentionally ends that life is murder.

4. Question: I have a Christian friend who says that you cannot be PRO-LIFE and then be against the Death Penalty. They also say you can't be against Affordable Health Care because people die who cannot afford medications and medical help that could save their life. She told of Christian friends whose child died because they could not afford a health plan that would cover the life-saving surgery that was needed.

The Bible says that government is to protect the innocent from being murdered and the death penalty is used to keep the person from murdering again and also deters others: Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

5. Question: Why do 2 Samuel 24:1 and 1 Chronicles 21:1 seem to contradict each other? Was the census that resulted in 70,000 men to die done by David, God's will or Satan's?

2 Samuel 24:1 And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.

1 Chronicles 21:1 And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

David was delighting in his own might, not the Lord:

Jeremiah 9:23-24 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty *man* glory in his might, let not the rich *man* glory in his riches:²⁴ But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I *am* the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these *things* I delight, saith the LORD.

God does not tempt us to sin:

James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

God allowed Satan to incite David to sin. Satan was the active mover, while God only withdrew His protecting grace.

6. Question: There are verses in the Old and New Testament that talk about fasting. We don't hear much on fasting and I am wondering how it applies to the New Testament Christian.

The Bible clearly teaches that fasting can be good and profitable, but nowhere in the Bible does God command Christians to fast.

Fasting should be a private matter:

Matthew 6:16-18 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.¹⁷ But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face;¹⁸ That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.