

Reasoning With God

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Isaiah 1:18

Isa. 1:18, “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: ...”

God’s reasoning is in His word. If what we think does not match the word of God, it is our reasoning that needs to change to be approved by Him.

- 2 Tim. 2:15, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
- John 17:17, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”
- Matt. 7:21, “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”

We have to rightly divide the word of God, distinguishing the New Testament from the Old Testament.

Heb. 10:9-10, “Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

Jesus took away the Old Testament by His broken body on the cross and established the New Testament by His blood.

We are to obey the New Testament today; it is the truth for the christian. 1 Pet. 1:2-22, “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.”

Christ has all authority

God declared that we should listen to Jesus.

Matt. 17:5, “While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.”

Jesus declared that He had all authority.

Matt. 28:18-20, “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of

the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

Paul declared that Jesus had all authority.

Eph. 1:19-23, *“And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”*

Therefore we must reason with Him and obey Him. Our faith must be guided by His word.

Rom. 10:17, *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*

Jesus directed the apostles concerning His word

Jesus was not to remain on earth forever; therefore, someone following after Him had to come along and speak with some authority.

Jesus trained His apostles for more than three years in the gospel of His coming kingdom; He then promised the Holy Spirit to them to guide them in the revelation and permanent recording of His will.

- John 16:13, *“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”*
- 1 Cor. 2:12-13, *“Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”*
- 1 Cor. 14:37, *“If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.”*

Hence, the apostles spoke with authority.

But, what about today?

Anytime any gospel preacher opens God's Word and a statement is read from that Book, and it is reflected upon, taught, talked about, urged upon the people to believe it, it can be done with authority. Not because of the authority of the preacher, but because of the authority of God's Word.

I have no authority of my own, no other gospel preacher has any authority of his own, yet we can speak with authority. How? By confirming every word preached by God's Word.

- Isa. 8:20, *"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."*
- 1 Pet. 4:11, *"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."*

What was to be preached?

The gospel.

- 1 Cor. 15:1-4, *"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures."*
- Mark 16:15-16, *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."*

Form of Doctrine.

Rom. 6:17, *"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you."*

Faith.

- Heb. 11:6, “*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*”
- Rom. 1:16, “*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*”
- Rom. 10:10, “*For with the heart man **believeth unto righteousness**; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*”

Repentance.

- Luke 24:46-47, “*And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*”
- Acts 17:30, “*And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.*”
- Luke 13:5, “*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*”
- 2 Cor. 7:10, “*For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.*”
- Acts 11:18, “*... Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted **repentance unto life.***”

Confession.

- Matt. 10:32, “*Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.*”
- Rom. 10:9-10, “*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth **confession is made unto salvation.***”
- Acts 8:35-38, “*Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they*

went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.”

Baptism.

- Mark 16:16, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
- Rom. 6:3-4, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”
- Col. 2:12, “Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.”
- 1 Pet. 3:21, “The like figure whereunto even **baptism doth also now save us** (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”
- Acts 2:38, “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
- Gal. 3:27, “For as many of you **as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**”
- Col. 1:13-14, “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.”
- Acts 22:16, “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

Faith (believing), Repentance, and confession are all **UNTO** righteousness, life, and salvation; but it is baptism which puts us **INTO** all three. It is baptism wherein we Christ and the Holy Spirit are put in us and we are added to the church. It is when we are baptized that our names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

