Why Don’t You…?

**Reading: 1 Peter 3:12-21**

***(1 Peter 3:15) But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:***

***(1 Peter 2:9) But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:***

When we answer anyone, we must be able to cite our authority.

1. ***(Colossians 3:17) Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.***

2. (***1 Peter 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 gives: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen***.

3. ***(Galatians 1:8) But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.***

**w-d-u keep the sabbath?**

The Sabbath was given to Israel only. ***(Deuteronomy 5:1-3) And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them. {2} The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. {3} The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day.... [skip to vs. 15] And remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD your God brought you out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.***

The end of the Sabbath was prophesied. ***(Amos 8: 5 & 9) Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the Sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?.... {9} And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:***

Christ’s death was the end of the Sabbath. ***(Colossians 2:14) Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;… [16] Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holy day, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days***:

**w-d-u wear religious titles?**

***(Acts 11:26) And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.***

***(1 Peter 4:16) Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.***

What’s wrong with calling a man Father or Rabbi? ***(Matthew 23:8-9) "But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. {9} "Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.***

***(Psalm 111:9) He sent redemption unto his people: he has commanded his covenant forever: holy and reverend is his name.***

**W-d-u have fellowship halls and church functions?**

What exactly is the church’s function?

1. To TEACH! ***(Matthew 28:19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:***

a. ***(2 Timothy 2:2) And the things that thou have heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.***

2. TO WORSHIP ***(John 4:24) God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth***.

***(John 18:36) Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.***

The physical needs of man are to be satisfied at home. ***(1 Corinthians 11:22-34) What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you!... {34} If you are hungry, eat at home, so that when you come together, it will not be for your condemnation. About the other things I will give instructions when I come.***

***(Luke 4:4) And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.***

**w-d-u- use instruments in your worship services?**

***(Ephesians 5:19) Speaking [playing?] to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing [not playing] and making melody in your heart to the Lord***;

***(Colossians 3:16) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing*** [not playing] ***with grace in your hearts to the Lord.***

Passages which have reference to music.

1. ***(1 Corinthians 14:15) What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.***

2. ***(Matthew 26:30) And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.***

3. ***(Acts 16:25) And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.***

Was all instrumental music was pleasing to God in the Old Testament? ***(Amos 6:1-5) Woe to you who are at ease in Zion, And trust in Mount Samaria, Notable persons in the chief nation, To whom the house of Israel comes! {2} Go over to Calneh and see; And from there go to Hamath the great; Then go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are you better than these kingdoms? Or is their territory greater than your territory? {3} Woe to you who put far off the day of doom, Who cause the seat of violence to come near; {4} Who lie on beds of ivory, Stretch out on your couches, Eat lambs from the flock And calves from the midst of the stall; {5} Who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments, And invent for yourselves musical instruments like David;***