BIBLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (1) Acts 8:30-35

Introduction:

- 1. When we preach in Africa, people insist we take time to answer questions.
- 2. It used to be common in Gospel Meeting for the preacher to answer Bible questions after the sermon.
- 3. Bible questions indicate two things:
 - a. People are studying the Bible.
 - b. People want to learn more about the Bible.
- 4. We encourage you to ask Bible questions for us to answer.
 - a. Write your question and put it in the box in the foyer.
 - b. Listeners to our radio/TV programs can write to us at the church address.

Discussion:

- I. "IN REVELATION 10, JOHN WAS TOLD EAT THE LITTLE BOOK. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?"
 - A. Revelation is written in symbolic language known as apocalyptic language (Rev. 1:1).
 - B. To interpret apocalyptic language, one must ask two questions:
 - 1. What does it say?
 - 2. What does it mean?
 - C. What does Revelation 10:1-11 say?
 - 1. John saw a mighty angel with one foot on the land and the other on the sea.
 - 2. The angel had a little book in his hand.
 - 3. John was told to take the open book from his hand.
 - 4. He was told to eat it; the book would be sweet in his mouth but bitter in his stomach.
 - 5. John did as he was commanded.
 - 6. John was then told he must prophesy again about many peoples, languages, and nations.

- D. What does Revelation 10 mean?
 - 1. An angel is a messenger of God.
 - 2. A book is a message from God.
 - 3. The angel standing on the land and sea indicates it is a message for all the inhabitants of the world.
 - 4. Eating the book means John is to read and internalize its message.
 - 5. The sweetness in John's mouth indicates the pleasure of receiving God's revelation.
 - 6. The bitterness it would cause in his stomach indicates the unpleasant task of delivering a message that will not be pleasant to the hearers.
 - 7. John will continue to receive God's message and he must continue to make it known to all people.
- II. "WHEN JESUS AROSE FROM THE GRAVE, DID HE HAVE A BODY LIKE WE WILL HAVE AT THE RESURRECTION?"
 - A. Let us notice some facts about Jesus' resurrected body.
 - 1. Mary did not recognize Jesus until He spoke (Jn. 20:11-18).
 - 2. Jesus told her, "Do not keep on clinging to Me."
 - 3. Jesus walked with two disciples to Emmaus; they did not recognize Him until breaking bread; He then vanished (Luke 24:13-25).
 - 4. Jesus suddenly appeared in the midst of His disciples when they were meeting behind closed doors (Jn. 20:19).
 - 5. The apostles thought He was a "spirit" (ghost) when He first appeared to them.
 - 6. He showed them His hands and side to prove it was He.

"Behold, My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have" (Luke 24:39).

- 7. He ate in their presence (Luke 24:41-43).
- 8. "Doubting" Thomas became a believer in the resurrection when he himself saw the Lord (Jn. 20:24-28).
- 9. He ascended to Heaven in His resurrected body (Acts 1:9-11).
- 10. Jesus will come again personally, audibly and visibly (1 Thess. 4:16; Rev. 1:7).
- B. The Bible does not tell us everything we would like to know, but only what we need to know (Deut. 29:29).

- 1. Will we have the same body Jesus had? The Bible doesn't say.
- 2. Was Jesus changed when He ascended out of sight? The Bible doesn't say.
- 3. The Bible says we will be raised and changed (1 Cor 15: 50-53).
- C. We will be like Christ when He is revealed:

"Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is" (1 Jn. 3:2).

III. "WHEN ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN - SUNDAY, MONDAY, ETC?"

- A. Asking this question is asking the obvious.
 - 1. When are you a human being?
 - 2. When are you an American citizen?
 - 3. When is a married person married?
- B. No one can serve two masters (Matt. 6:24).
 - 1. When we become Christians, we change masters (Rom. 6:16-18).
 - 2. When we become Christians, we die to sin (Rom. 6).
 - 3. When we become Christians, we belong to Christ for we were bought with His blood (1 Cor. 6:19,20).
- C. One is a Christian whether awake or asleep, at home or at school, at work or at play.
 - 1. If one does not behave as a Christian, he is a hypocrite.
 - 2. We must be faithful until (unto) death (Rev. 2:10).

Conclusion:

- 1. The most important question is "What must I do to be saved?"
 - a. Happiness in this life depends upon the answer.
 - b. Happiness in eternity also depends upon the answer.
- 2. The Bible gives the answer to the question (Acts 16:30-34).
- 3. Have you asked this question?
- 4. Have you done what the Bible teaches to be saved?