

### Test your Bible Knowledge

1. The Samaritan woman at the well, whom Jesus asked for a drink, gave:

- a. Him water from the well
- b. Him directions for assistance
- c. Him directions for assistance
- d. Him warning of danger

2. Matthew 13 speaks of:

- a. sisters of Jesus
- b. one sister of Jesus
- c. no sister of Jesus
- d. a step-sister of Jesus

3. Cornelius was a:

- a. high priest
- b. beggar
- c. disciple
- d. centurion

4. Paul asked his Jewish brethren, "What then? Are we better than they?" He answers:

- a. yes
- b. some what
- c. not at all
- d. almost

**Scriptures:** 1) John 4:7-29 2) Matthew 13:56 3) Acts 10:1-8 4) Romans 3:9

-Fred Singleton

#### Schedule:

Sunday Bible Study - 10:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship - 11:00AM

Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM

Wednesday Night Bible Study - 7:00 PM

**Jefferson City Church of Christ**

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**"Tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?"-1King 22:16**

#### A BIBLICAL PORTRAIT

Thomas Kinkade (born January 19, 1958 in Sacramento, California) is an American painter. He is notable for the mass marketing of his work as printed reproductions and other licensed products via The Thomas Kinkade Company. Mr. Kinkade, among many noted painters has an extraordinary mind. It is amazing to see, what was once hidden in the mind of an artist, brought to reality with a stroke of a brush.

God has created man with the ability to reason and think for himself. And sometimes man paints a picture in his mind as to what he thinks about God. Let us learn an important lesson; never paint a picture of God in your mind that is not consistent with the biblical portrait.

One might ask, "Fred what do you mean when you use the term biblical portrait?" This addresses the spiritual pictures that the Bible reveals about the nature of God, the spiritual painting of God. I don't believe we can literally see God's features in the Scriptures, and indentify what He looks like by comparing portraits. I believe through a close study of God's word, we can come to understand God's divine characteristics.

An image man paints in his mind regarding God, is the idea that "God is love, and God would never punish us, because he loves us too much." "Jesus is love."

It is true that God loves us, and we learn about such love when we reflect upon passages like John 3:16 which reads, **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."** Or, Romans 5:8, **"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."** And 1 John 4:8-**"He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."** After reading the passages cited above some will paint a picture in their mind that God loves us too much to punish us.

Yes He loves us, but the biblical portrait reveals that He does not love us so much that He will not punish us.

**HAVE YOU STUDIED YOUR BIBLE TODAY? Answers 1.c 2.c 3.d 4.c**

The writer of Proverb said, "For whom the LORD loves He corrects..." (Prov 3:12).

The biblical portrait reveals two sides of God: goodness and severity (Rom. 11:22). The God of love sent fire out of heaven to devour Nadab and Abihu for offering unauthorized fire (Lev. 10:1-2), and struck Ananias and Sapphira dead on the spot for lying (Acts 5:1-11).

The Scriptures affirm that the God of love has prepared a place called hell to punish the unrighteous (Matt. 5:22, 29; 10:28; 23:33). Also see (2 Peter 4:4-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-11; Heb. 10:26-29). By reading 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10, we learn about the God of love, and how He is going to save the righteous who will not be separated from His presence and from His glory, but the same God of love will take vengeance on those who do not know Him, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*"...since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed." Cite verses*

Man, must not paint a picture in his mind about God that is different from the biblical portrait. - Fred Singleton

**"KNOW  
NOW THE CERTAINTY OF THE WORDS OF TRUTH"  
Prov 22:2**

**Question: Who are God's elect?**

**Answer:** Determining who God's elect are is very important. This is urgently important because they are the saved (Mk. 13:27). God knows who is elect are. "... God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation," Paul writes,

"through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth" (2 Thes. 2:13, cf. I Pet. 1:2).

**The elect or chosen of God are those who have believed the truth.** Beloved, it is "in" or "by" belief of the truth that the elect are chosen or become the elect (2 Thes. 2:13). Who says truth does not matter? Jesus is the truth or He presented the truth (Jn. 14:6). His words, truth, are spirit and life (Jn. 6:63). We are free of the bondage of sin by believing the truth (Jn. 8:32). We purify our souls in obeying the truth (1 Pet. 1:22), and we are to worship God in spirit and in truth (Jn. 4:24). The truth is the word of God, the one faith (Eph. 4:5). It is that system to which many rendered obedience (Acts 6:7, 13:8), and the faith has been once for all delivered (Jude 3).

**The elect are those who have been set apart by the spirit.** This is precisely what Paul said regarding the saved at Thessalonica (2 Thes. 2:13). The Spirit sets apart or sanctifies through the truth (Jn. 17:17). As we submit to the Spirit's teaching regarding belief, repentance, confession, baptism for the remission of sins, and growth, we are sanctified (Jn. 8:24; Acts 17:31; Rom. 10:10; Acts 2:38; Col. 1:10).

Beloved, are you God's elect? To the elect God multiplies grace and peace (1 Pet. 1:2). - Don Martin

### How Children Think Sometimes!

A Sunday School teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to church service, 'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?' One bright little girl replied, 'Because people are sleeping.'

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, looking at the old pages as he turned them. Then something fell out of the Bible. He picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that has been pressed in between the pages. 'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out.

'What have you got there, dear?' his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice he answered, 'It's Adam's suit'. -Author unknown