



Summer Bible Study

Greentown Baptist Church
Wednesday, 7/5/2023

1. Is there a difference with God whether you are cremated or buried in normal fashion?

- There are over _____ references in the Bible about burial – Gen. 15:15, 23:19, 25:9-10, 35:8,29, 50:14; Num. 20:1; Joshua 24:33; Ruth 1:17; 1 Kings 2:10; Matt. 14:12; Acts 8:2. Gen. 3:19.
 - Traditionally, Hebrew bodies were laid in a shallow grave covered with stones, or in a cave or tomb hewn out of stone and marked by a large, upright stone.
 - In Roman times, burial practices were tied to one's _____ in life (undertakers, professional mourners – Matt. 9:23 [minstrels], processions, elaborate tombs). The poor often had unmarked graves or, if near Rome, used the catacombs.
- By contrast, there are only a few references to cremation – 1 Sam. 31:11-13; Joshua 7:25; Amos 2:1, 6:8-10; Lev. 20:14.
 - In Greek culture, cremation became dominant over burial circa 800 BC and encouraged for reasons of health and expedient burial of slain warriors. By the time of the Roman Empire (circa 27 B.C. to 395 A.D.) it was widely practiced, and cremated remains were generally stored in elaborate urns.
- Why cremation today? There are generally 2 reasons: cost and sentiment.
- While burial seems to be God's intended method, there is no specific condemnation of cremation in the Bible – 1 Cor. 15:35-53. God's ultimate concern is your soul!

2. Why doesn't the KJV use the word "Yahweh"?

- The KJV uses "_____" as the proper name of God- Exodus 6:3; Psalm 83:18; Isaiah 12:2, 26:4. The translators also designated which name of God was being used in the scripture by using different capitalization of Lord and God. They used "Jehovah" in the 4 verses above as the context dictated.
- Other verses where Jehovah shows up as part of a descriptive name of God:
 - Jehovah Nissi - (The Lord My Banner – Ex. 17:15)
 - Jehovah Jireh - (The Lord Will Provide – Gen. 22:14)
 - Jehovah Shalom - (The Lord Is Peace – Judges 6:24)
- Both Jehovah and Yahweh are derived from the tetragrammaton יהוה (the four Hebrew letters usually transliterated YHWH or JHVH that form the biblical, proper name of God). **KEY:** It is _____ what the original pronunciation of the word was, due to the longstanding Jewish prohibition on speaking God's name aloud and the fact that most things written in Hebrew in Israel were written without vowels. Given there are 22 letters in Hebrew alphabet compared to our 26, there is not always a "letter for letter" translation. Hence the main argument between the 2 renderings is basically around the J-Y and V-W. Both instances are pronounced interchangeably (Jod-yod. Waw-vau).
- The Hebrew vowel points of "Adonai" were added to the Tetragrammaton by the _____, and the resulting form was transliterated as Yehowah (Latin→Iehovah→Jehovah). Jehovah became the

English transliteration and was first used by William Tyndale in his English translation of the Bible and was also used in the Geneva Bible.

- “Yahweh” is being used as a modern movement to be “closer to God by using original Hebrew names”. However, following that line of thinking, there would be a lot more names to be changed: Jesus (Iesous, Yeshua); Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu); John (Yohanan) etc.
- MOST versions of the Bible, as of today, _____ the word “Yahweh”.

3. **How can I be sure I am in fellowship with the Lord? If I genuinely repent, but am still fighting specific sin, does God turn and not hear my prayers? In the same respect, if I am struggling to have faith about something, am I wrong to pray about it?**

- **Fellowship:** *Companionship. Association. Partnership. A state of being together* – 1 John 3:8-10; Heb. 13:5; Matt. 28:20; John 14:16-17.
- Repentance and fighting are KEY! – 1 John 1:9; Rom. 7:18-25; James 1:14 (specific sin). God always hears the prayers of the repentant believer – Ps. 66:18-20; John 9:31.
- You are _____ wrong to pray for help – Mark 9:24; Luke 17:5; 1 Thess. 5:17.