



Questionnaire to Test Modern Myths

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by

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Questions

1. The 'Great Southland of the Holy Spirit' was called such when Australia was first discovered.

True False

2. 'Calvinism' originally had 5 points called 'TULIP' (Total Depravity, Unconditional election, Limited atonement, Irresistible grace, Perseverance of the saints).

True False

3. Most of the great revivals, mission societies, the American 'awakenings', most of the historic church leaders, evangelists were 'Calvinistic' in doctrine

True False

4. According to 2 Peter 3:9 the Bible teaches that the Lord wants everyone to be saved: '*The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*'.

True False

5. Revelation 3:5 teaches that one's name can be 'blotted out' of the book of life - '*He that overcomes, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels* (Rev.3:4-5).

True False

6 Some gifts such as speaking in ‘tongues’ can edify self -
1Corinthians 14:4 *‘He that speaks in an unknown tongue edifies himself...’*

True False

7. Speaking in ‘tongues’ without interpretation is allowed in the church.

True False

8. Jesus spoke of Hell three times more than Heaven.

True False

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Answers

1. False

During the middle ages explorers believed in a ‘*great southland*’ called by many ‘*Terra Australis Incognita*’ (‘*The Unknown Southland*’). In 1606 the Portuguese and Roman Catholic explorer Pedro Fernandez de Quiros thought he had discovered this great ‘southland’ when he came to what is now known as Vanuatu. He called it the ‘Great Southland of the Holy Spirit’.

The term ‘Australia’ was in honour of Austria and of King Philip’s wife Margaret. Proclamations were made and Masses performed - in the name of the Roman Catholic faith which included the virgin Mary and the Pope.

Quiros discovered Vanuatu, not Australia. (See ‘*Diakrisis*’ article May/June 2014)

2. False

‘TULIP’ is a 20th c. invention. At the original Synod of Dordt (1618) when Arminianism was refuted there was no ‘TULIP’ used in the refutation. (1)

3. True

Most, if not all revivals and the American ‘Awakenings’ were all begun under Calvinistic preaching and doctrine. All the early major mission societies, revivalists and evangelists (including Charles Spurgeon) were strongly ‘Calvinistic’.

(1) See the questionnaire on ‘Calvinism’ for more. For a full doctrinal discussion of what historic ‘Calvinism’ taught see the book ‘*Calvinism & Arminianism - Out of the Maze*’ by the author.

4. False

The 'usward' is the 'beloved' mentioned numerous times in the same passage. This Epistle is specifically written to the 'beloved' - 'beloved, I now write unto you' (vs.1) '...beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing ...' (vs.8) '...Wherefore, beloved, seeing that you look for such things, be diligent that you may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless' (vs.14) '...You therefore, beloved, seeing you know these things before...' (vs.17)...

The primary context is about the end of this age and the sureness of the Lord's coming for his 'beloved'. The rules of grammar and Greek show that the 'any' and the 'all' cannot refer to any other pronoun but to the 'us' previous (the 'beloved'). This was acknowledged by many commentators (eg. see Matthew Henry).

5. False

Many Christians fail to read the little word 'not'. The passage is not saying 'I could blot out his name' or any other possibility of a name being blotted out. In fact it is saying the opposite!: 'I will NOT blot out his name out of the book of life'. The overcomers and those who are clothed in the righteousness of Christ will *not* have their names blotted out.

6. False

The above is only one half this verse - the rest of the verse is 'but he that prophesies edifies the church'. Paul does not commend this 'unknown tongue' in 1 Corinthians 14 but rather *contrasts* it with something that *edifies the church*. I Corinthians 14 continually contrasts the singular 'unknown tongue' with 'prophesies' or with the plural 'tongues' (see vs.18,19). Paul *never* speaks in favour of the 'unknown tongue'. 1 Corinthians 14 is *correcting* the church for this very problem - selfishness!

No gift is for self but rather for the body of Christ! The gifts were given to 'profit all' in the body of believers (1Cor.12:7). Nowhere do the Scriptures promote self edification: (Read Rom.15:1-2; 1Thess.4:11).

‘*Private tongues*’ or ‘*prayer language*’ is an invention within the second half of the 20th Century and popularised by Oral Roberts and other Word-Faith teachers. (2)

7. False

1Corinthians 14:15 ‘...*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*’. Some Christians use this verse to allow for the practice of speaking in an unknown tongue *without* interpretation. However, the words ‘*and*’ and ‘*also*’ absolutely refute such error. The word ‘*also*’ connects *both* ‘*spirit*’ and ‘*understanding*’ together. (The Greek word ‘*understanding*’ is ‘*nous*’, literally in many places translated ‘*mind*’).

The command is to pray or sing *with understanding also* and at the *same time* . The ‘*spirit*’ here is also *not the Holy Spirit but the human spirit*, (vs.14 ‘*my spirit*’). ‘*Praying with the spirit*’ and ‘*singing with the spirit*’ must be done with ‘*understanding*’ in the mind, *both to the speaker and any listener!* There is no scripture that allows ‘*tongues*’ in church or in private that does not have interpretation and understanding with it. (3)

8. False

Hell is not mentioned as many times as Heaven. Jesus did speak about Heaven more than Hell as a concordance would show, remembering also that ‘*Heaven*’ is also spoken of in different terms (eg. ‘*Abraham’s bosom*’ (Lk.16:22); ‘*Father’s house*’ (Jn.14:2)...

(2) See the questionnaire on ‘*Tongues*’ for more. For a full account on all the verses on ‘*Tongues*’ see ‘*Tongues and the Baptism With the Spirit*’ by Terry Arnold.

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About the Author and the Ministry

Terry Arnold holds a Doctorate in Theology (Dth), a Masters degree (MABS) and several diplomas. He was founder and president of *South Pacific Bible Institute*, a Bible college training and equipping people for ministry. In addition he was the founder of Hervey Bay Bible Church in Queensland, Australia. He has for 25 years served as an elder and then pastor.

Terry is the author of several books and is involved in a full time ministry of *teaching, informing* and *equipping* the church. He is also editor of a growing worldwide publication '*Diakrisis (Australia)*'.

His ministry includes preaching/teaching and conducting seminars and conferences in a wide range of churches and colleges.

TA Ministries is a non-denominational and non-profit faith ministry founded in 1989 when the book '*To Catholics Whom I Love*' was written by Terry Arnold. This book went through several re-prints and served as a fruitful outreach to Roman Catholics.

In 1996 the ministry became a full-time operation with the introduction of a free newsletter, later named '*Diakrisis (Australia)*'.

Diakrisis is published bi-monthly to *teach, inform* and *equip* the church of Biblical truths and to warn of false teaching. It has also been a valuable reference aid to hundreds of pastors/elders.