

Some queries for us to ponder

over

[In no particular order of importance]

Query one:

The period of Papal supremacy (“a time, and times, and the dividing of times” Daniel 7:25), appears in numerous places in various forms in the Bible.

Historic Adventism has taken this to mean the 1,260 years in Europe from 538 – 1798AD and applied it accordingly wherever the term, or its equivalent, has appeared, e.g.

“time, times and half a time” Daniel 12:7; Revelation 12:14;

“a thousand two hundred and threescore days” Revelation 12:6;

“forty-two months” Revelation 11:2; 13:5.

But why has the Spirit caused it to be written in these different ways?

Could it be that He has “flagged” it for us so that we may ask Him just what period is He thinking about, and if they are not the same then what could they mean in the context in which they are found?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query two:

Why are the people of the Laodicean church (Revelation 3:18) asked to purchase the white robes of righteousness? What can they PAY for them?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query three:

Why is the beast of Revelation 13:2 part lion, part leopard, part bear?

My response: [Click here for answer #1](#)

Query four:

Why are there “**seven** crowns” on the **heads** of the beast in Revelation 12:3, and yet on the **horns of the beast** in 13:1 there are **ten**? Associated with these is the question as to why there are **NO crowns** on the beast either on the heads or the horns in Revelation 17:3?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query five:

Why is the second beast of Revelation 13 (the dragon-speaking one who makes the “image”) described as having “two horns like [pretending to be] a lamb” (they were ineffective ones in controlling the world, but they were there!), and why is it often called “the lamb-like beast” when it is clearly a dragon and not a lamb?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query six:

Why, when there are **two** “beasts” in Revelation 13, and one of them makes a “copy (image)” of the other, do we not see that there are then **three** of them? The original, the second and then the copy? A past “has been”, a present “ineffective” one, and the real future exposed one.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query seven:

After progressing steadily through the history book of the future from Revelation chapter 6:1 to chapter 10 where the Son of God comes with the open book of Daniel (1840-44) and we are told that we must give another warning to the world (verse 11), why does The Revelation

suddenly go back in history in chapter 11 and describe the French Revolution of 1793 – 1796, and then mention “the last trump” which heralds the Second Coming in verse 15?

We have been told that Revelation 12 starts a new line of prophecy.

“The line of prophecy in which these symbols are found [the beast, the image, the mark] **begins** with Revelation 12, with the dragon that sought to destroy Christ at His birth” (GC438). So this means that chapter 11 is **the END** of a line of prophecy. Maybe this will help?

My response: [Click here:](#)

Query eight:

When the Papacy arose in Europe it removed three of the ten horns (the nations of Europe) which were on the head of the beast at that time (about 508-538AD). They are described as being “plucked up by the roots” in Daniel 7:8 which means in gardening terms that they were totally removed from the scene.

Then, AFTER the Papacy had ruled for 1,260 years as a leg of iron from 538AD to 1798 we have two feet and ten toes containing the new ingredient, clay, as the last participants in world history. Daniel 2:42-44.

How then can we say that the ten “horns” of Daniel 7 which became SEVEN BEFORE the Papacy ruled, can be the same as the TEN toes which come AFTER its reign?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query nine:

Why is Greece positioned in the statue of Daniel 2 over the belly AND THIGHS (where the division of the body begins)?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query ten:

In Revelation 12:6 the “woman” is said to flee into the wilderness (the places where few men dwell which were literally OUTSIDE of Europe) during the Papal dominancy, and stay there protected from the Roman Catholic system while being nourished by God.

But in 12:14 she is given extra speed (eagles’ wings) during one of the alternative time periods where she is protected from the direct attack from Satan. Why? The provision of the “wings” should be a signal to us as an “extra”, similar to the change in terminology of the period.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query eleven:

Why do we NOT often talk about the **eighth** head of the beast which is mentioned in Revelation 17?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query twelve:

Why do some among us continue to insist that we are forgiven and cleansed by the blood of the daily lamb being taken into the sanctuary when there is not one verse in the Bible which says this? Lamb’s blood is NEVER taken into the sanctuary building.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query thirteen:

Why do we not talk more about the Passover lamb and its blood, for Christ is our **Passover** lamb? 1 Corinthians 5:7.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query fourteen:

Why are we taught that the words “I die daily” apply to the rebirth when nature and human biology clearly teach that we can only be born once, physically AND spiritually? “I die” is the OPPOSITE of “I live”.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query fifteen:

Is there any distinction between “sinners” and “righteous” ones in the Bible?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query sixteen:

Why is there a sanctuary/temple in heaven? There is no blood (death) there!!

My response: [Click here](#)

Query seventeen:

How can Christ be said to have died “from the foundation of the world” (Revelation 13:8) when He died at Calvary 4,000 years later (give or take a few)?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query eighteen:

Why have men invented the idea of an “invisible church” when there is no such term in the Bible?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query nineteen:

The Roman Catholic system of indulgences states that when money is paid to the church, the “past, present, and FUTURE” sins of the donor (or those of another if it is a gift from him), are forgiven. (GC 59.1 and 127.3)

The Protestant system of forgiveness is that Christ PAID for the sins of all men, past, present and future, when He died on the cross, and gives it to us as a gift.

Where is the difference?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query twenty:

Do the ten toes of the statue in Daniel chapter 2 represent the nations of Europe in 476AD, and, by extension, the European Union as it is today?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query twenty-one:

Malachi 4:5-6

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Who is this person, and what does he do?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query twenty-two:

Why does Paul, in his explanation of the sanctuary services, place the ashes of a heifer as an adjunct to the blood of bulls and goats? And then use all three of them as a contrast to the “blood” of the Son of God?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query twenty-three:

Does God save in groups? Is that what corporate salvation is all about?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Twenty-four:

Why do the events of Revelation chapter 11 appear to come BEFORE the events of chapter 10 in which we are told that we must give the cry AGAIN? In a normally progressive prophetic message this is surely unusual.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Twenty-five:

In The Revelation 20:1-3 we have these words, “And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled:

and after that he must be loosed a little season.

What is meant by “he must be loosed *a little season*”?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Twenty-six

Why do we accept the phrase that “This place (i.e. nation, state, Church [with a capital “C”], etc. is a **Christian** system, when that is an oxymoron [an impossibility]?”

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Twenty-seven

1 Corinthians 9:

²⁴ Know you not that they which run in a race run all, but [only] one receives the prize? So run, that you may obtain.

When Paul refers to the Christian “race” what does he mean? And who is going to be the winner?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Twenty-eight

Revelation 1:7:

Behold, He comes with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.

What does “they also which pierced Him” mean?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Twenty-nine: June 2017

A question I saw recently in an email set my mind to work:

“Dear Friends of “Dial Daily Bread,”

It sounds like a stupid question to ask, but here it is:

is it difficult to tell the difference between Christ and Satan?”

I’ll put their answer in a note at the end of this article and you will see how they influenced me.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty: The everlasting gospel

When did the “everlasting” gospel begin? Can it even be said that it had a beginning? Surely it must always have been there?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-one: August 2017

The Revelation:

7:4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed a hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands . . .

In the Revelation there are two texts which some theologians tell us are describing the same group, but they have different words! How can they be the same?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-two: September 2017

There seems to be a great fuss in the church regarding the trinity (the Catholic view versus the early Adventist pioneers opinion mostly, and accusation is made that the doctrine of the church is now faulty). Just what is the truth?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-three: October 2017

Should we keep the Old Testament feasts today? Do we receive a greater blessing if we do, and are we lost if we don't, as some are teaching?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-four: November 2017

Matthew 13:23:

But he that received seed into the good ground is he that hears the word, and understands it; which also bears fruit, and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Just what does Jesus mean by this variation?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-five: December 2017

I read recently that someone described the God of the Old Testament as a hard, unforgiving deity; one who punishes at the slightest provocation (and that often with death by stoning; i.e. gluttony, Deuteronomy 21:18-21), and who judges His enemies severely. And others have said even harder words against Him. But the next verses in the law show that they could hang a criminal, so stoning was a deliberate choice! Deuteronomy 21:22-23.

How do I reply to that accusation?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-six: January 2018

There is no doubt that the dinosaurs lived, but where did they come from and why did they die out?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-seven: February 2018

Genesis 11:

⁵ And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. ⁶ And the LORD said, “Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

⁷ “Go to [come on], let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech”.

What really happened at Babel? Did God interfere in men's affairs after the rules of engagement said that He wouldn't!! He said from the beginning that sin itself would **demonstrate** to the eyes what He could not **talk** into the minds of the people. Then the two together would settle the truth.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-eight: March 2018

Query: It is written:

Joshua 6:

¹⁶ And it came to pass at the seventh time [of circumnavigating the city], when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout; for the LORD has given you the city. ¹⁷ And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

¹⁸ “And you, in any wise [at all costs] keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest you make yourselves accursed, when you take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. ¹⁹ But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron [the items of value], are consecrated to the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD”.

²⁰ So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the

trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

²¹ And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, **and ox, and sheep, and ass** [and cats and canaries], with the edge of the sword.

Yet I read in the S of P;

{COL 34.4}

The gospel of Christ was a stumbling block to them [the Jews and the nations] because they demanded signs instead of a Saviour. They expected the Messiah to prove His claims by mighty deeds of conquest, to establish His empire on the ruins of earthly kingdoms. This expectation Christ answered in the parable of the sower. ***Not by force of arms, not by violent interpositions, was the kingdom of God to prevail, but by the implanting of a new principle in the hearts of men.***

Why is it then that when the former slaves from Egypt entered the Promised Land under the direction of the LORD God of Israel (the God of the Ten Commandments, including the sixth – “you shall not kill”), that they presented to the people of the land a picture of a bloodthirsty, angry and revengeful God who demanded that every living thing in the city be slaughtered? How would that have endeared the nations to follow Him in love?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Thirty-nine: April 2018

Revelation 13:

¹¹ And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon.

¹² And he exercises all the power of the first beast before him, and causes the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Just who and what is this beast, and what is he going to do? Where does it differ from the first beast?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty: May 2018

My question is, WHY did God allow the Bible to be written in such a way as to portray His character so inaccurately? Or did the writers just write their own thoughts - not God's thoughts?

If so, what then about the infallibility of the Bible?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-one: June 2018

There has been a lot of agitation lately in the church about keeping the feasts of the Old Testament. Their arguments sound convincing – so should we keep the feasts, especially the new moons?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-two: July 2018

This is my own query.

What IS death? Not, what are its effects – but, what is it in itself and where did it come from?

I know a Christian who underwent the major operation of a quadruple bypass successfully not long ago and then was told that because there was a valve in his heart not working properly he still did not have long to live. The surgeons in his country refused to do anything about it because of the danger, but due to certain circumstances he was able to go to a neighbouring country and jump the queue and undergo the second operation. When told beforehand that the prognosis was only for a fifty percent chance of survival, without hesitation he took it and has survived!

My secondary question is: Why did he not want to die and moments later (to him) be resurrected to meet the LORD? Paul faced the same dilemma, without the urgency. He wrote:

Philippians 1:

²⁰ According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

The Message version:

[“Alive, I’m Christ’s messenger; dead, I’m his bounty [prize]. Life versus even more life! I can’t lose.]

²² But if I live in the flesh, this is [you are] the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. ²³ For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; **which is far better** [for me]:

²⁴ nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful **for you**.

²⁵ And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith; ²⁶ that your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.

The Message version (MSG)

²²⁻²⁶ As long as I’m alive in this body, there is good work for me to do.

If I had to choose right now, I hardly know which I’d choose. Hard choice! The desire to break camp here and be with Christ is powerful. Some days I can think of nothing better. But most days, because of what you are going through, I am sure that it’s better for me to stick it out here. So I plan to be around awhile, companion to you as your growth and joy in this life of trusting God continues. You can start looking forward to a great reunion when I come visit you again. We’ll be praising Christ, enjoying each other.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-three: August 2018

Acts 16:

²⁵ And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises to God [while they were in jail for disturbing the peace in Thyatira]: and the [other] prisoners heard them. ²⁶ And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and **every one's** bands were loosed. ²⁷ And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled [a slow death was the penalty for allowing prisoners to escape]. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm: for we are all here". [They all stayed where they were for there was no instruction from the Spirit to run.]

²⁹ Then he [the jailer] called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas [because he had been convicted of his need by the Spirit, and "called out" as in Revelation 18:4], ³⁰ and brought them out, and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" [And now the reason for their staying became clear.] ³¹ And they said, "Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ [as the Son of God **with power**], and you shall be saved, and your house".

³² And they spoke to him the word of the LORD, and to all that were in his house [about the Son of God]. ³³ And he [the jailer] took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes [he repented on what he had done]; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. ³⁴ And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat [food] before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

Mark 16:16

"He [she] that **believes** and is baptized ["in the LORD" Acts 19:5] shall be saved; but he [she] that believes not shall be damned".

So the question is; should I get baptized and join the church?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-four: September 2018

1 Kings 19:

² Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, *So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.* ³ And when he saw [heard] that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongs to [the south of] Judah, and left his servant there. ⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, *It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.*

Why did Elijah leave God's protection and run away from that death threat?

And what does that mean for us who live in the days of the last Elijah?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-five: October 2018

A question which is often asked is:

“If God is so powerful and so good why doesn't He heal all the world's sicknesses and problems?”

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-six: November 2018

When I look at Revelation chapter 14 I see six angels mentioned and not just three. If we include the one we call the fourth which is described in Revelation 18, then there is a total of seven.

Why don't we hear anything about these others in our church studies?

And why is the 4th separated from the other six?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-seven: December 2018

Why can't I, as a Christian, heal all the sicknesses and old age diseases that I see amongst the people I work with? I read a book recently that seems to promise that if I align myself with Spirit then I will be able to.

And in conjunction with that:

Someone gave us a list of the apostles, and how they died, I know they killed people in terrible ways in those days, and there was no exception for the apostles, mostly because they were preaching and for their faith. That is a real puzzle, I mean [if] these men were the apostles [chosen ones?], and Christian, [and] they could not be protected, what hope do we have.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-eight: January 2019

. . . understanding all three characters, the good, the bad, and the in-between, you do the right thing in God's eyes, the Ten Commandments, [if] we listen to the Holy Spirit, who warns and guides us. With this, you are protected, as we have always been taught. Satan cannot touch our life, but he can influence people who we love around us, he can cause things to happen that affect us, and we must remain strong in belief and faith, and not let our human character come in between ourselves and God.

But you said today, whether we do the right thing or not Satan is going to cause us trouble!!!

What do you mean by that? ????????

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Forty-nine: February 2019

I heard recently that praying for others gives God more right to interfere in others' lives than He normally has! Is God limited? Does He need us to give Him power that He does not possess? Where does it say that in the Bible?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty: March 2019

Why is there so much in the Old Testament about the animal sacrifices made in the temple? I find them blood chilling and am even tempted to believe that it could not have been God who instructed His people to practise them for about 1,500 years.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-one: April 2019

Was it really “an angel of the LORD” who slaughtered 185,000 sleeping men of Sennacherib’s army when they were camped outside Jerusalem? “And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses”. 2 Kings 19:32-37.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-two: May 2019

What is the ark of the covenant mentioned in the Bible and where is it now?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-three: June 2019

Why has this experiment with sin dragged on for 6,000 or more years – about 300 generations. And does it have anything to do with the record of the seven churches in the Book of The Revelation?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-four: July 2019

Someone I met years ago sent me the below link about Christ being begotten which also would segway [a **segue** (segueway) is a smooth

transition] into the idea of the Holy Spirit somehow being part of the 3-part Godhead. Was the HS also at some time "begotten"? Don't recall much on that subject..... how important is it really? Many seem be confused on both "subjects" - Christ & HS..... thanks for replying!.

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-five: August 2019

If Jesus is the Son of God then why does God the Father require a God to pay for our sins on a cross?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-six: September 2019

Why is God sometimes portrayed in the Bible as a killing, vengeful God like Baal, and at others a loving kind and gentle Person like Jesus?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-seven: October 2019

Can you explain Daniel and The Revelation?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-eight: November 2019

“We need to remember that not one person on this planet chose to be born here into this fallen world, whether it be in a palace, a mud hut or a refugee tent. No one had a choice as to who their parents were, nor the genetic inheritance that they would receive from their ancestors, nor the circumstances of their upbringing, nor the experiences that would mould their character and their choices.

“Therefore, is anyone to be blamed for their choices, or what they become?”

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Fifty-nine: December 2019

I read recently about some cities of refuge. What are they and why were they necessary?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Sixty: January 2020

When and why did the Hebrew and Jewish kingdoms come to an end? And what is the “time of the Gentiles”?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Sixty-one: February 2020

Why would Satan/Baal help the nation whom God had chosen to hopefully teach the world about himself, while destroying his own pagan nations?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Sixty-two: March 2020

Who is represented by the prodigal son, and what is a prodigal?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Sixty-three April 2020

I came across the comment Jesus made about how hard it is for some to enter in to salvation, and He used a saying about an “eye of a needle”. What did He mean by that?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Sixty-four May 2020

What is the Biblical difference between adultery and fornication?

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Sixty-five June 2020

My response: [Click here](#)

Query Sixty-six July 2020

My response: [Click here](#)

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An alternative