

Questions for God
A Question of Personal Pain

Introduction: “God, why after all my love and understanding of the human race am I still persecuted, misunderstood or ignored?”

1. There is a need to *categorize* our questions

- A. Academic - to satisfy intellectual curiosity; to *know* better
- B. Emotional - to ease personal pain/struggle; to *feel* better
- C. Spiritual - to advance divine purpose: to *be* better

2. Questioning our questions *often* reveals the answer

A. What are the *motives* for my actions? (Matthew 5:38-48)

B. What is the basis for my *expectations*? (John 2:23-25)

i.e. Give every man thine ear, but few thy voice;
Take each man’s censure, but reserve thy judgment.
Neither a borrower, nor a lender be;
For loan oft loses both itself and friend,
And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry,
This above all: to thine own self be true,
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.

Hamlet

“The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.”

“A clever person solves a problem. A wise person avoids it.” Einstein

C. What would Jesus do with my question? What did Jesus do?
(1 Peter 2:21-24)

3. The answers must be limited to what God *has already said*

Jeremiah 17:5-10

While we are called on to “do unto others as we would have them do to us” we are not called to do so in the expectation that they will.

Commitment Time

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