

For questions or interaction on this list, contact pastor Eric Peterman Eric@GraceBibleRedwoodValley.org
Doctrinal Questionnaire for the office of Pastor-Teacher-Elder-Overseer

Name _____ Date Completed _____
 Address _____ Telephone _____
 _____ e-mail _____

This is an opportunity for you to express what you believe the Bible teaches. Answer each question honestly, directly, and briefly, though thoroughly **enough to cover each intelligently and Scriptural**. The idea is to answer in your own words, and to support your statements **with Scripture references**. Seek to honor the Lord in writing what you honestly believe and teach from the Word of God.

1. **Do you desire the office of pastor/elder or do you feel obligated, pushed or are otherwise taking/maintaining a leadership position out of duty and/or because no one else will do the work?**
2. **Would other Biblically grounded men consider you “apt to teach?”**
3. **Do you think you meet the gender, moral, social/family and theological Biblical qualification of pastor/elder? Compare yourself in light of what you understand are the Scriptural qualifications.**
4. **Do you have any qualms about your qualifications? If so, how so?**
5. **Are there Biblical issues in which others might have at least some reasonable basis to question your qualification? If so and you think them incorrect, please demonstrate your qualification.**
6. **What is your concept of the inspiration of the Scriptures?**
7. **Explain your views on the authority of the Scriptures.**
8. **Do you believe in the literal interpretation of the Bible? Explain.**
9. **What are your views on creation (i.e., literal 6-24 hour days or figurative?), the age of the universe and earth?**
10. **Describe your hermeneutic.**
11. **What relationship has your method of interpretation with the original languages of the Bible?**
12. **What translation do you use in your pulpit ministry and teaching and why?**
13. **Which should take priority in exegesis: The intention of the original speakers (in those places where speech is recorded), or the intention of the authors of Scripture that quote the speakers?**
14. **In your view, assign percentages to the amount of pulpit time that you would devote to each kind of teaching: 1) Exegetical/Exposition _____, 2) Doctrinal/Systematic _____, 3) Topical/Current issues _____**
15. **Explain your reasoning about the previous item.**
16. **Explain the unity and trinity of the Godhead.**
17. **Delineate the essence of God, His nature and attributes. Define your terms.**
18. **Is there a distinction between the “Kingdom of Heaven/Kingdom of God” and the Body of Christ, the church? If yes, what is the distinction?**
19. **Explain the Kingdom of Heaven/God that Jesus Christ came to earth to establish.**

20. **Is Jesus, being seated at the right hand of the Father right now, on the throne of David?**
21. **What is the relationship between Israel and the Church?**
22. **Why is eschatology important and how does it affect your views on salvation and sanctification?**
23. **Discuss the Incarnation and God's purpose for it.**
24. **What is your attitude on the virgin birth of Jesus Christ? If you think it is important, explain why.**
25. **Prove from scriptures the divine and human natures of Jesus Christ.**
26. **Briefly describe Jesus Christ's pre-existence, earthly life, present position and responsibilities, and future position and responsibilities.**
27. **Was His death on the cross necessary? Why?**
28. **What is the significance of "the blood of Christ" as it is used in the Bible?**
29. **Was Jesus resurrected bodily? Explain the significance of this?**
30. **What is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to unbelievers?**
31. **What are the ministries of the Holy Spirit to believers?**
32. **What is the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Explain its significance.**
33. **Is there any difference between the "indwelling of the Spirit" and the "filling of the Spirit"? Explain your answer.**
34. **Outline what you believe to be the gifts of the Holy Spirit valid for the Church Age. Have any gifts ceased? Are there any other gifts, which are not cited in Scripture?**
35. **State and clarify your attitudes toward the modern "Charismatic Movement"? Comment on "faith healers" and "glossolalia". What are "Tongues" biblically?**
36. **What are your spiritual gifts and how are you using them?**
37. **What do you believe the Bible teaches about the origin of man?**
38. **What is the significance of the two men (Adam & Christ) in Scripture?**
39. **What do you believe the Bible teaches about man's power of choice?**
40. **How many natures does a believer have? If one describe it, if more describe them.**
41. **What do you believe the Bible teaches about the fall of man and what was the impact?**
42. **Distinguish between a natural man, a carnal man, and a spiritual man**
43. **Regarding the following terms state why it is necessary? How is it Accomplished? And what are the results?**
 - a. **Reconciliation**
 - b. **Regeneration**
 - c. **Justification**
 - d. **Sanctification**
44. **What is the Abraham covenant and what part of it is applicable to the Gentiles, the Church? Explain.**
45. **What is the relationship of the New Covenant (Jer 31:31-34), if any, to the Church?**
46. **What is the importance of the Biblical covenants?**

47. Describe the old man and the new man. Was the old man eradicated when a person became a Christian?
48. What is the meaning and significance (relative to salvation) of repentance?
49. Is there any distinction for a believer to live under law or under grace? Explain.
50. Do you believe in limited atonement or unlimited atonement? Why? Give Scripture references.
51. How were people saved in Old Testament times? In New Testament times?
52. Describe the nature of angels and their activities.
53. What is your view of the Openness of God theology?
54. Who is Satan? What is his work? His destiny?
55. What is the difference between Christianity and religion?
56. Explain the clause "Believe in Christ".
57. What is the significance of a believer being a new creation?
58. Are you familiar with the terminology "identification truths"? If yes, what are they? What priority do they take in your teaching?
59. What conditions, if any, cause a saved person to become unsaved?
60. What does it mean for a believer to fall from grace?
61. Compare and contrast the judgments at the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Judgment of the Nations, and the Great White Throne Judgment.
62. Note the difference between the rapture and the Second Coming, if any.
63. What is the nature of the "church" and when did it begin?
64. Explain the phrase "In Christ" – What does it mean? How is it accomplished?
65. What does the Bible teach about water baptism? The Lord's Table? What role, if any, may women have at the Lord's Table? Should the Lord's Table be "open" or "closed"? Explain.
66. What is the validity, if any, of infant baptism? Of infant dedication?
67. Distinguish between works of the flesh, works of the spirit.
68. Explain how you are developing an intimacy with Christ?
69. Explain the significance of Romans 6:1-11.(Explain the following terms: "dead to sin", "baptized", "newness of life", "old man is crucified", "destroyed", "serve sin", "reckon"—KJV)
70. Define "reckoning", what do we reckon and how do we reckon?
71. What is the difference between positional and conditional truths in the scriptures? Give some examples.
72. What is the true basis for unity among believers? Relate this to agape (love).
73. What, if any, is the difference between sins (plural) and sin (singular-e.g. Romans 6)
74. Define the following terms from your own frame of reference, and describe where you agree or disagree with these modes of thinking: Liberalism, Modernism, Ecumenism, and Neo-Evangelicalism.
75. What is Biblical spirituality? How is it obtained?
76. Explain how a believer is to live the Christian Life.

77. **Explain how a believer is to keep the several hundred commands in the New Testament.**
78. **What should the believer's attitude be in regards to personal military involvement?**
79. **What is your view of the relationship between the pulpit ministry and politics/voting?**
80. **Explain the Biblical concept of suffering, its source or starting point, reasons believers suffer, etc.**
81. **In your opinion, is there a difference between the believer's spirituality and his maturity in Christ? Explain.**
82. **Explain how a believer grows in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.**
83. **What is legalism?**
84. **What is covenant theology? What are your views on it?**
85. **Briefly state your concept of election. Does sovereignty and human volition clash in your concept of this doctrine?**
86. **What is a Biblically based view of divorce? What reasons, if any, are there for divorce? Is remarriage permitted and under what circumstances. What functions or positions may a divorced person hold in the local church?**
87. **What are your views on human sexuality and sexual behavior?**
88. **In your own words, and using Scriptural support wherever possible, describe your concept of the ministry in the local church. Be sure to include your concept of the foundation, function and goal of the church, and how you as a pastor/elder, expect to function in the church. Please also include your concept of church government. Use as many pages as you need.**
89. **What is your view of missions and selection of which missions/missionaries to support?**
90. **What would be your approach in selecting a person to be either a deacon or elder?**
91. **Should elders serve for an appointed amount of time or for life or...?**
92. **Is it proper to have a "senior pastor" and if so, under what circumstances?**
93. **Under what circumstances would you remove yourself from being an elder?**
94. **Should another elder hold tenaciously to a serious theological error/aberration, or if he committed a serious moral error/sin, how would you deal with it?**