

Answers!

Lesson #20

Question #39: **What is the difference between a Wesleyan and a Baptist?**

A Few Answers:

1. The Wesleyan churches were started by John and Charles Wesley (originally as Methodist churches) in the 18th century. There is no founder of the Baptist church; there has been a succession since Christ.
2. The Wesleyan church doctrine teaches that a believer in Jesus Christ can lose their salvation. Baptists believe in the eternal security of the true believers in Jesus Christ. We believe if a true believer in Christ ever lost salvation, that would teach that Christ's sacrifice was not enough to save us or keep us saved. We would never admit that. **Hebrews 10:10-14; I Corinthians 11:32; I Corinthians 5:5; I Corinthians 3:15.**
3. Wesleyan doctrine also teaches that it is possible to attain sinless perfection in this life. Baptists do not believe this. **Philippians 3:12; I John 1:8-10.**
4. Some Wesleyans will ordain women as pastors. Baptists will not. **I Timothy 3:2; I Timothy 2:11-12; I Corinthians 14:33-35.**
5. Wesleyans, at times, have "baptized" babies. Baptists believe that true Baptism is only for those who knowingly and freely put their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation. **Acts 8:12, 36-38; 18:8.**
6. Today many Wesleyan churches have embraced all kinds of music and all kinds of Bibles. True Baptists use only an English Bible translated from the Masoretic Hebrew OT and Received Text of the NT - the King James Bible. Baptists also believe "all kinds of music" (see **Daniel 3:5,7,10,15**) were used in Babylon idolatry. God has restricted His church to Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual songs. **Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16.**
7. Many Wesleyan churches unite in ecumenical movements and associations (promoting a "one-world" religion with Catholics, Protestants, and other belief systems). Baptists believe that a "religious Babylon" is being built for the last days, not to give allegiance to Christ but to the anti-Christ. **Revelation 17:13.**

Not all Wesleyans believe the doctrine laid out by their church. Some are very sound and saved. But doctrine is important and often requires separation from each other - **Romans 16:17.**

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Question #40: **What is the difference between a Roman Catholic and a Baptist?**

Answer: **The main difference is about salvation (eternal life) and how it is obtained. Baptists believe by faith. Roman Catholics believe by works.**

Explanation:

The Baptist believes salvation and eternal life are simply received as a free gift (**Romans 5:15, 16, 18; 6:23**). This free gift comes by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the Gospel (good news of His death, burial, and resurrection).

The Roman Catholic believes salvation is a reward that is earned by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ *and* a lifetime of good works. Even then they have no assurance of eternal life but believe they may have to spend some time in purgatory, hoping that prayers are said for them, candles are burned, and masses are paid for by relatives and friends after their life is over. They believe this will purge (hence "purgatory") them of their sins and lift them out of purgatory into heaven.

Roman Catholics are also taught that before death they must be baptized, never leave the Catholic Church, do penance, observe the seven sacraments including the last rites, say prayers, say the rosary, give to the church and charity, be a good person, go to church, go to confession, receive their first communion, learn their catechism, believe in the Eucharist, receive the Eucharist, worship Mary, pray to the saints, etc. etc. etc. Even with all of this and more, none have the assurance of eternal life.

Roman Catholicism is contrary to so many Scriptures, and again teaches that Christ's sacrifice on the cross for sinners was not enough and that we must save ourselves.

Some scriptures to know to instruct Roman Catholics in the truth:

Paul's preaching -	Ephesians 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5-7; Galatians 2:16
Peter's preaching -	Acts 4:12
John's preaching -	I John 5:11-13
Jesus' preaching	John 3:16-18; John 5:24; John 17:3
John the Baptist's preaching -	John 3:36

Further Notes:
