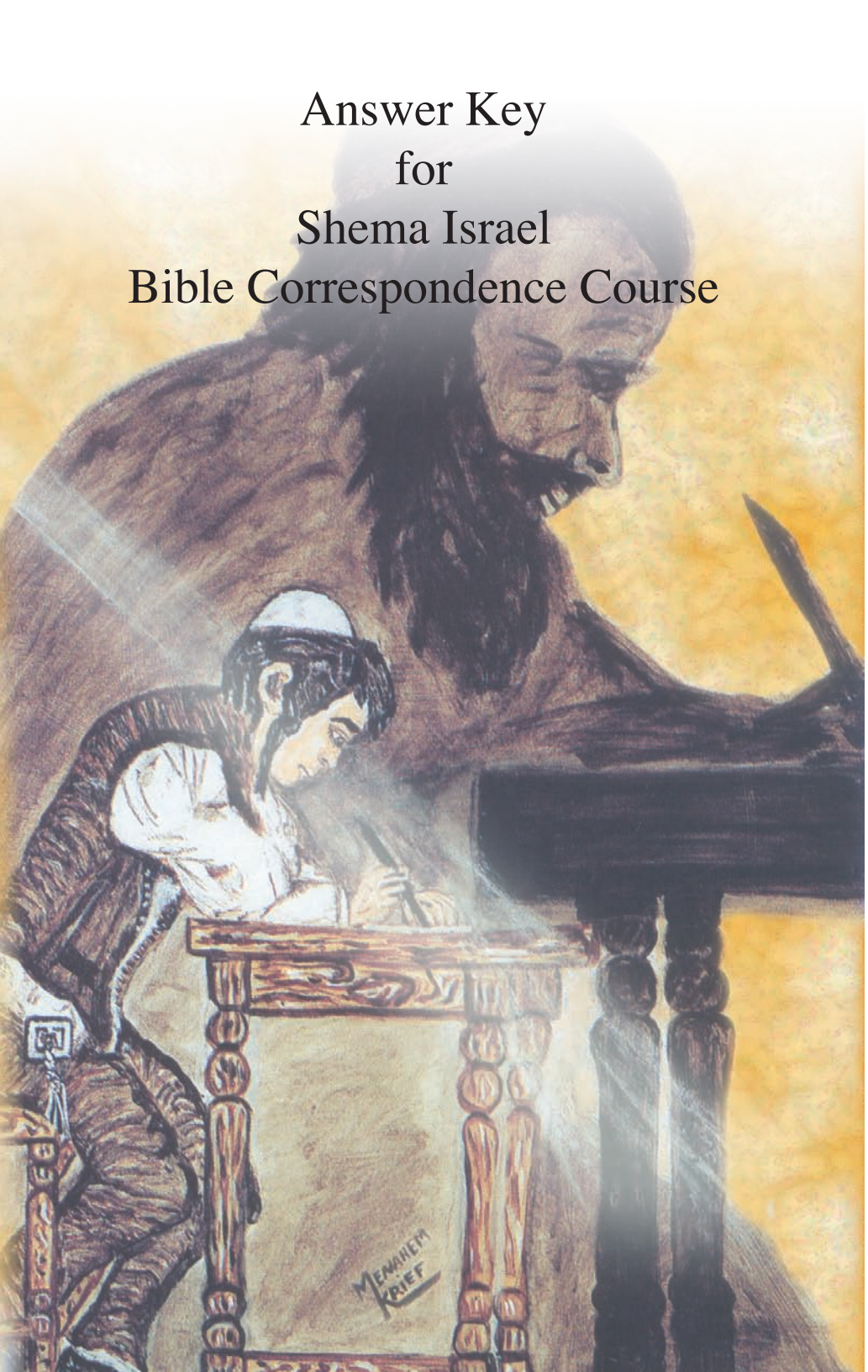


Answer Key  
for  
Shema Israel  
Bible Correspondence Course



# #1 The Bible

1. **Where does the word “Bible” come from?**
  - The Greek word ta-biblia translated from the Hebrew Ha-sefarim, meaning “the books”
2. **Where do the writings of the Bible come from?**
  - The prophets inspired by God
3. **What external evidence do we have that the Bible comes from God?**
  - Archeology, history, literary & historical traditions
  - Preservation of the Scriptures themselves & survival of the Jewish race
  - The impact of the Scriptures on ethics, science, medicine, religion, philosophy, literature, art, etc.
4. **What literary evidence do we have that all the writings of the Bible came from the same supernatural source?**
  - The Unity of the Scriptures
5. **What ethical evidence do we have that the Biblical writers speak the truth?**
  - Biblical heroes are presented with all their failings
6. **What psychological evidence do we have that the Bible speaks the truth?**
  - The prophets often spoke **against** the people
7. **What historical evidence do we have that the Biblical prophets were inspired by God?**
  - What they predicted came true

8. **What is the main intention behind the creation of oral tradition (*Torah be-alpe*) in addition to the written Scriptures (*Torah biktav*)?**
  - To build a fence around the Torah
9. **How did the Talmudic rabbis differentiate between the Holy Scriptures and any other document?**
  - *Only the Scriptures were written down; all other documents were transmitted orally*
  - *The Scriptures were designated as “Holy Writings”*
10. **What criterion is offered by the Bible to help us distinguish between the divine word and the human word?**
  - The words of a true prophet – a prophet from God will come true
11. **How does the “New Testament” refer to the Hebrew Scriptures?**
  - Writings, the Scripture
12. **What is the New Testament instruction about the teachings of the Hebrew Scriptures?**
  - Jesus said He came not to abolish the law or the prophets but to fulfill (to fill to the full).
13. **What is the message of the Bible?**
  - The faith of creation and the hope of recreation
14. **What is the purpose of the Scriptures?**
  - To give light to our path and to guide our steps
15. **How can we study the Scriptures (methodology)?**
  - Through prayer, humility, the Holy Spirit, our intelligence, plus existential and historical reading

## **#2 Ha-Shem (The God of Isreal)**

- 1. What does the Bible say about those who question God's existence?**
  - They are fools!
- 2. Why is it vain to try to prove God's existence?**
  - God is eternal
- 3. What is the most frequently used phrase describing the reality of God?**
  - God is alive, or God is living
- 4. Why is it inappropriate to represent God?**
  - God is unique; there is no one like Him!
- 5. Where is God?**
  - God is everywhere
- 6. How do the Hebrew Scriptures suggest that God is a real personal being?**
  - We were created in His image
  - He has hands, mouth, nose, etc.
  - He does the things real people do, i.e. walks, talks, touches, etc.
- 7. What are the two Hebrew names given to God to express the idea of His transcendence and His immanence?**
  - Elohim (transcendence)
  - YHWH (immanence)

- 8. How did God reveal Himself to mankind?**
  - In nature, in history and in personal experiences
  
- 9. How was God's proximity experienced by Abraham?**
  - In the form of a man
  
- 10. How was God's proximity experienced by Jacob?**
  - In the form of a man
  
- 11. How was God's proximity experienced by Moses?**
  - In a cloud
  
- 12. How was God's proximity experienced by the people of Israel?**
  - The cloud and the temple
  - The sacrifice
  - The Holy Spirit
  
- 13. What is the relation between the angel of the Lord and the Lord Himself?**
  - They are one and the same
  
- 14. How does the Bible expect Israel and any human creature to respond to this powerful and yet personal and loving God?**
  - Get to know Him!
  
- 15. Can we still believe in God after Auschwitz?**
  - Yes. We must believe in God, *in spite of* Auschwitz

## **#3 Evil and Suffering**

### **1. Where does suffering and evil come from?**

- Human responsibility
- The attacks of Satan

### **2. Why do we suffer?**

- Suffering is part of the human condition
- Suffering is the “fruit” or consequences of our sin

### **3. Where does Satan come from?**

- Heaven

### **4. What is the Biblical attitude towards suffering?**

- Revolt against it
- Hope for its end

### **5. What is God’s responsibility in suffering and evil?**

- God is innocent

### **6. Why is God not responsible for evil and suffering in this world?**

- God created everything good, and very good

### **7. Why does the Bible sometimes present God as the agent of evil and suffering?**

- God is all powerful
- He is the only God

8. **Who is designated in the Bible as the actual agent of evil in the world?**
  - Satan, the prince of this earth
9. **Where is God when we suffer?**
  - God suffers with us
10. **How does God respond to our present suffering?**
  - God hears
  - God comforts
11. **What does God do when confronted with our present suffering?**
  - God hears and intervenes
12. **Why does God suffer?**
  - Because of our sins
13. **What is the Biblical mechanism which could bring the end of suffering and evil?**
  - God's forgiveness
14. **How was God's forgiveness achieved in the Bible?**
  - The sins of the community were symbolically placed upon the bull's head and then the animal was sacrificed
15. **What is the only radical solution to suffering and evil in this world?**
  - The creation of a new world

## **#4 The Messiah I**

- 1. Why is there a need for a Messiah?**
  - We cannot save ourselves
- 2. What was God's first promise to mankind?**
  - He would send a Savior
- 3. Who is represented by the "seed" of the woman in Genesis 3:15?**
  - The Messiah
- 4. What clues suggest that the "seed" of the woman in Genesis 3:15 represents an individual?**
  - The word "he" is the subject of the verb "crush"
- 5. What is represented by the Serpent?**
  - Evil
- 6. What mechanism of salvation is suggested through the imagery of the fight in Genesis 3:15?**
  - Sacrifice
- 7. What mechanism of salvation is suggested through the imagery of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah 53?**
  - Suffering
- 8. What mechanism of salvation is suggested through the ritual of sacrifice?**
  - Death



- 9. Who is the Suffering Servant in Isaiah 53?**
- The Messiah
- 10. From what tribe and family of Israel should the Messiah come?**
- Tribe of Judah
  - Family of David
- 11. What kind of relationship will this Messiah entertain with God?**
- Intimate
- 12. What clues in Isaiah 53 help identify the Suffering Servant?**
- “Seed” *zera* which refers to the Davidic posterity
  - “Hidden of face” *hester panim* which is associated with God in the book of Isaiah
  - The coming of the servant is identified as the disclosure of the Lord’s saving power.
- 13. How does the Bible suggest the supernatural nature of the Messiah?**
- His family line goes all the way back to days of long ago
- 14. How does the Bible suggest the supernatural birth of the Messiah?**
- He will be born of a virgin
  - He will be called Immanuel (God with us)
- 15. What will be the scope of the rule of the Messiah?**
- All nations will serve Him

## #5 The Messiah II

- 1. Can a Biblical prophet also predict the *exact* time of a future event?**
  - Yes!
- 2. What is the purpose of the 70-week prophecy?**
  - Sin will come to an end
  - Evil will be paid for
  - Everything made known in visions and prophecies will come true
  - The Most Holy Room in the temple will be anointed
- 3. What kind of Messiah is implied in the 70-week prophecy?**
  - A universal Messiah
- 4. What is the starting point of the 70 weeks?**
  - When the order is given by King Artaxerxes in 457 BC to rebuild Jerusalem
- 5. Why is Artaxerxes' decree the one that is intended in the prophecy?**
  - This decree is the most thorough
  - It is the last decree, therefore the only effective one
  - It is the only decree to mention God's intervention
- 6. What kind of "weeks" is implied in the 70-weeks prophecy?**
  - Weeks of years
- 7. Why should the periods of "7 weeks and 62 weeks" be connected together in order to lead to the coming of the Messiah?**
  - The fulfillment of the prophecy is 70 weeks

- 8. What is the moment which marks the end of the 69 weeks (7 plus 62 weeks) hence the predicted moment of the coming of the Messiah?**
  - Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit at His baptism
- 9. What will happen to this Messiah, and how will this event affect “sacrifice and offering”?**
  - He will be cut off
  - He will put an end to sacrifice and offering
- 10. What other event was also predicted in the 70-weeks prophecy?**
  - The city of Jerusalem and the temple would be destroyed
- 11. How did the Jews respond to Jesus?**
  - Everyone said good things about Him
  - Many who heard Him believed
- 12. What was the main argument which convinced many Jews that Jesus was the Messiah?**
  - Jesus fulfilled all the words of the prophets concerning the Messiah
- 13. Who is the only Jewish Messiah who has survived and outgrown local space and time?**
  - Jesus
- 14. Why was it necessary for the Messiah to come a first time?**
  - To fulfill the Old Testament prophecies, including the book of Daniel
- 15. Is it possible for a Jew to believe in Jesus as his Messiah and still remain a Jew?**
  - Yes!

## **#6 Israel and the Church**

- 1. Has God rejected the people of Israel?**
  - No!
- 2. Why does the Church need Israel?**
  - Israel has the Torah (the Law)
- 3. Why does Israel need the Church?**
  - Through the church, the world has come to know the God of Israel
- 4. What does the Church need to learn from Israel?**
  - The church can learn from Israel about the Torah
- 5. What does Israel need to learn from the Church?**
  - Israel can learn from the church about the Messiah
- 6. How did the Jews respond to the message of Jesus when he came?**
  - The majority of the people, both Jews and Gentiles were following after Jesus
  - Everyone praised Him
- 7. Who was responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus?**
  - Jews, priests, Romans, Christians, all of us!
- 8. How did the Jews in general respond to the testimony of the early Christians?**
  - Thousands of Jews became believers

- 9. Why has it become difficult for the Jews to be receptive to the Christian testimony?**
- 2,000 years of anti-Semitism
  - Many Christians have rejected the Law
- 10. When did anti-Semitism begin?**
- In New Testament times
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Century AD
  - When the church forgot its roots
- 11. What are the three main stages of the history of anti-Semitism?**
- 4<sup>th</sup> Century AD – Birth of anti-Semitism
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Century AD – Steeped in violence and economic problems
  - 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Century AD – Characterized by racism
- 12. What are the main characteristics of psychological anti-Semitism?**
- Language that characterizes people on the basis of race rather than individuality
- 13. What are the main characteristics of theological anti-Semitism?**
- Jews are responsible for the death of Christ so their persecution is the will of God
- 14. What is the relationship between Israel and the Church?**
- They are two complementary witnesses who testify to the same God and the same story in different ways
- 15. How does Biblical prophecy predict the future of the relations between Israel and the church?**
- They will be united

## **#7 The Torah**

- 1. When was the law of God mentioned for the first time?**
  - In the Garden of Eden
- 2. How should the law of God be received by men?**
  - As a gift of grace
- 3. Why should humans keep the law?**
  - Because God loves us
  - Because of God's grace
  - Because we love Him
- 4. What is the internal clue in the Ten Commandments which suggests that they are universal and apply to all men and women?**
  - God as creator lies at the heart of the 10 Commandments because the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment regarding the Sabbath reminds us of God's creative acts
- 5. What other laws point to the same universal scope as the Decalogue?**
  - Dietary laws
- 6. What are the social/civil laws which are not universal and are no more relevant today?**
  - Slavery
  - Punishment
  - Garment
  - Agriculture
- 7. What cultic/ceremonial laws are not universal and are no longer relevant today?**
  - Sacrifices
- 8. What clues suggest an essential difference between the Decalogue and the laws dealing with sacrifices?**
  - The Decalogue was written by God; the sacrificial laws were written by Moses

- The Decalogue was written by God on tables of stone (permanent); the sacrificial laws were written in a book (temporary)
  - The Decalogue was entrusted by God to Moses who placed it *in* the ark; the sacrificial laws were entrusted by Moses to priests who placed them *beside* the ark
9. **What kind of laws did the ancient rabbis and the early Christians declare binding for the non-Jews as well as for the Jews?**
- Moral laws
  - Dietary laws
10. **Does the experience of “renewal of covenant” (*teshuvah*) encouraged by the Hebrew prophets between God and Israel imply the abrogation of the law?**
- No!
11. **Does the experience of “renewal of covenant” (*teshuvah*) encouraged by the teaching of the New Testament imply the abrogation of the law?**
- No!
12. **Why does the experience of “renewal of covenant” imply the observance of the Law?**
- If we love God, we will obey Him.
13. **What will characterize God’s people in the “last days” in regard to the Law?**
- They will obey God’s laws
  - They are faithful to Jesus
14. **How will the nations respond to the Law in Messianic times?**
- Positively
15. **What is the purpose of the Law?**
- To set us free
  - To make us alive
  - To make us aware of our sin
  - To guide us

## **#8 The Shabbat**

- 1. What historical event of the past should the Shabbat be a reminder of to every human being?**
  - Creation
- 2. What other particular event has been given to Israel as a reason for observing the Shabbat?**
  - Deliverance from slavery
- 3. Was the Shabbat also designed for the non-Jews?**
  - Yes!
- 4. Did the Shabbat commandment precede the gift of the Torah on Sinai?**
  - Yes!
- 5. What is the place of the Shabbat in the Decalogue?**
  - The heart, or the middle
- 6. Why did Jesus like to perform his miracles on Shabbat?**
  - Because the Sabbath is for doing good and for deliverance
- 7. Did Jesus intend to abrogate the Shabbat?**
  - No!
- 8. Did the early Christians keep the Shabbat?**
  - Yes!



- 9. Why did Christians choose later to replace the Shabbat with Sunday?**
- Constantine decreed it
  - The Council of Laodicea decreed it
  - Marcion ordered it to be a day for fasting
- 10. How did this charge affect relations between Israel and the Church?**
- It drove a wedge between Jews and Christians and made it very difficult for Jews to become Christians
- 11. Is the commandment of the Shabbat still relevant today?**
- Yes!
- 12. What other divine institution has been associated with the Shabbat in the Bible? Why?**
- Marriage
  - They were both given at creation
- 13. How should we experience the Shabbat?**
- A delight
- 14. Who is responsible to “make” the Sabbath “holy”?**
- God
  - Us
- 15. Why is the Shabbat a sign of hope?**
- It is hope of the joy and delight of the new heavens and new earth that God will one day create

## **#9 Creation**

- 1. Why does the Bible begin with the Creation story?**
  - Creation is very important because it is the starting point of faith
- 2. What is the first lesson of Creation?**
  - Worship
  - There is a God who created us
- 3. What is the most compelling evidence of God's existence?**
  - His creation
  - Our existence
- 4. How did God create the world?**
  - He spoke
- 5. How long did God take to create our universe?**
  - 6 days
- 6. How does the Bible describe each work of creation?**
  - God saw that it was good
- 7. What kind of days are the days of the Creation week?**
  - 24 hr. days
- 8. How did God proceed to mark days and seasons?**
  - Sun, moon and stars

- 9. What lessons about God can we learn from the Creation story?**
- There are two names for, or faces of God: Elohim – the great and powerful God who is far away and YHWH Adonai – the God who is close and personal.
  - Power and love coexist together
- 10. What was God’s purpose in creating the world?**
- For the enjoyment of His created beings
- 11. What should be the human response to the fact that God created the world?**
- Enjoy life
  - Rest on the Sabbath
  - Be grateful
- 12. How did the Marcionite rejection of the God of Creation affect the Jewish-Christian separation?**
- It helped to create and intensify it
- 13. How is faith in creation implied in the Biblical hope?**
- The Biblical hope lies in a “new” creation, which implies a former creation
- 14. What is the Jewish or the New Testament ritual that points to the Biblical event of creation?**
- Baptism
- 15. What lesson is suggested through the way the Bible begins and ends?**
- As in creation where everything was good and very good, so will re creation be

## #10 Eating and Drinking

1. **What is the ideal diet given by God at Creation for humankind?**
  - Vegetarian
2. **What will be the diet of the “world to come” according to the Hebrew prophets?**
  - Vegetarian
3. **Were there other occasions in the ancient history of Israel when God tried to put His people on an exclusive vegetarian regime?**
  - Yes, He gave them manna during their wanderings in the wilderness
4. **Is vegetarianism in line with Jewish tradition?**
  - Yes
5. **How can we reconcile the vegetarian statement of Genesis 1 with God’s permission to eat animal flesh after the flood?**
  - It was not the ideal diet but God allowed it with the stipulation that the lifeblood of the animal must not be in it. He probably allowed it because the world’s vegetation had been temporarily destroyed by the flood.
6. **What kinds of animals were humans allowed or forbidden to eat?**

Those allowed include:

  - Animals that have hoofs that are separated completely in two and that chew the cud
  - Fish that have fins and scales
  - Some birds and insects
7. **What reasons have been given to justify the dietary laws?**
  - Holiness
  - Spiritual, Ethical, Health or Hygiene

8. **What additional restriction is required when eating clean meat?**
  - The blood must not be eaten
9. **Why was it forbidden to eat blood?**
  - Life is sacred
10. **What is the Biblical position regarding the use of alcoholic beverages?**
  - The Bible does not forbid the drinking of alcohol but attaches a negative connotation to it and gives warnings against it
11. **What is the lesson contained in the first stories of the consumption of wine recorded in the Hebrew Scriptures?**
  - Wine drinking is associated with immorality
12. **What class of Israelites had to abstain from drinking alcohol?**
  - The priests
13. **Is it consistent to keep *kosher* and indulge oneself in habits that are dangerous to one's health?**
  - No
14. **What *halakha* (traditional rule) has been referred to against the usage of tobacco?**
  - You should preserve your life
15. **What divine promises are associated with the observance of those Biblical principles?**
  - Things will go well with you and you will live a long time in the land

## **#11 The Nature of Man**

### **1. How did humans originate?**

- God created us

### **2. What is the human person made of?**

- God created us out of the dust of the ground, and with His breath

### **3. What does the “soul” mean in Hebrew?**

- Individual, throat, the capacity to breathe

### **4. What are the functions of the soul?**

- It can be hungry, thirsty, angry, etc
- It can love, hate, know, worship, die, etc

### **5. What are the functions of the flesh, or the body?**

- Same as above

### **6. How did God create man?**

- In His image, or likeness

### **7. Why is it forbidden to kill men?**

- In a sense you are killing God since man is made in His image

### **8. What does the fact that God created man in His image imply for men in their lives?**

- The best way to be your self is to be like God
- He wants us to be like Him
- We are unique

- 9. What is the relationship between the physical (body) and the spiritual (soul) dimension of the human person?**
- *The spiritual and physical dimensions affect each other*
- 10. How does the spiritual dimension affect the physical?**
- The spiritual condition of the person affects their physical health
- 11. How does the physical dimension affect the spiritual?**
- The physical health of a person affects their ability to grasp spiritual concepts
- 12. Why is health a spiritual issue?**
- There is an interconnection between the physical and spiritual
- 13. What is the connection between being alive and being spiritual?**
- Breathing suggests that we are spiritual because “ruah” is both breath and spirit in the Hebrew language
- 14. Can man survive apart from his fellow human beings?**
- No
- 15. How does the nature of man affect his destiny?**
- Our nature is dust plus breath. Our destiny is to return to dust and our breath goes back to Him (God) who gave it.

## #12 Death

**1. Why does man die?**

- Through disobedience man disconnected himself God, from the source of life
- Mankind is sinful

**2. What happens when man dies?**

- He returns to the ground
- Nothing

**3. How is the state of the dead described in the Bible?**

- As sleep

**4. Do the dead know or remember anything of what they left behind?**

- No!

**5. Do the dead know anything, and do they take part in what happens among the living?**

- No!

**6. Do the dead praise or worship God?**

- No!

**7. Where does the idea of the immortality of the soul come from?**

- It is inherited from Greek thought, especially from Plato

**8. Who is the only one to naturally possess immortality?**

- God



- 9. Can the living consult the dead?**
- No!
- 10. What is the Biblical solution to death?**
- Resurrection
- 11. How will resurrection happen?**
- The Bible doesn't tell us but God will bring us to life again
- 12. What will happen to evil and its supporters?**
- Evil will be destroyed
  - They will be burnt up
- 13. Will the wicked burn “eternally” in Gehenna (hell)?**
- No, they will be burnt up
- 14. What Biblical examples attest to the historical reality of resurrection?**
- God created the world out of nothing
  - Elisha resurrected the son of the woman of Shunem
  - Jesus resurrected Lazarus
- 15. What will ultimately happen to death?**
- Death will be destroyed

## **#13 Prophecy and History**

- 1. How did God identify Himself to Moses?**
  - I will be who I will be
- 2. What message was often given through the Biblical names of persons?**
  - A prophecy, or a message of the future
- 3. What is the criterion for the true prophecy coming from God?**
  - When the words of the prophet come true
- 4. Why were the Hebrew prophets capable of predicting the future?**
  - Because of their connection with God
- 5. How does the Bible regard human divination and future telling?**
  - The Bible warns against it
- 6. How far could the prophet Daniel see into the future?**
  - Until the end of time
- 7. What do the metals of Daniel 2 and the animals of Daniel 7 represent?**
  - Kingdoms
- 8. What earthly kingdom is represented by the gold in Daniel 2 and the lion in Daniel 7?**
  - Babylon

- 9. What earthly kingdom is represented by the silver in Daniel 2 and the bear in Daniel 7?**
- Medo – Persia
- 10. What earthly kingdom is represented by the bronze in Daniel 2 and the leopard in Daniel 7?**
- Greece
- 11. What earthly kingdom is represented by the fourth entity, the iron in Daniel 2 and the beast with the ten horns in Daniel 7?**
- Rome
- 12. What spiritual power will grow out of the fourth animal?**
- The little horn
- 13. How long will this spiritual power of the fourth kingdom last?**
- Until God sets up His kingdom
- 14. What kingdom is represented by the last entity - the stone in Daniel 2 and the Son of Man in Daniel 7?**
- God's kingdom
- 15. What spiritual or even historical lessons can be taken from the study of this prophecy?**
- There is another kingdom in the future that will last forever – the kingdom of God

## #14 Judgement

1. **What was the main function of the judge in Biblical times?**
  - To save
2. **Why shouldn't we be afraid of the Day of Judgment?**
  - Because judgment is given "*in favor of*" God's people
3. **On what special occasion did the ancient Israelites anticipate the great Day of the future judgment of God (*Yom ha-Din*)?**
  - The Day of Atonement
4. **How should we anticipate the Day of Judgment?**
  - As something positive
5. **Who and what will be judged by God?**
  - Every person, both good and evil, and everything they have done
6. **When should we expect the Day of Judgment to take place?**
  - At the end of time, before the coming of the Messiah
7. **"How long" will the prophetic period last until the Day of Judgment begins?**
  - 2300 evenings and mornings, or 2300 years
8. **What are the elements of Daniel's prophecy that associate the "time of the end" with the Day of Atonement?**
  - A goat and a ram used in the sacrificial system as

sin offerings and burnt offerings

9. **To what other event is the Day of Judgment of Daniel 7 connected in the book of Daniel?**
  - The cleansing of the sanctuary
10. **What is the starting point of the 2300 evenings and mornings leading to the beginning of the heavenly Day of Judgment?**
  - The decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem by King Artaxerses
11. **What is the date of the end of the 2300 evenings and mornings?**
  - 1844
12. **What will be the role of the Messiah in the Day of Judgment?**
  - King
13. **How and on what basis will the divine judgment proceed?**
  - Gods books will be opened
14. **What is the human counterpart that is contemporary on earth to the heavenly judgment?**
  - Daniel 12:12 – A waiting people
  - Revelation 14 – A proclamation of judgment and creation
15. **What does the expectation of the Day of Judgment imply for us in our daily existence?**
  - Hope for the future and an ethical life

## **#15 Life with God**

- 1. What choice did God grant to Adam and then ultimately to Israel?**
  - Life or death
  
- 2. Why is life with God the choice for life?**
  - Because God is the source of life
  
- 3. What way of life does the choice for life imply?**
  - Doing what is right
  
- 4. Why is ethics an important ingredient of our religious life?**
  - We should be holy because God is holy – we are His representatives
  
- 5. Why is health an important ingredient of our religious life?**
  - There is a connection between obedience to God and our health
  
- 6. Why is spiritual life a biological necessity?**
  - Everyone who is alive has the breath of life and also the potential to be a spiritual person
  
- 7. Why should we pray?**
  - Because we need to be in connection with God, the life giver who loves us

- 8. How should we pray?**
- We should humble ourselves, look to God and turn from our evil ways
- 9. When should we pray?**
- At all times
- 10. Why should we study the word of God?**
- We will have life
- 11. How should we study the word of God?**
- Obediently
  - Carefully
  - Not forgetting
  - Teaching it to our children and grandchildren
- 12. How can we reach the ideal choice of life?**
- By allowing God to transform us
- 13. What will God do for those who decide to choose life?**
- God will give us a new heart and a new spirit
- 14. What symbolic act in Judaism and in early Christianity has signified this new commitment for choosing life with God?**
- Baptism by immersion
- 15. What are the promises that are associated with this choice of life?**
- The promise of life and blessing

