



EASTER

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Captive To No Ism || Pastor Brian Zahnd || May 9, 2021

1. If you were to audit an entry-level college class in the area of philosophy which one would it be:
 - a. Epistemology (the study of how we know)
 - b. Intro to Greek Philosophy (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle)
 - c. Ethics (moral theory and principles)
 - d. None of the above (philosophy is boring!)

2. What was your initial encounter with Jesus like?

Read Colossians 2:1-10

3. What are the problems with conflating Jesus with the Bible? How are the two unique?
4. The Bible is sacred, precious, and inspired, but what limitations do we experience if we have Bible knowledge, but never experience the risen Christ?
5. Paul does not say we cannot use philosophy, but that we are not to be held captive by it. In what ways do people get trapped by a philosophy, an “ism”, an ideology, or a specific way of thinking?
6. What does it mean for modern American politics to be infused with religious energy? Why is this phenomenon a temptation for American Christians?
7. What is the polarizing dynamic between Simon the Zealot and Matthew the Tax Collector? What does this duo teach us about how we should relate to people who do not share our political opinions?
8. Pastor Brian said, “The kingdom of God is built by sacrificial love.” What does this kind of love look like in action?
9. Why did Jesus avoid everyone’s cause in order to proclaim the goodness of the kingdom of God?
10. What do you need to do this week to resist the isms in your world?