

Reading & Discussion Questions pp.127-137, 314-326, 335-345, 363-390

1. On page 129 of the text, Dr. Bauer claims that Abram was "the first monotheist." As you look through Genesis 1-11, does the Biblical evidence support this claim? Why or why not?
2. How did God intervene to keep the Pharaoh from "any visits with Sarah"? Also, when Abraham tells Abimelech that Sarah is his sister, how does God intervene to protect Sarah (133-134)?
3. Which major religious group today considers themselves the sons of Ishmael (136)?
4. Why was the Exodus and the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness crucial to the Hebrews (314-315)?
5. What did the rite of circumcision represent? Why did Joshua have this rite performed on all the males prior to entering the Promised Land (316)?
6. Which elements of the reign of Solomon sowed the seeds of the division of the kingdom into Israel and Judah after his death (325-328)?
7. What were the consequences of the idol worship that Ahab and Jezebel introduced into Israel (339)?
8. God works both through normal means and outside of normal means to accomplish His will. We see this in God's deliverance of Hezekiah from the armies of Sennacherib. Read 2 Kings 18-19 and p. 386-387 in your textbook, and answer the following questions:
 - A. What did Hezekiah do after the Rabshekah publicly mocks the Lord God?
 - B. What did God do in response?