1. Can any obedient Servant of God die before completing his God-ordained mission on Earth? Substantiate your answer with examples.

Ans…In Revelation 11:7 it is written with reference to the two Jewish witnesses that they will be overcome and killed by the beast after they finish their testimony. No obedient Servant of God can die before completing his/her God ordained mission on Earth. God ordains supernatural protection and providence upon His servants and ensures that they will complete their mission on earth before they are taken into Heaven. **** Jesus affirms this in His life as seen in John 7:30 “Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come”. **** Again in John 8:20 “These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.” ****

Thus the two witnesses during Tribulation have a short mission on earth and are killed by the beast after they complete their mission. ****

2. Who kills the 2 Witnesses who had proclaimed the Gospel in Jerusalem? What are the 2 subsequent events following their death which Apostle John may have felt quite "ODD" whilst recording? Are those subsequent 2 events possible now? If so, what does it prove?

Ans…In Revelation 11: 7 The two Witnesses who proclaimed the Gospel in Jerusalem are killed by the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit. The events that follow their death is described in verses 8 to 10 where John writes that their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city and ALL people from many tribes, tongues and nations will see their dead bodies. Then people across the world will rejoice over the death of the Prophets and send gifts to one another and celebrate their death. These are the two events that John may have felt ODD and must have wondered in his mind as to how the Prophets would be killed in Jerusalem and the whole world will see the death. Also John was perplexed as to how people will send gifts to each other internationally.

The events that John found impossible to even imagine are a normal part of our lives, and now living in a global village thanks to technology we regularly see virtually through internet and satellite technology everything that is occurring in different parts of the world. Also because of massive online shopping platforms like Amazon and Flipkart, sending gifts to people in any part of the world is a very easy affair. The two Prophets supposedly tormented wicked of the whole earth with the message of the Gospel and on their death, people are exchanging gifts across the continents in three and a half days. Thus, this proves that the time is close for the events that John saw in a vision to become a reality. ****

**If Tribulation is imminent, then Rapture is more imminent. And our response is to be alert (see if our lives are in consonance with Acts 9:21/2 Cor 13:5) and tell others lovingly about our Blessed Hope of Rapture (1 Peter 3:15).**

3.What happens eventually as regards this 2 witnesses? Can their mission be treated as successful? If so, on what basis?

Ans…The two witnesses had a short mission to preach the Gospel for one thousand two hundred and sixty days (That is, exactly 3 ½ years). But their mission was extremely successful because it was filled with signs and wonders and too powerful to behold. During their time of ministry, they enjoyed supernatural protection as anyone who wanted to harm them would be devoured by the fire that proceeded from their mouth. They had exceeding power over nature, to stop the rain, to turn water into blood and to strike the earth with diseases whenever they desired. This kind of preaching the Gospel along with signs and miracles will produce an abundant harvest of souls as the world is in tribulation and great suffering. The Seal judgements and trumpet judgements would have wreaked havoc on the world eco system and people would be in such agony. Thus many will find solace in the ministry of the two Witnesses and will give their lives to Jesus Christ and receive salvation. **** **They lived and died for the glory of God (Rom 14:7-8).**

Not only were the two witnesses fruitful during their life, after their death, more miracles are witnessed. After being dead for 3 ½ days, they are resurrected and come back to life. Immediately, people hear the voice of God saying “Come up here” they are taken to heaven and they see them ascending to heaven in a cloud. Rev 11: 12. The whole life and death of these two witnesses are absolutely supernatural and after their Ascension to heaven, a great earthquake takes place on the earth resulting 1/10 of the city being destroyed and in the death of seven thousand people. **This results in people whose hearts have been softened by the Ministry of these 2 Witnesses to give glory to the God of Heaven. Rev 11:13 unlike previous occasions when Judgments were followed by continual rebellion (an offshoot of hardened hearts).** So everything about the life, witness, death, resurrection, ascension of these two Witnesses is supernatural and awesome and this will compel people to believe the truth that they are preaching and it will be a very fruitful and powerful ministry winning many souls for the Lord Jesus.

1. Do natural calamities follow the end of mission of 2 witnesses? What are they?

Yes, Natural calamities do occur after the end of the mission of the 2 witnesses. First in Rev11:13 we see a great earth quake. It destroys a tenth of the city/ Jerusalem. 7000 people perish in this earthquake. ****

Rev 11:15-19: After the 7th trumpet is blown, we see a chain of natural calamities recorded here. Lightning flashed, thunder crashed and roared. There was a great hailstorm, and the world was shaken by a mighty earthquake. A series of natural calamities after the ascension of the two witnesses occurred.

1. What are the past and present (in the context of 22nd Chapter) dimensions related to first vision Apostle John sees in the 12th Chapter?

Ans…The present dimension is the Red Dragon trying to destroy and kill the woman who represents the Nation of Israel. She was wearing Sun and looking glorious. She was sitting on the moon which also is associated with Israel. She was having a crown with twelve stars which represent the twelve tribes. She was pregnant and the Red dragon wants to devour the baby as soon as she would deliver. The world received salvation through the Nation of Israel. Christ our Saviour came from Israel. So Satan from the beginning wanted to destroy Israel. He wanted to wipe out that Nation (especially the 144,000 Jewish Evangelists) and thwart God’s Salvation plan. But God has prepared a safe place for this woman/Israel and the Jews will be taken care 1260 days in the wilderness which may be Petra of Edom. Rev 12:6. 144,000 while going about their evangelism (the fruit of their evangelism and testimony of several saved Jews is figuratively the “baby” of salvation) will also be safe in God’s hands without being harmed by Antichrist.

In the past too we see how Satan wanted to wipe out the Davidic lineage from which would emerge the Messiah. In II Kings 11:1-3 we see how Jehosheba the daughter of king Jehoram saved the life of infant Joash. She and her husband priest Jehoiada kept that child in the temple and saved his life when his grandmother Athalia the daughter of wicked queen Jezebel killed all her grandsons to rule the kingdom. But for the efforts of Jehosheba and her husband, the David lineage would have been wiped out. So we see amazing Divine providence in the life of infant Joash being saved.

Secondly we see again how Satan tried to wipe out the Jews through Hamaan. Esther 3:1-6. Again God intervened and saved the Jewish race. Satan from day one didn’t want the plan of salvation to accomplish.

6. Who did the Chapter divisions and when? Who did the verse division of verses and when?

A man named Stephen Langton divided the Bible into chapters in the year A.D. 1227. The Bible he used was the Latin Vulgate. Langton was a professor at the University of Paris at the time. Later, he became the Archbishop of Canterbury. ****

Modern verse division for the New Testament was the work of Robert Stephanus (Stephens) also known as **Robert Eistienne**, a French printer. He divided the Greek text into verses for his Greek New Testament published in 1551.

7. Has the Chapter division been done perfectly? Substantiate your answer with examples...

The Chapter division has not been done perfectly as we see that sometimes the context of one chapter is spread over the last part of the preceding chapter thus many chapters begin with words such as “Therefore..” . This indicates in itself that it is not a beginning of a new topic of discussion, but rather the continuation of the aspect covered in the previous one. The specific case in this point is the following scripture portions.

1. The 53rd chapter of Isaiah is a poem about the Messiah and gives the details of the Lord’s suffering, however, the concluding verses of the 52nd chapter also speaks about the suffering servant Isaiah 52:13-15 Behold My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouth at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider.” Thus these verses should have contextually been part of Chapter 53, but are wrongly included in Chapter 52. ****
2. Similarly, Romans 5:1 starts with “therefore” which means it is a continuation from the previous passage ended in the last two verses of Romans 4th chapter. **The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, 24but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. 25He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Romans 5:1 - Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.** Romans 5th chapter should have started with the last few verses of Romans 4th chapter. ** or the first verses of Romans 5 ought to have figured in the closing section of Chapter 4.**

The background of the above can be seen in Leviticus 16th chapter. God has entered into national covenant. We see Jews observing the festival of atonement. The high priest is commanded to take the blood of the **Ram** from the courtyard and people can see him to get the forgiveness of God. The moment he enters holy place, he will be unseen and then in the holy of holies on the Ark of the Covenant **he places the atoning blood on the mercy seat.** When God accepts the sacrifice, the blood disappears. After he returns he informs to the people that God accepted the sacrifice. ****

When Jesus was buried after crucifixion, He was in public view till then. Afterwards, He went to the heavenly tabernacle and placed His blood before Father and emerged alive after three days. This is a proof that Heavenly Father had accepted the atoning blood of Jesus for the salvation of mankind.

***He came as High Priest of this better system that we now have. He went into that greater, perfect tabernacle in heaven, not made by men nor part of this world, 12and once for all took blood into that inner room, the Holy of Holies, and sprinkled it on the mercy seat; but it was not the blood of goats and calves. No, he took his own blood, and with it he, by himself, made sure of our eternal salvation.-Heb 9:11-12***

8. What are the advantages and disadvantages of Chapter and Verse division of the Bible?

Ans.: Early church did not have chapters and verses division of the Bible. The advantage of having division of chapters is that it is easy to refer to the relevant portion of the scripture. The disadvantage of having Chapter and verse divisions is that Christians have forgotten to memorize the scriptures. Apostle Paul knew that his readers memorized Bible and hence while quoting scriptures **in his epistle to Romans** he mentioned 66 times “**it is written”,** without mentioning any reference **of the OT section of the Bible.**

9. Was Divine turning of the tables act seen in the case of King Saul's disobedience with respect to Amalekites in Biblical history later on? If so, how and when?

Ans…God had given specific instructions to Saul who was from the tribe of Benjamin to kill the Amalekites and to never covet their possessions. This is because of the historical wickedness of the Amalekites as to what they had done to the Israelites when they were coming out of Egypt. When Israelites **were** travelling from Egypt to Canaan, these Amalekites would attack the back portion of the Caravan and only the old and weak people at the end would be their targets. They would cut off the genitals of these weak people and blaspheme God by throwing these private parts towards the skies and challenge and blaspheme God and mocked God saying “Where are you to protect them”. That is why God was so angry with the Amalekites and had commanded the Israelites to wipe them out. ****

Exodus 17: 8-16 records how the Israelites prevailed over the Amalekites and the Lord said to Moses, “Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven”. …for he (Moses) said, “Because the Lord has sworn; the Lord will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.” **** God says in Deut 25: 17-19 “Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt, how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, and he did not fear God. Therefore it shall be, when the Lord your God has given you rest from your enemies all around, in the land which the Lord your God is giving you to possess as an inheritance, that you will blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. You shall not forget”. ****

Inspite of knowing the historical background and God’s stringent command to completely destroy the Amalekites, Saul disobeys in 1 Samuel 15:7-9. Saul attacked the Amalekites but spared Agag, king of the Amalekites and also kept the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good **and was** UNWILLING TO UTTERLY DESTROY THEM. They **(Saul and his soldiers)** destroyed everything they despised and considered worthless but disobeyed God in that Saul did not kill king Agag and coveted the good of their possessions. Though subsequently Samuel killed king Agag, this gave sufficient time for his descendants to escape. Because of this God disqualified Saul and removed him from his position as king. ****

This mistake of Saul had far reaching consequences, where 500 years later, Haman, the Agagite wants to put to death his arch rival Mordecai, the Benjamite along with all the people of Israel. God is zealous about His name and where His people had failed in the past, He will make them win. God turned the tables and saw to it that where Saul had failed, Mordecai and his people won. **** Esther 9:7-11 shows how Mordecai and his men utterly destroyed the wicked Amalekites. Mordecai was the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite. Saul was also the son of Kish, a Benjamite. Haman was the son of Hammedatha the Agagite and he wanted to destroy the Jews. This time, Mordecai and his soldiers, with the permission of Queen Esther, destroy completely the ten sons of Haman, and the five hundred men with them and *did not late lay their hands on the plunder. Hallelujah, Where Saul and his soldiers failed Mordecai and his soldiers win* ***(in a virtual action replay after 500 years) even as God turned the tables around.***

10.Who is the Red Dragon? Why it is having 7 heads? What do these heads symbolize? What is the similarity between the Red Dragon and these 7 heads?

Ans.: Red dragon is symbolic to satan. John sees in the vision that the red dragon is having seven heads. The seven heads represent seven world powers. The similarity between red dragon and the seven heads is that initially these world powers and satan were not bad. They turned bad subsequently. Satan was not bad initially. He was one among three prominent angels viz., Michael, Gabriel and his name was Halel (Hal meaning worship and Yah is God). He was a worship leader in the presence of God in heaven. Later we see sin (pride) entering into him and was thrown down Ezekiel 28:14-15. ****

The seven heads of the red dragon symbolize seven world powers viz., Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-persia, Greek, Romans and the last yet to come is anti-Christ. These kingdoms were pro-Jews initially but turned anti-Jews later. This is the similarity between the red dragon (satan) and these seven heads. The seven kingdoms turning from pro-Jews to anti-Jews is illustrated below: ****

1. Egypt – King Pharaoh was a good king and pro-Jews during Joseph days and in Moses time, another Pharaoh who did not know Joseph turned anti-Jew. ****
2. Assyria –Nineveh was the capital of Assryia. The king of Nineveh was good and humble before God when prophet Jonah went with the message of God. Later Assyrians **under Proud Sennacheib** invaded Israelites **(Judah)** and when the king of Israel **(Judah)** Hezekiah prayed, the angel of God struck 185000 of Assyrians to death(II Kings 19:35). ****
3. Babylon – King Nebuchadnezzar was a flexible king. He gave prominent place to Daniel in his kingdom. Worshipped God after witnessing the presence of God protecting His **people** in the furnace **(privileged title of being “children” given only to Christians-Rom 8:14-16/Gal 4:6)**. Later, King Belshazzar blasphemed God by bringing the sacred vessels of the temple of God and was **warned (wrong word)** **judged** by God. ****
4. Medopersia – King Cyrus was a good king but not King Xerzes. The latter was wicked king. ****
5. Greek – King Alexander humbly sought prayer of a Jewish High Priest for his victory in the battle against the Medo-Persians because his army **was outnumbered by them.** But later King Antiochus Epiphanes defiled the temple of God by sacrificing pig on the brazen altar. ****
6. Romans – King Herod re-modelled the temple of God with the support of Romans which took 46 years. However, in 70 AD, Romans dispersed the Jews from Israel even burning the Temple****

Anti-Christ – Initially he will be good to Jews with his craftiness and by mediating with Arabs and Jews in the matter of construction of Jewish temple but later, he turns out to be the enemy of Jews.

11. What are the 2 continual Ministries going on in Heaven? Who is doing them?

Ans…The two continual ministries going on in Heaven are –

(1) Intercession by our Lord Jesus who is the High Priest and our Mediator, Advocate and Defender of every believer who trusts in Him. He gave up His precious life for us and now He is seated at the right hand of the Father, interceding for us continually. Whatever **unfair** accusation satan brings against us, Jesus always defends us and justifies our actions against the condemnation of satan. **In case, we are in the wrong, Jesus makes us repent.** And as we repent of our wrong doings according to 1 John1:7, the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all unrighteousness. ****

(2) The second continuous ministry (unfortunately) is the ministry of accusation by satan who right now has access to God’s throne and is called as the “Accuser of the brethren”. He has constantly been accusing believers in Christ of vested interests and petitioning to God to attack and punish them based on their sins and shortcomings. We see this in the book of Job 1:6-11 where satan comes to present himself before the Lord and accuses Job of being blameless and upright before God only because God had blessed the work of his hands and his possessions. John sees this ministry of accusation finally comes to an end three and a half years into the Tribulation and there is great rejoicing in Heaven in Rev 12:10 “Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.” Hallelujah!! Glory to God!

12. Where is the Red Dragon seen nowadays as per the Scriptures? When will the Red Dragon forever be cast out of Heaven? What is the Heavenly reaction on Red Dragon being cast out?

The Red Dragon is seen nowadays even from the time of Job, in and out of the presence of God. He goes to the throne of God and accuses the believers of Jesus Christ and petitions to God to punish them when they do something wrong/ **even when they are trying to please God, he attributes vested motives behind the same**. Mid way during the Tribulation, war breaks out in Heaven. Michael and his angels fight with the Dragon and the Dragon and his angels fought, but did not prevail. So the evil Red Dragon, who is called the Devil and Satan will finally be cast out of Heaven and his angels will be cast out with him. As soon as that happens, John sees that there is great rejoicing in Heaven in Rev 12:10 “Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren **(not angels but human Saints),** who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.” Hallelujah!! Glory to God! ****

13. What is the main motive of the Red Dragon as regards humans-God relationship?

After being cast out from Heaven, the Red Dragon is cast into the earth and his main motive is to take as many people away from God as possible. He does not want to go to hell alone, so with hatred in his heart, he wishes to take people from the right track as fast as possible since he knows that his time is short. The Dragon knows that God’s heart is broken when anyone sides with satan, because God did not create hell for human beings, but He created it for satan.

14.What is unholy Trinity?

Ans.: The unholy trinity is the (Red Dragon)/Satan, Anti-Christ(Beast of the sea) and False Prophet(Beast of the land) symbolizing God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit respectively in the Holy Trinity. **Rev.13:1 - The dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on its horns, and on each head a blasphemous name.** The beast had seven heads with seven crown and one of its head had ten crown representing ten kings worked to assist Roman kingdom.

15. How can we say that Antichrist will wield greater influence than False Prophet during the Tribulation period? What will be the relationship between AC and the False prophet during the Tribulation?

The False Prophet will be the assistant of Antichrist during the Tribulation period. In the vision, John sees the antichrist coming from the sea and the false prophet coming out of the land. This indicates that antichrist coming out from the sea which covers the greater part of the world, will wield greater influence in the world when compared to the false prophet who is coming out of the land which occupies lesser portion on the planet. If we consider antichrist is the Captain, then the False Prophet would be the Vice Captain. If antichrist is the President, then false prophet will be the Vice President.