

**Simply Christ**  
Gospel Newsletter  
*Sharing the simplicity that is in Christ*

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## **Making God a Liar**

The Serpent was the first to accuse God of being a liar. As he challenged Eve to eat of the forbidden tree, she replied with what God had told them, saying, *“But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.”* Genesis 3:3. The Serpent’s reply was an accusation against God. The Serpent said, *“Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”* Genesis 3:4-5. The message was clear. “God is lying to you. He knows you will not die, but you will become as he is because you will know what he knows.”

Adam and Eve had not forgotten what God said, but the Serpent convinced them that they would not die when they ate of the forbidden tree. In their minds, “God was either mistaken, or he outright lied to them.” But God is never mistaken, and he does not lie. If they had believed God, they would never have eaten of the fruit which brought such death and pain upon us all.

Adam and Eve were created in innocence and all things were put under their dominion. Yet, when tested, they were found to lack this most important attribute required in those who would

walk with God. Their unbelief led them to disobey, and their disobedience deliver all humanity into the clutches of Sin and Satan. From that day forward, God always sought out those who would believe what he said.

Faith is to believe what God says and trust him to keep his word. This “faith” is so important to God that he considers it to be a manifestation of righteousness. The Bible speaks of Abraham, that *“... he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness”* Genesis 15:6. God found in Abraham what he did not find in Adam. Abraham was childless, and his wife Sarah was barren. Yet, when God promised Abraham that his seed would be as the stars of heaven in number, Abraham believed that God was telling the truth. God knew that he could fulfill great promise upon this man because he possessed a righteous virtue called faith. The scripture calls it *“the righteousness of faith.”* Romans 4:13.

This may sound strange to some, but Abraham’s faith told God everything he needed to know about Abraham. Adam and Eve’s unbelief caused them to disobey God. Abraham’s faith ensured that he would obey God. When God tested Abraham, the scripture says, he *“...offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead...”* Hebrews 11:17-19. Abraham’s faith is the reason he obeyed God. In response, God swore by himself, saying, *“...And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be*

*blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*” It was evident that this man Abraham was not just another Adam.

Abraham believed God’s “staggering” promise that he and his barren wife would have a child. This *“righteousness of faith”* which was in Abraham was the basis for all the promises he received from God. God has given us different promises than what was spoken to Abraham. Yet, everything we receive from God depends on whether we believe God’s word is true, or untrue. God offers us the great promises of redemption which come through Christ Jesus. When these “staggering” promises come to us, God looks to see if we will be like Adam, or like Abraham. If we have *“an evil heart of unbelief”* Hebrews 3:12 like Adam and Eve, we will receive nothing from God, but if we have a heart of faith like Abraham, there is no limit to what God can do in us.

To God, whether you believe him or not is a very serious matter. When you believe God, you are attesting that God is true Romans 3:4, but when you do not believe God, you are acting like God is a liar. The Apostle John confirms this when he says, *“...he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.”* 1 John 5:10. It is a dangerous thing to make God a liar!

This *“record that God gave of his Son”* is summed up in the words *“Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God”* Matthew 16:16. God sent Gabriel to tell us that Christ would come into the world *“...to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for*

*iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness...*" Daniel 9:24. This record was given to us by the prophets and confirmed by Jesus and the Apostles. The Apostle John told us that Jesus Christ "*...was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.*" 1 John 3:5-6. This record is "*the truth*" which Jesus said will make those who know it "*free indeed.*" John 8:36.

I could list many more scriptural verses showing the record God gave of his Son, but these are without value to the one who does not believe that God is true. This single most important question faces every person which has lived from Adam until now. **"Is God true, or, is God a liar?"** God is waiting for your answer!