

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

November 7, 2022

## **Believing in Jesus Christ**

Adam, Eve, and the children of Israel are the great examples of those who knew God and saw his works, but “...*believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:*” Psalms 78:22. Because the children of Israel did not believe and trust God, God swore in his wrath, “...*They shall not enter into my rest*” Hebrews 3:11, and that entire generation perished in the wilderness. When Adam and Eve did not trust God, they lost their paradise and delivered all humanity into the hands of Satan and Sin. In both cases, these who knew that God existed and saw his mighty works, did not trust God, meaning they did not believe in God.

Abraham not only believed God; he trusted God! Through believing and trusting God, he became “*heir of the world*” and “*the father of all them that believe.*” Romans 4:11. His example shows us what it means to “*believe in the LORD.*” God found in Abraham a precious righteous virtue which was lacking in both Adam and Eve, and in the children of Israel. This was the righteous virtue of “*believing in God.*” The Bible tells us that Abraham “...*believed in the LORD; and he (God) counted it to him for righteousness.*” Genesis 15:6.

Jesus spoke to his disciples who believed in God, saying, “***ye believe in God, believe also in me.***”

John 14:1. This was instruction for them to trust in Jesus Christ just as they trusted in his Father. If they would do this, there would be no limit as to what Christ could do in them.

To *“believe in God”* is simply to believe what God says and trust him to perform his word. To *“believe in Jesus Christ”* is to believe the promises God gave concerning Christ, and to trust in Jesus to fulfill those promises in us.

Believing in Jesus begins with same revelation Peter expressed, saying to Jesus, *“Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”* Matthew 16:16. Peter knew that Jesus was the promised Christ who came to *“...save his people from their sins.”* Matthew 1:21. The truth that Christ’s reason for coming was to deliver us from sin is so central to believing in Jesus Christ that Jesus said, *“...if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”* John 8:24. Yet, just seven verses later, Jesus spoke to those who believed in him, saying, *“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”* John 8:32. Look at the contrast in these verses. Those who receive and believe his word will be made free from sin, but those who do not believe in him will die in their sins.

Believing in Jesus is not just believing a doctrine. It is not just believing Jesus exists, or even just believing that he is the Son of God. Those who believe in Christ, trust in Christ. They trust him to fulfill all that God promised Christ would do in them and upon them. This is the reason we are

sent to preach the “*gospel of Christ.*” It is the basis for trusting in Jesus Christ.

Some people think that faith is just believing something about Jesus. That is not faith; it is delusion. The gospel of Christ as it is recorded in the scripture is the only basis for true faith. Paul speaks of trusting in Christ, saying, “In whom ye also *trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation...*” Ephesians 1:13. Until we hear the truth of the gospel we have no real basis for trusting in Christ. This is why so many professing believers are swept away by the storms of life, the working of sin, and the winds of deception. They have confused trusting in Christ with trusting the follies and religious fables of men.

Consider the promises listed below given to those who “believe in him,” which is to believe the record God gave concerning Jesus Christ and trust in Christ to fulfill that work in you.

*“...whosoever believeth in him **should not perish...**”* John 3:16.

*“...believeth on me **shall never thirst.**”* John 6:35.

*“He that believeth on me **hath everlasting life.**”*  
John 6:47.

*“He that believeth on me, ... **out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.**”* John 7:38.

*“...he that believeth in me, **though he were dead, yet shall he live.**”* John 11:25.

*“...whosoever liveth and believeth in me **shall never die.**”* John 11:26.

*"... whosoever believeth on me **should not abide in darkness.**"* John 12:46.

*"He that believeth on me, the **works that I do shall he do also...**"* John 14:12.

*"...whosoever believeth in him shall receive **remission (freedom) of sins.**"* Acts 10:43.

*"...gave he **power (privilege) to become the sons of God,** even to them that believe on his name:"* John 1:12.