

You Believe in God, Believe also in Me

John 14: 1

John 14: 1 - Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Most people believe in God. Explain various beliefs & religions - then & now. The devil doesn't care who you worship; as long as it is not Our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4: 1-7 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, & not of us.

The God of the Old Testament was perceived by many to be just waiting to zap them, for any infraction; just like Jupiter or Zeus. People went to great lengths to appease their gods. Paul ran into them at Athens.

Acts 17: 16-34 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him. Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babblers say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection. And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is ? For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean. (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to

hear some new thing.) Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, & breath, & all things; & hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, & hath determined the times before appointed, & the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, & find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, & move, & have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art & man's device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: & others said, We will hear thee again of this matter. So Paul departed from among them. Howbeit certain men clave unto him, & believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, & a woman named Damaris, & others with them.

Not everyone quivered in anticipating fear of God. A few had such a good relationship, that they didn't die; but went straight into the presence of God when they were finished here on earth. Genesis 5: 21 to 24 - And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah: And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.

2 Kings 2: 9-14 And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall

not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

But there was another. Even though he wasn't taken up in a chariot of fire; he had a special relationship with God. Acts 13:22 And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, & said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

And God wanted everyone to have that special relationship with Him.

Paul recounts how He did it. Acts 13:14-41 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, & sat down. And after the reading of the law & the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men & brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on. Then Paul stood up, & beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, & ye that fear God, give audience. The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, & exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, & with an high arm brought he them out of it. And about the time of 40 years suffered he their manners in the wilderness. And when he had destroyed 7 nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot. And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of 450 years, until Samuel the prophet. And afterward they desired a king: & God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of 40 years. And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, & said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will. Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus: When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance

to all the people of Israel. And as John fulfilled his course, he said, Whom think ye that I am? I am not he. But, behold, there cometh one after me, whose shoes of his feet I am not worthy to loose. Men & brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, & whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent. For they that dwell at Jerusalem, & their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him. And though they found no cause of death in him, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain. And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, & laid him in a sepulchre. But God raised him from the dead: And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people. And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David. Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, & was laid unto his fathers, & saw corruption: But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption. Be it known unto you therefore, men & brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: & by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; Behold, ye despisers, & wonder, & perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.

And as we go through the Epistle of Hebrews, we get a much more detailed account of Our Lord Jesus Christ. While He was the Fulness of God; He came in human form. He really was the Son of God, and the Son of Man. And as He revealed Himself to the people; many could not comprehend it.

John 15:24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.

John 5: 37 & the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.

John 14:7,9 If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: & from henceforth ye know him, & have seen him. 9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, & yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; & how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?

The Pharisees really went ballistic when Our Lord told them of His Abilities. Matthew 9: 6 - But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

And when Our Lord shed His Blood, that paid the debt for all of humanity. 1John 1: 7 - But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Now we are under the New Covenant, and covered in God's Grace; with Jesus Christ as our High Priest. And He has extended an invitation to all. Matthew 11:28-30 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Under the Old Covenant, people were going around with a guilty conscience; "What have I done wrong now?" But now, Hebrews 9: 8 to 14 - The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us . For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of

an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

So when Our Lord says in John 14: 1 - Believe in me; what is He mean? He is showing us the new way. John 14: 6 - Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Acts 16: 30,31 - And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Luke 8:11-15 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, & taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe & be saved. They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; & these have no root, which for a while believe & in time of temptation fall away. And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, & are choked with cares & riches & pleasures of this life, & bring no fruit to perfection. But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest & good heart, having heard the word, keep it, & bring forth fruit with patience.

Romans 10:9,13 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, & shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Acts 8:37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. & he answered & said I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Matthew 10:37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: & he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

Acts 8: 4 to 25 - Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many

that were possessed with them : and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. And there was great joy in that city. But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me. And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

We need the Real Jesus Christ, as revealed in the Bible.

There are many false Jesus' out there; be careful.

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