

Four Things to Believe

Are you a believer? What do you believe? We need to know what the Bible tells us to believe. Looking into the Word of God, we find there are “Four Things To Believe.”

1. Believe that He is . . .

To please God we must have faith or belief in what He tells us and expects us to believe. The first thing we are to believe is that God is.

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and . . .” Hebrews 11:6

God always was, always is, and always will be. God has no beginning or ending. “God is.” His very existence shows in the creation around us. The interconnecting of the ecology in the earth and the universe clearly prove to us that a Master plan is in place and in control. Only Almighty God could conceive and cause our human bodies to exist, perform, and reproduce as they do.

The basic belief is that there is one true God who has all knowledge, power and presence. We can know Him as a faithful Father who is always planning and caring for us, His children.

2. Believe that He is a Rewarder

The same verse in Hebrews continues with the second thing to believe about God:

“believe that He ... is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Hebrew 11:6

God rewards His people who acknowledge Him and seek Him. God has a desire to help us and fellowship with us. “God is a rewarder.” However, He requires us to make a step toward Him. After our step of seeking Him, He fulfills His side of the agreement to also draw near to us and reward us.

There is a condition we must meet to receive the reward. Our seeking must be genuine and diligent. This means we should have a deep, strong desire to consistently be near Him and in fellowship with Him. His promise is that we will never be disappointed or deserted.

“...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” Hebrews 13:5

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God never lacks or runs out of what we need. His supply is boundless and He is a giving God (Philippians 4:19). This nature of God was revealed in Jesus the Son. While he was in bodily form on the earth, He gave to those in need of healing, money, or wisdom. Jesus gave the ultimate gift of His life so that we could have eternal life and that life more abundantly (John 10:10).

The rewards to the diligent seekers is shown in the lives of the Israelites, years before Jesus was on the earth. The nation of Judah ruled by King Jehoshaphat, proved with their actions that they believed that God is and is a rewarder. In 2nd Chronicles 20, we see them attacked by a mighty host of enemies. The king called the people together to seek the Lord God with prayer and fasting.

The Lord heard the people and rewarded them. He said through His prophet that the battle was not theirs but His. The people should go out with praise and thanksgiving and see the salvation of the Lord. The enemies were destroyed by the Lord as He caused them to fight among themselves. The wealth and plunder of their enemies' was waiting for God's people who **"believed God is and God is a rewarder."**

3. Believe the Gospel

Our third belief comes directly from Jesus' teaching. Jesus came to bring good news to all people. The gospel is good news that He makes a way for us. After John the Baptist was put into prison, Jesus began preaching:

"And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." *Mark 1:15*

Jesus was announcing a new provision for the believers. The gospel or good news was here to offer a new covenant to all people. This covenant or agreement fulfilled the prophecy and promise of God which came in the person of Jesus.

The gospel offers a relationship between God and man, which eliminates the sin that separates us from Him. Better than covering over their sin for a year, as with the old covenant, this new covenant destroys sin, to be remembered no more by God.

To receive, man must believe that Jesus was the offering and payment for his sin. That is the gospel! "Believe The Gospel." The Gospel is the door way into the love of God.

"...(nothing)... shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in

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Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:39

We must all individually believe and be saved from the verdict of eternal punishment and separation from God. We are forever joined to God through the gospel under the new covenant, testament. To insure the last will and testament of Jesus is carried out and executed properly, Jesus was raised from the dead to enforce the promise of the gospel to all those who believe.

As a surety of the promise, The Spirit of God comes to fill us with God's character, love and power.

4. Believe on the Name

God the Father honored Jesus with a name above all names. The Apostle John's writings shows us the fourth belief we should have:

“And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. “

1 John 3:23

Our salvation and our victorious living is based on the all powerful name of Jesus. By His resurrection Jesus defeated death, hell, and the grave. This victory puts Jesus' name above all names that can be named.

“ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.”

Phillipians 2:9

From this position all things on the earth must acknowledge that Jesus is Lord. “Believe on the name of His Son Jesus.” He gives us authority to pray and ask anything in His name. By using the Name and our position as believers, we are expected to do even greater works for the Kingdom of God.

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they ...”

Mark 16:17

Two believers just like us were going to the temple one day. Peter and John saw a lame man begging at the gate. Peter exercised his belief in the name of Jesus and commanded the lame to rise and walk (Acts 3:6). At the name of Jesus the name of lameness had to bow and depart. The man was healed and began walking and leaping

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and praising God. His testimony caused others to grow in their beliefs.

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The four things to believe relate us to all the parts of God, the Father, the Son, and the Spirit.

First our two beliefs in God the Father must be established. “Believe that God is.” God was, is, and always shall be. He is eternally present, powerful, and in control. The other part of that verse is: “believe that He is a rewarder.” The image of God as our loving and rewarding Father should be needs to be rooted in our understanding. He is the rewarder of His seeking children. We are always His children, but not rewarded unless we seek diligently.

Our “belief in the Gospel” deals with our accepting Jesus as our sacrifice and payment for our sins. Believing in the Gospel of the Son brings us into the right relationship with our Creator Father.

There is spiritual power and authority in the name of Jesus. By “believing in His name,” we are connected to the power of the Spirit. The Spirit of God is full of power and action. We exercise that power by believing and acting in the name of Jesus.

A Condensed Bible

We see the clear progression of our Christian growth as we understand and believe these four things. The entire Bible could be condensed into these four things to believe. The Bible is a book of God’s desired relationship to man and man’s proper relationship to God. Only when our relationship to God is according to His direction can we expect to have peace and good success. We must meditate and act on His Word.

Joshua, the leader after Moses, gave us a key principle, when he said:

*“...that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein:
for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have
good success. Joshua 1:8*

God’s command to you stated very simply in Four Things to Believe:

Believe that He is

Believe that He is a rewarder

Believe in the Gospel

Believe on the name of Jesus