

## A Simple Bible Study on "Believing"

John 1:7; 1:12; 1:50; 2:11; 2:22-23; 3:12; 3:15-16; 3:18; 3:36; 4:21; 4:39; 4:41-42; 4:48; 4:50; 4:53; 5:24; 5:38; 5:44; 5:46-47; 6:29-30; 6:35-36; 6:40; 6:47; 6:64; 6:69; 7:5; 7:31; 7:38-39; 7:48; 8:24; 8:30-31; 8:45-46; 9:18; 9:35-36; 9:38; 10:25-26; 10:37-38; 10:42; 11:15; 11:25-27; 11:40; 11:42; 11:45; 11:48; 12:11; 12:36-39; 12:42; 12:44; 12:46-47; 13:19; 14:1; 14:10-12; 14:29; 16:9; 16:27; 16:30-31; 17:8; 17:20-21; 19:35; 20:8; 20:25; 20:27; 20:29; 20:31.

### Chapter 8 ( 8:24; 8:30-31; 8:45-46)

TITLE: **\_Believing makes an *eternal* difference in our sinful condition\_.**

---

(1)

(Joh 8:24) I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye **believe** not that I am *he*, ye shall die in your sins.

- What happens to anyone who does not believe? They die *in* them: (they will receive judgment)
- What does it mean to “**die in your sins**?”
- What did Jesus mean when He said, “**if ye believe not that I am he**”?
- Where is Jesus speaking? V. 20 *These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple*
- Who is Jesus speaking to here? *the scribes and Pharisees v.3 ; the Jews v.22*

(2-3)

Context

Joh 8:28-29 Then said Jesus unto them, **When ye have lifted up** (see chap 3:14) **the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. (29) And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.**

(Joh 8:30) As he spake these words,

- What words did Jesus speak that many **believed**? Vv 28-29
- What in these words do you think caused *many* to believe in Him? *Maybe the fact that Jesus' claim to please and do all His Father bid Him, or maybe just the prophecy here that He would be lifted up was understandable because He referred to Moses' serpent which they understood combined with many other things that He had said that made perfect sense.*

many **believed** on him.

- What is the significance of the word *on* in this verse? Strong's G1519 εἰς eis [ice] A primary preposition; **to or into** (indicating the point reached or entered), of place, time, or **(figuratively) purpose** (result, etc.); also in adverbial phrases.: - [abundant-] ly, against, among, as, at, [back-] ward, before, by, concerning, + continual, + far more exceeding, for [intent, purpose], fore, + forth, in (among, at unto, -so much that, -to), to the intent that, + **of one mind**, + never, of, (up-) on, + perish, + set at one again, (so) that, therefore (-unto), throughout, till, to (be, the end, -ward), (here-) until (-to), . . . ward, [where-] fore, with. Often used in composition with the same general import, but

only with verbs (etc.) expressing motion (literally or figuratively). Thus they entered into the same thoughts or purpose of Christ.

**(Joh 8:31)** Then said Jesus to those Jews which **believed** on him, *Jesus helped those who believed to further understand what the act means by His teaching that followed their **believing**. When His words entered the heart, they had an impact that resulted in behavior change: they began to follow His example as if receiving a new nature (See 1 Cor. 5:17).*

**If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

- What did Jesus mean by saying *If ye continue*? *It said they would not become **disciples**. Some fell away from following Him, but we have no words telling us that they lose their eternal life, but that they just did not become “followers” of Him while He lived on earth.*
- Does a human failure to “continue” cause something that He promised to be eternal NOT be as He promised? *Why would God be accused of deception by not giving an everlasting gift conditioned on **continuing**? Perhaps this is better understood to be expressing the truth that initial reactions to His believing promise rather DO NOT result in **believing**'s benefits including possessing eternal life. God doesn't lie, but He is totally accurate and sees the heart when men only look on the outward appearance. (1 Sam 6:7)*
- What is the implication of the word *indeed*? G230 ἀληθῶς alēthōs al-ay-thoce' Adverb from G227; truly: - indeed, **surely, of a surety, truly**, of a (in) truth, verily, very. *It strengthened the intent of His statement*

(4-5) [Reading the context (vv. 32-44) is very important in understanding these verses!]

**(Joh 8:45)** **And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.**

- What does the word *because* imply? *Some human hearts apparently respond to the hearing of truth as if becoming hardened of heart, for this is indeed exactly what happened to them: their rejection, we presume, became permanent. The whole chapter's witness of the religious leaders betray their end heart's condition.*
- Is hearing *the truth* always producing a spirit of rejection, because some did so here? *No because not everyone rejects truth even though many appear to do so. This might be because of such verses like Matthew 7:13, and most will stay on that broad road when His-story is complete, but not because God rejected them.*

**(Joh 8:46)** **Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?**

- What does *convinceth* mean? Strong's G1651: Of uncertain affinity; to confute, admonish: - convict, convince, tell a fault, rebuke, reprove. *He was saying, “Who among you is able to convict or convince Me that I have committed sin?” The implied answer is “No one”. Once they admit this the “if” that follows condemns them because they become guilty of rejection with a hard heart by NOT believing.*
- Why did they not believe Him if He indeed did not sin (implied: “against them”)? *Vv. 54-55 imply that the reason they did not believe in Him is because they DID NOT KNOW GOD THE FATHER.*
- Does Jesus' asking the *why* question here mean it is acceptable to ask, in return, these kind of questions of God?
- Can we not conclude that Jesus did *say the truth*? *Yes, and He has only a love-motive to have told us the truth of not having to die “in” our sin.*