

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.

John's Conclusion (1 John, Rev) (4:1, 16; 5:1,5,10,13; Rev 21:8.—10 instances of *believe*)

TITLE: **_Believing is can be transforming-ly beneficial OR unbelieving can be deceivingly tragic_.**

1. 1John was written **Date:** Probably about A.D. 90

1Jn 4:1 Beloved, do not **believe** every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1Jn 4:2-3 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, **(3)** and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Anti-Christ, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

- Why are we told 'do not **believe** every spirit?'
- How does one 'test the spirits?'
- What other information can be observed from the context of v.1?
- Does this verse add to John's warnings [see 1 John 2:15-17] about 'the world?' How?

1Jn 2:15-17 Do not love the **world** or the things in the world. If anyone loves the **world**, the love of the Father is not in him. **(16)** For all that *is* in the **world** —the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. **(17)** And the **world** is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

- Why are these verses so powerful in *unmasking the deception of the world*?
- Can 'all that *is* in the **world**', the lusts and pride operate separate from each other, or are they intertwined?

2.

1Jn 4:16 And we have known and **believed** the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

- What does 'abide' mean in this context?
- What promise is precious in this verse? What other verse states the same promise?

3-9.

1Jn 5:1 Whoever **believes** that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

1Jn 5:5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who **believes** that Jesus is the Son of God?

1Jn 5:10 He who **believes** in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not **believe** God has made Him a liar, because he has not **believed** the testimony that God has given of His Son.

1Jn 5:13 These things I have written to you who **believe** in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to believe* in the name of the Son of God.

- What are all the benefits of **believing** listed here?

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

- What does not **believing** make a person?

- How is the Father involved in **believing** v.10?

• _____?

• _____?

10. Revelation's Date: Probably AD 96

Rev 21:8 But the cowardly, **unbelieving**, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

- Is it significant that there are no other mentions of **believing** before Rev 21?
_____?

- What is the most 'revolutionary' facts you have learned about **believing** from this study?
