


Aletheia
 CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
November 27, 2022
“To Believe”

SS 9:30, Service at 10:30 with King’s Kids.

News:

Wednesday Evening Classes 6:30-8:00

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You can see then that the expression, “Believe IN Him,” is used in the Bible for people who are Saved as well as for people _____.

“Belief IN Him” is a measurable ratio of both _____ and _____.

From the time of Jesus’ Ministry until today and beyond, there have been, and always will be, _____ people masquerading as Saved people in the church.

It isn’t about what you do, it’s about what you really believe. True belief produces a perspective, which changes thought and speech patterns, which inevitably changes _____. “You will know them by their fruit.”

Assurance is when you fully depend upon Jesus and His completed work on your behalf for the _____ of your Salvation.

Reject ideas about your _____ of His Grace and remain humbly grateful.

The Jews who only thought they “Believed IN Him,” were outraged at His charge that they needed to “Believe IN Him” more, in order to be made _____.

They said, “We are, and always have been, and forever will be, _____!”

Fill out the other side, detach this part of the page, and place it in the offering plate or the prayer/suggestion box in the lobby or with an Elder or Deacon of the church.

God Bless You!

Jesus basically said if you are an unbeliever, you are still enslaved to unbelief and liable for all the multifarious sins that go with that single _____ sin.

The grammar favors, not so much the committing of sins, but in being a sinful person. It is like, I John 3:9, "No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." It is _____ for a true Believer, "Born Again," to commit the sin of unbelief – it was belief that allowed them to be "Born Again."

How can you know for certain that your belief is genuine? Simple... Are you "Born Again"? (John 3:3, etc.). How is one "Born Again"? It is only ever by "Believing IN Him." What we know now, is that the single _____ of belief, must be significant, serious, and sincere.

Trust Jesus with 100% of your _____ both here and eternally.

When a person turns away from God, it is always because they are failing the test of their _____ – always. There are two possibilities: 1) The person is "Born Again," but is failing their present test, presently. 2) The person is _____ actually "Born Again" and their failing the test of faith is merely their ongoing failure becoming evident.

I John 5:16. Instead of praying for unbelievers to be forgiven of the unforgiveable sin, pray that they would _____!

John 8:30-59 ~

The very people who had "Believed IN Him" were now ready, willing, and eager, to _____ Him on the spot. Of course, God had other plans.

Those people really did believe in Jesus, their _____ was the Jesus they believed in was not the Jesus Who IS.

Jesus began to correct their misunderstanding of Him, and they _____ His instruction and rejected Him instead... Why?

There is only one reason, and it's the same reason, for every person who is bound for eternal death. In a word, it is _____.

Don't let your ego keep you from eternal life.

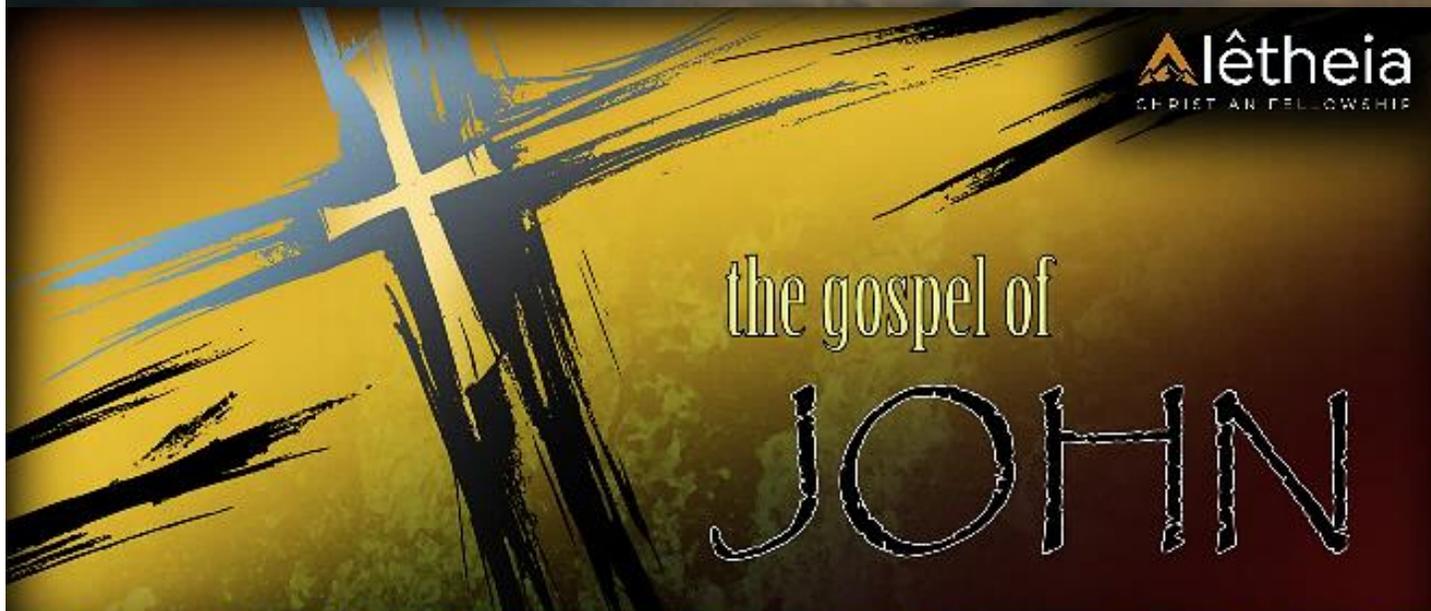
Write a brief note – detach and place in the offering, or the prayer box, or give it to a Deacon or Elder.

Name _____ Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____



Lêtheia

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



ΕΝΑΡΧΗ Η ΝΟΛΟΓΟΣ ΚΑΙ Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ ΕΗΝ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΟΝ
ΘΗΝ ΚΑΙ ΘΕ ΤΗ ΝΟΛΟΓΟΣ ΕΣΤΟΣ Η ΝΕΝΑΡΧΗ ΤΙΡΟΣ
ΤΟΝ ΘΗΝ ΠΑΝΤΑ ΔΙΑ ΤΟΥ ΕΓΕΝΕΣΤΟ ΚΑΙ ΧΩΡΙΣ

Last week we covered just 3 verses. Not only were they 3 very powerful verses, but they were verses that

provided us with the opportunity to review some definitions that will help us move forward.

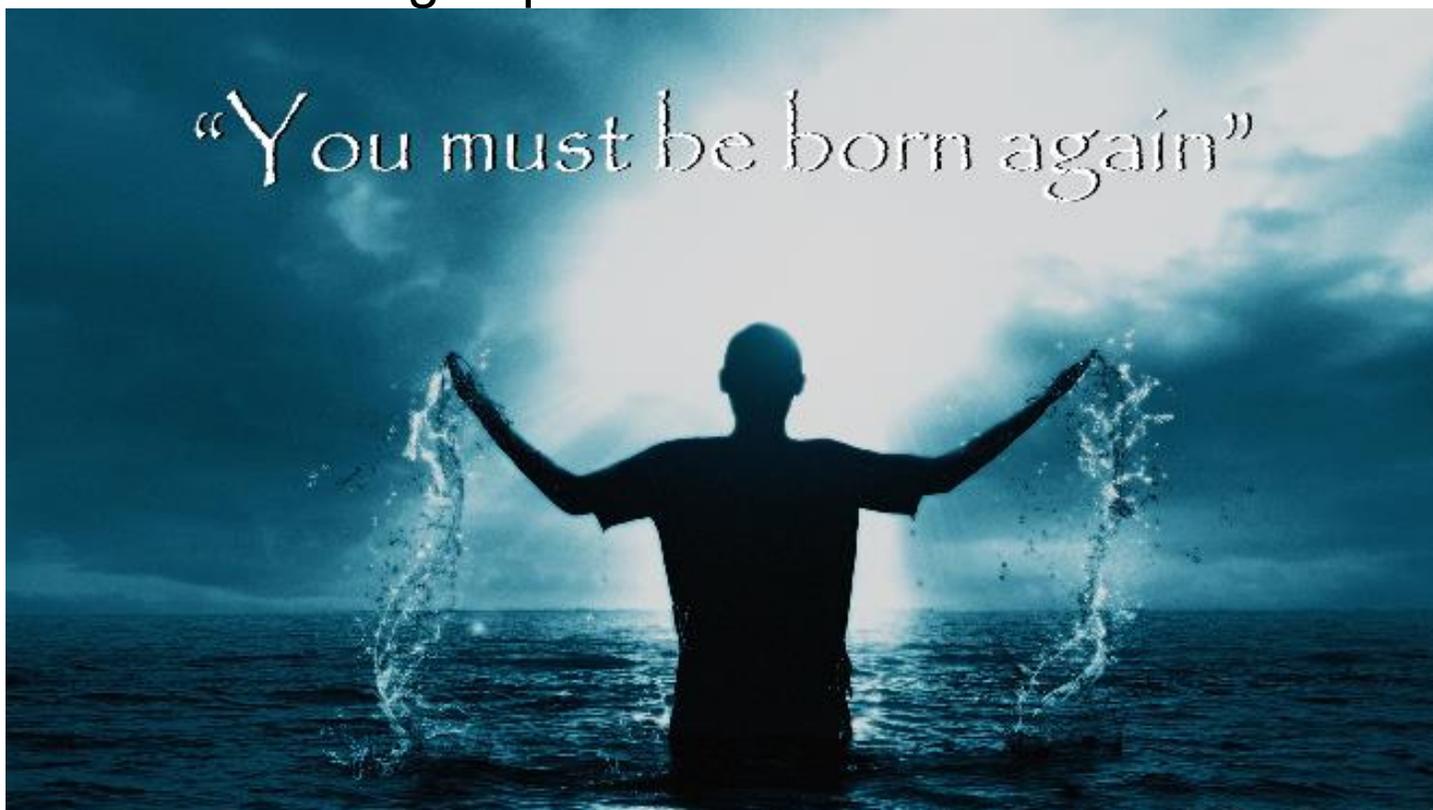
A quick review then... Jesus had addressed those Jews who themselves had changed their mind about Him and decided to “Believe IN Him.” He said to them, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”



In those few words, Jesus was telling them that for “Belief IN Him,” to be Salvific Belief, it had to 1) firstly, be significant enough that it would continue – that it would persevere through thick and thin, no matter what all the way to the end. 2) Secondly, it had to be serious

enough that it would be correct – that it would be right belief in the person and work of Jesus. 3) Thirdly, it had to be sincere enough that it would be transformative. That it would change them forever.

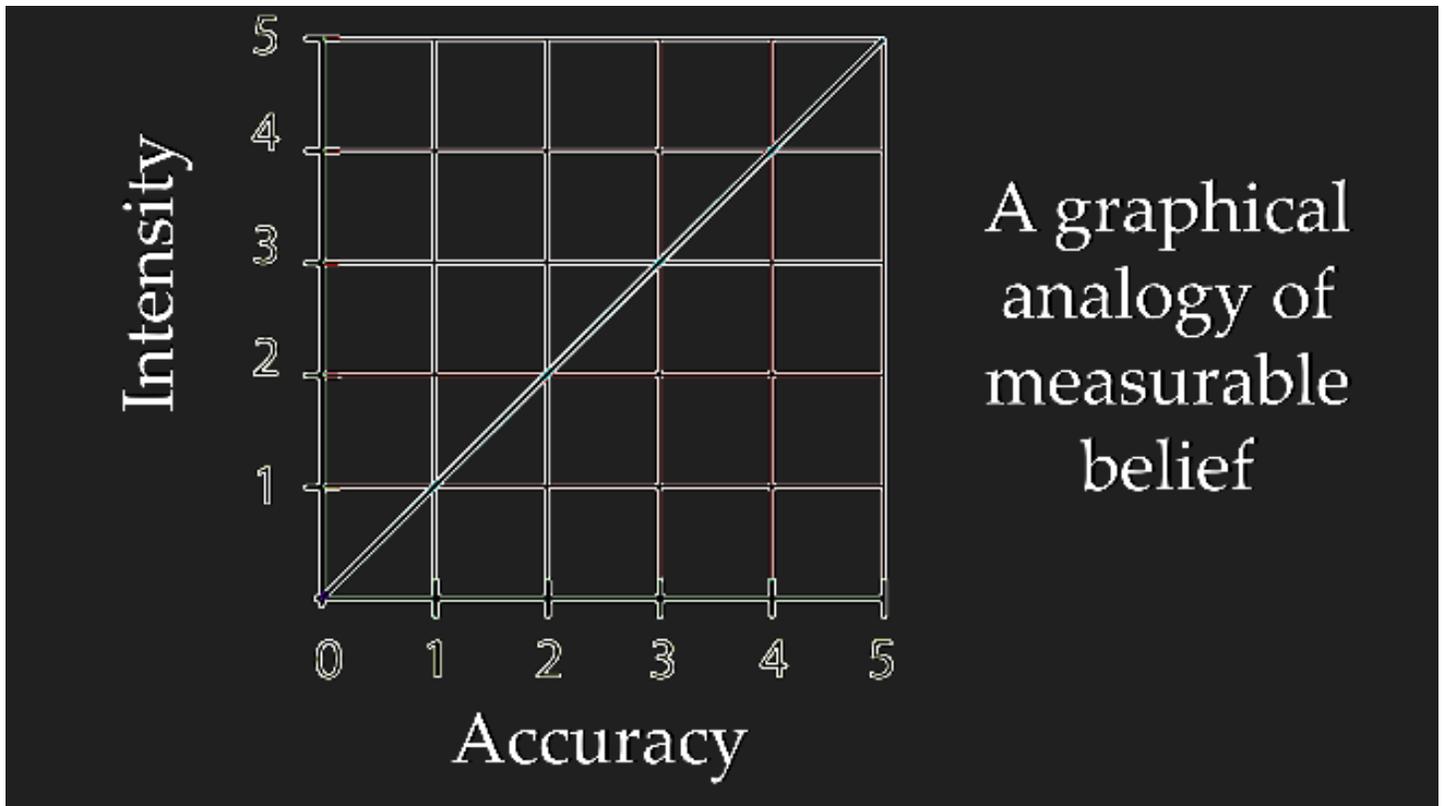
If it was that, then it was a “Belief IN Him,” that would be genuine. Meaning that it would make such a person a true disciple of Jesus. A person who would know Him and His teaching. A person who was set free from Sin.



Such a person is “Born Again,” or “Born from Above,” to use Jesus’ terminology. They are a true Child of Almighty God in Christ, transferred by Him from death into eternal Life, once and for all.

You can see then that the expression, “Believe IN Him,” is used in the Bible for people who are Saved, but here, in this Passage it is also used for people who are not Saved. That’s very interesting because it means that there are people who can be said to “Believe IN Him,” who have not been “Born Again.” So, that exact phrase “Believe IN Him,” is applied in the Bible both to those whose faith is inadequate for Salvation as well as for those with Salvific faith.

There are two distinct groups, the one going to Heaven and the other not, even though they all “Believe IN Jesus.” That can only mean, just as Jesus clearly showed here, that “Belief IN Him” is a measurable ratio of both quality and quantity.

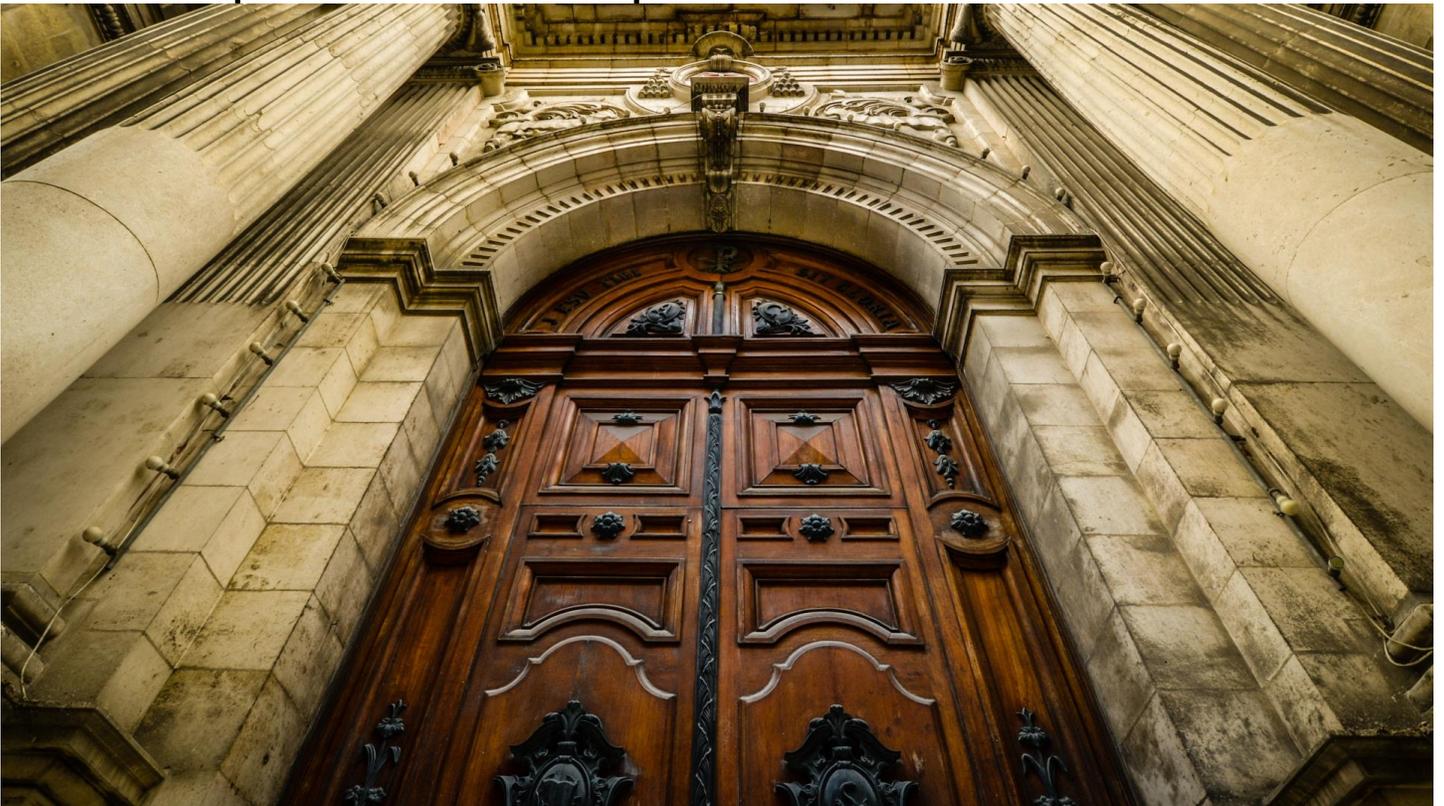


Imagine a scale of both accuracy (quality) and intensity (quantity). Since there is honestly no such thing as a true atheist, what we know, is that every person believes in Jesus even if they don't know His name. For some the belief may be incredibly inaccurate and incredibly apathetic, for others almost the exact opposite. But wherever a person is on the graph, we are all on the graph.

Somewhere in the ratio there is a minimum acceptable score – that's the cutoff. Above the line, you are "Born from Above." Below the line, you can still be said to be of your father the Devil, bound for the same place He is. Now, just to be clear, it doesn't really work this way.

There isn't such a graph kept in Heaven – it's more like a Book. This example graph is a pictorial analogy not a literal reality. It doesn't exist. It's just to help you see that no one is entirely without faith, and no one has perfect faith either. We all "Believe IN Him," imperfectly, and our imperfect belief has both a quality and a quantity.

And there is some minimum value of both – some admixture that enables transference from death to life – some level of belief that is effective belief because it is significant enough, and serious enough, and sincere enough, to be real enough to be Salvific. Where that line is depends on each person's individual situation.



Of all the people who believe, but not accurately or intensely enough to be “Born Again,” the vast majority never darken the door of a church. But there are some who not only cross the threshold, but they also make themselves right at home.

From the time of Jesus’ Ministry until today and beyond, there have been, and always will be, unsaved people masquerading as Saved people in the church.

Jesus dealt with people attending His church who were not truly Saved – Judas Iscariot would be the most obvious example. Most of the people in this chapter would fall into that category as well. Certainly, we see it in the people who would lay palm fronds at His feet and shout “Hosanna” on a Sunday, and then spit at His feet and shout “Crucify Him” just a few days later.

The Apostles all dealt with non-Saved people disrupting the fledgling church and wrote about it extensively in the Bible. The Early Church Fathers likewise wrote about their struggles with the unsaved in the church. It has been a problem for Christianity since day one and continues to this day and no doubt until the last day.

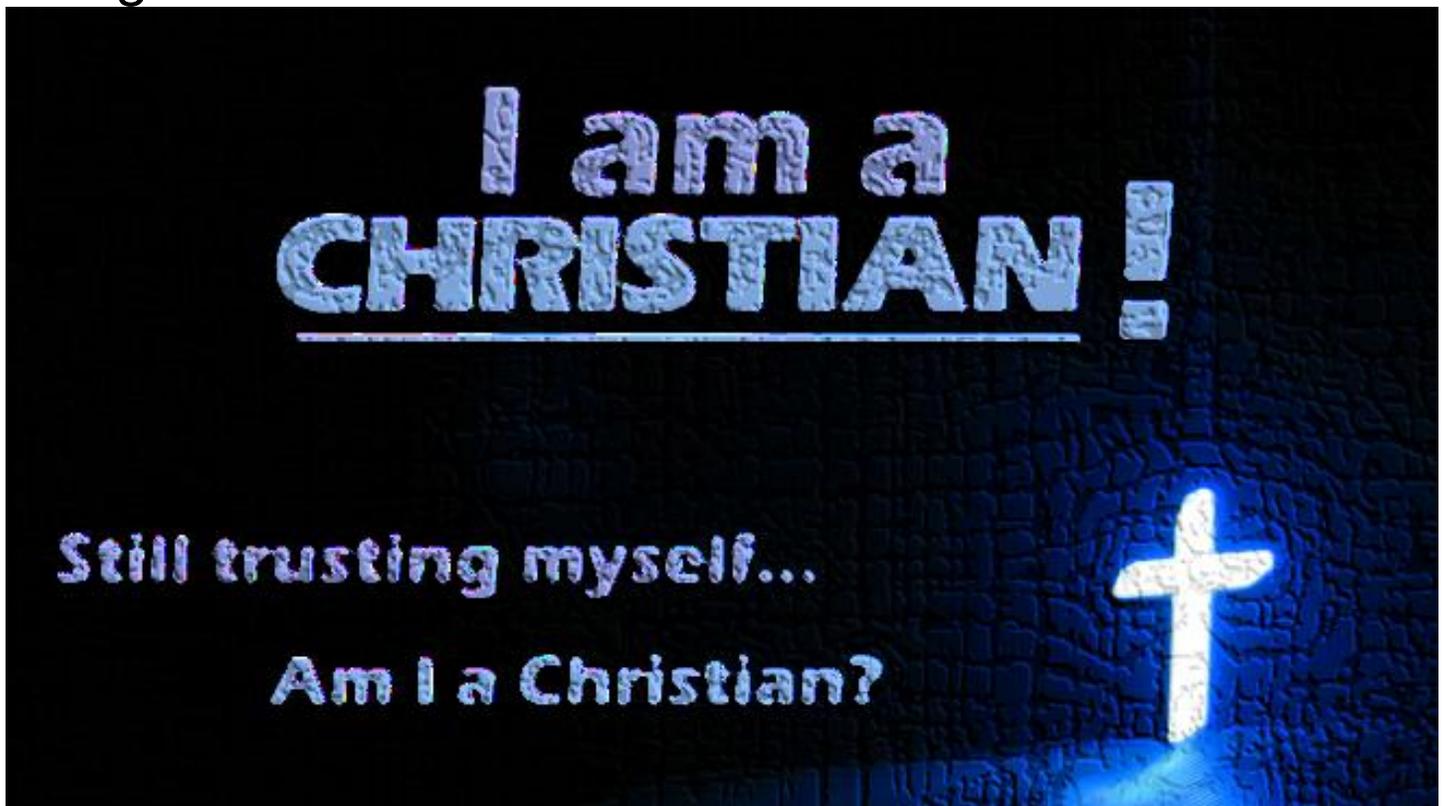


What it means is that there are people involved in the church universal and this one as well, who are called Christians, but who are not Christians at all. They “Believe IN Him,” but not Salvifically speaking. To be a Christian is the same as being “Born from Above,” but since people claim the title and we can’t put them through an inquisition, the title covers both real Christians and false Christians.

If being “Born Again,” being a genuine Christian, being a true disciple of Jesus, actually being set free from sin, and being a significant, serious, and sincere “Believer IN Him,” was about going to church, praying, reading the Bible, attending Christian classes, being a

good person, working in ministry, and all the other stuff Christians are supposed to do, then we would all be bound for Heaven.

Unfortunately, that's not at all what makes one a Saved Child of God forevermore. It never has been, even in the Old Covenant... That thinking is the very definition of legalism.

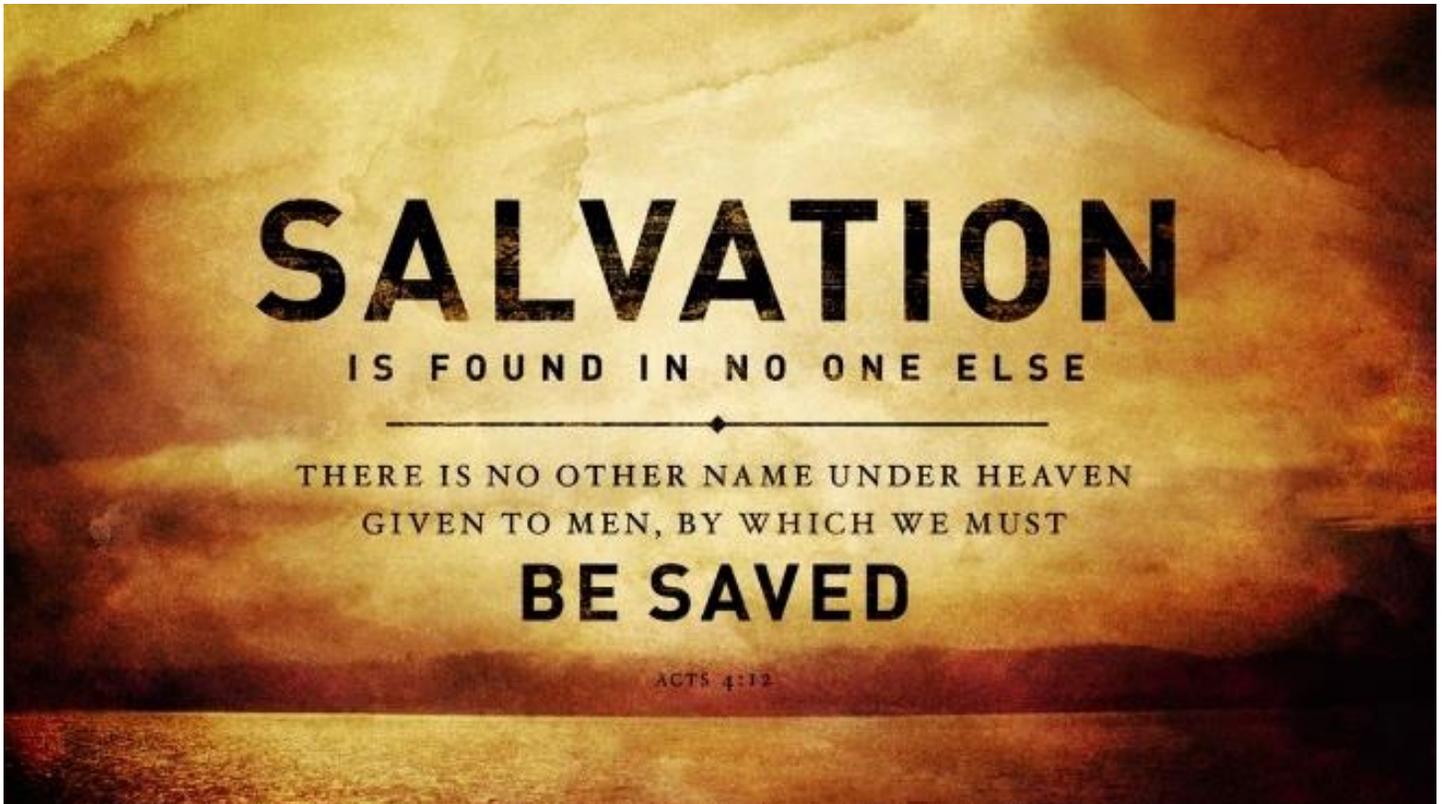


That is human beings earning God's favor through their personal performance or intrinsic value.

You can appear to be the best Christian who has ever lived, and still end up spending eternity in the "lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second

death” (Revelation 21:8). It isn’t about what you do, it’s about what you really believe. When people think, or say, or act, like they “Believe IN Him,” but then demonstrate that their belief is fickle (not significant), or erroneous (not serious), or ineffectual (not sincere), they prove that what they truly believed in all along was their own ideas.

Can you see that? Does what I’m saying make sense? The people standing before Jesus “Believed IN Him,” but all He had to do was suggest to them that they were not yet free, and they rejected Him for it. What then was their belief really in all along? Can Jesus say something to you that would cause you to turn from Him? If so, who do you actually believe in?



You see Salvific belief isn't really about super faith, it's about real faith in Jesus. Anyone who truly "Believes IN Him" is Saved. There is a difference between thinking, saying, and acting like you believe, like you are a Christian, and actually believing, in actually being a Christian. I cannot imagine a worse fate than to believe your God's Own possession and find out you were wrong. That's what happened to many of the Jews. It will happen to many of the Christians. The Bible commands us in II Corinthians 13:5, "Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!"

That may seem scary for you or for someone you care about – am I really Saved, is my loved one really

Saved? For others the reaction is let's ferret out all the false Christians and eliminate them – let's cleanse the church. For still others the reaction is to justify the sin of judgmentalism by amplifying the need to be discerning.

If you are in the first category there is an assurance of Salvation. That assurance is when you fully depend upon Jesus and His completed work on your behalf for the entirety of your Salvation. Reject ideas about your worthiness of His Grace and remain humbly grateful. The test is when you know that over time you are 1) firstly, becoming more loving – primarily seen as being more forgiving and more patient. 2) Secondly, when you begin manifesting the Fruit of the Holy Spirit in greater measure, and 3) Thirdly, when you are more willing to allow God to use you to minister Grace to another, at your expense.

When it comes to those you love, pray for them, and encourage them, and trust God.



If the second group describes your reaction, congratulations you've got a lot of company, all the way from Torquemada and the Spanish Inquisition I alluded to earlier, to all the uptight, legalists abounding today. That mentality is seen in every church where they love you with abandon while you are a member in good standing but will run you out on a rail, when you have a problem and will shun anyone and everyone who no longer attends.

The final reaction type is more subtle. It is plastering the beautiful religious word discerning over what is really arrogant judgmentalism. We do that with a whole host of things. We have sinful tendencies, and we twist

some Biblical concept to cover our behavior and then pretend that our sin is holy. We say it's righteous indignation, instead of a need for anger management. We say it's sharing a prayer need, instead of gossiping... The list goes on.

We can be people who play at Christianity, or we can be Christians. Christians "Believe IN Him," fully and in doing so are "Born Again," and indwelt by the Breath of Almighty God. We will be changed, if that's true, we will be changed.

Those people way back then, who only thought, only said, only acted as though they "Believed IN Him," were outraged at His charge that they needed to "Believe IN Him" more in order to be made free.

They said, "We are, and always have been, and forever will be, free!"

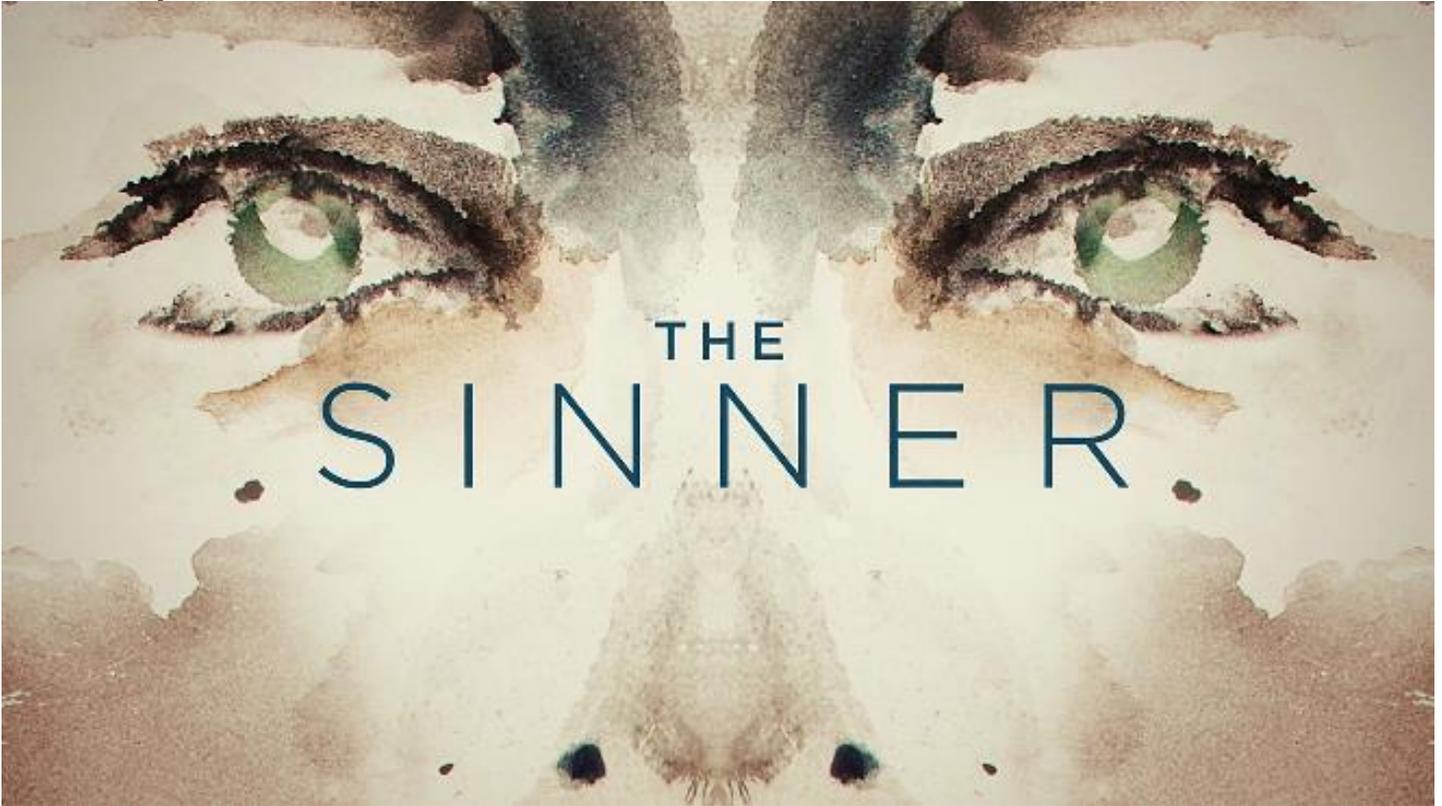


John 8:34, 34 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.

Again, this is sin singular and while it also means all of one’s sins as a whole, the focus is on the one unforgiveable sin of unbelief. It is that single sin that makes a person accountable for all the others whether you want to think of them separately or in total.

It says here and in many older translations “everyone who commits sin.” The ESV and the NET have “everyone who practices sin,” which is better. The grammar favors an understanding of “all who do sin.” So, not so much in the sense of committing or even

practicing sinful things, but in the sense of being a sinful person.

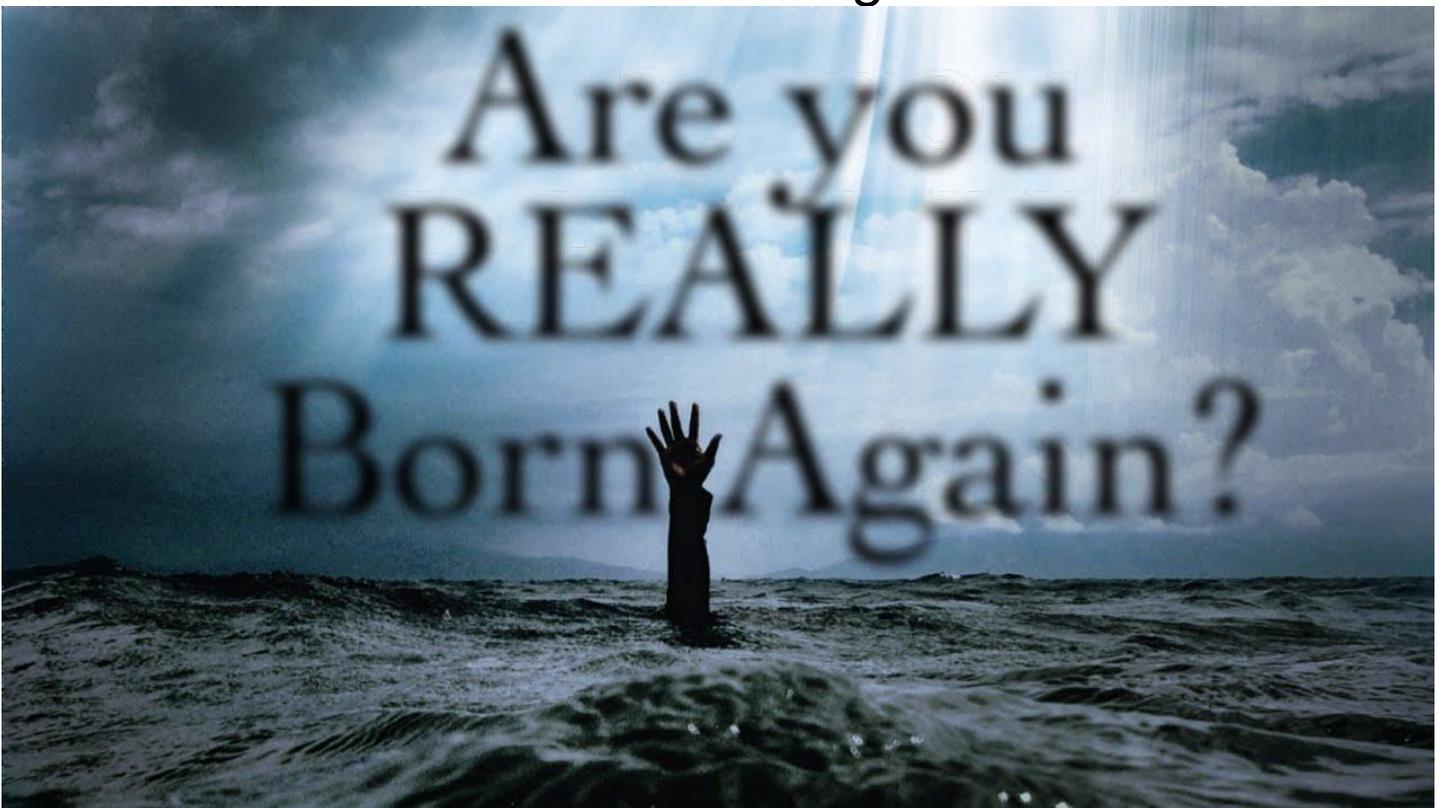


I think the distinction is important. That's what our same author John was on about in His First Epistle. I John 3:9, "No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." The phrasing is the same. It is impossible for a true Believer, "Born Again," to commit the sin of unbelief: it was adequate belief that allowed them to be "Born Again."

I have had been asked by many worried Christians over the years, whether they might have inadvertently committed the one unforgiveable sin of "Blaspheming

the Holy Spirit.” The answer is that it is impossible to commit sin, singular in this sense, if you are a genuine Christian. If you’re not a genuine Christian, it is impossible not to commit this sin.

If you are not a genuine Christian, you do nothing but sin – in this sense. You sin because you are a sinner and cannot do otherwise. You have practiced it your whole life and you will die in it unless you change your status from unbeliever to “Born Again Believer.”



How? How can you know for certain that your belief is genuine? Simple... Are you “Born Again”? This is precisely what Jesus said back in John 3:3, “Truly,

truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

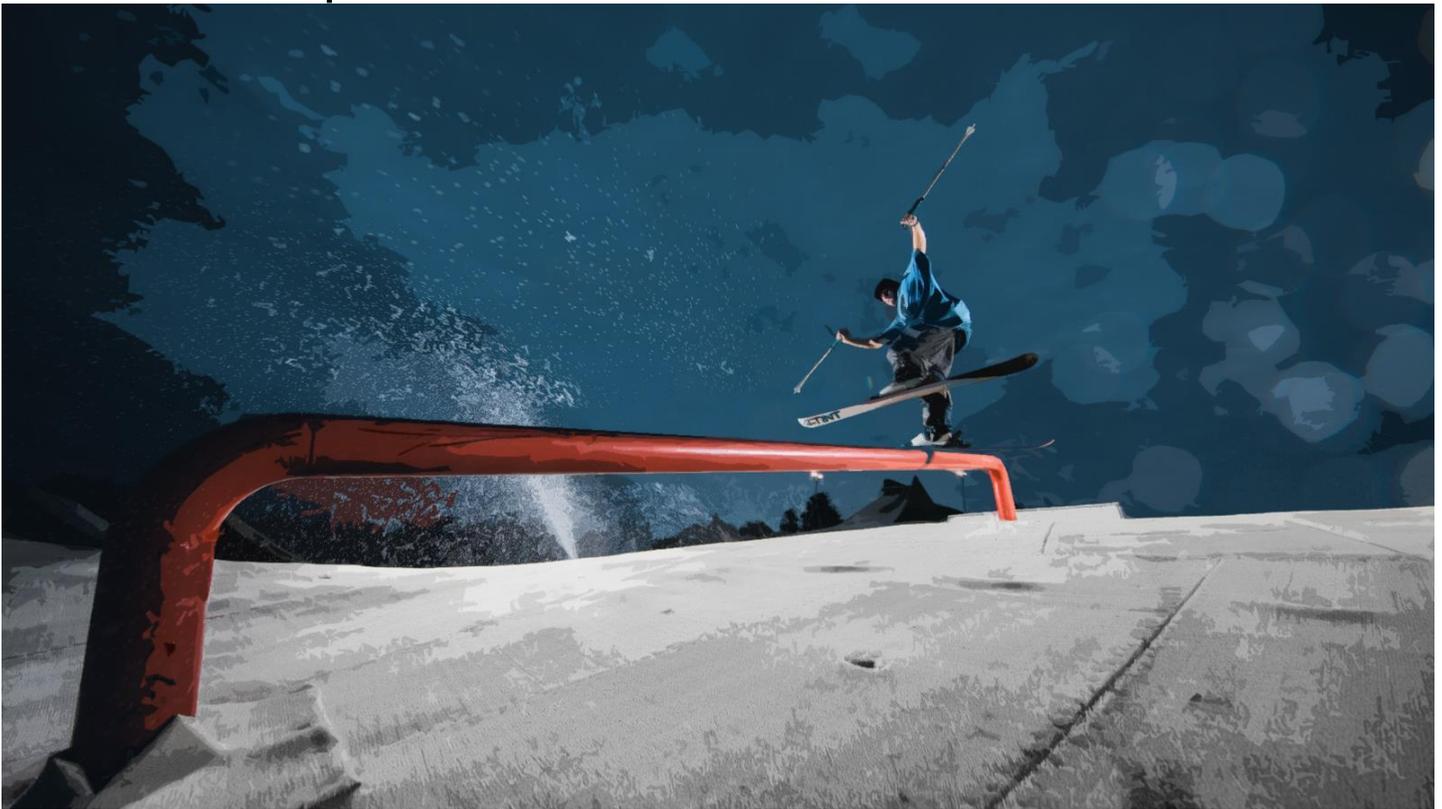
How is one “Born Again”? Jesus has answered that repeatedly... It is by “Believing IN Him.” And now we know that that single requirement never changes, nothing is added to it or taken away from it – that is the entirety of what we must do in order to be reborn as God’s Own children Saved for all eternity, but it must be a belief that is significant, serious, and sincere.

I’ve talked about Salvific Belief so many times that I won’t go into it again today, except to say that true belief is not true belief unless it is true belief.

Trust Jesus with 100% of your life both here and eternally. Ask Him to increase your faith, ask Him to “help your unbelief.” Recognize all of your life’s trials as tests of faith and rely on His strength to enable you to persevere. The person who finishes the race is the person who was Saved all along.

When a person who is presumably “Born Again” turns away from God, it is always because they are failing the test of their faith – always.

There are two possibilities at play. The person is “Born Again,” but is failing their present test, presently. Two things of note here. First, every actual Christian is in that boat. Every one of us is failing our present test, presently. It is merely a matter of degree. Please think about the implications of that fact.



When you think a Christian is backsliding, to use the vernacular, know that you are just like them, except to the perceived degree. That knowledge should help you be more humble and therefore less judgmental as you pray for them and follow the Holy Spirit lead on encouraging them back into the fold. In addition, it should make you aware of your need to pray daily that

your faith would be strengthened so that you would follow Christ more authentically.

The other category is the person, who for whatever reason, plays at Christianity, but is not actually “Born Again.” Such a person failing the test of faith is merely their ongoing failure becoming evident. God may very well use it to bring them to a crisis whereby their Belief becomes Salvific.

Our author John also addressed this issue in His First Epistle in I John 5:16, where he tells us to pray for your fellow Christians committing sinful acts – that they would be forgiven for those things. Then he said, “There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this.” It has confused a lot of people for a lot of centuries. It simply means that the one unforgiveable sin of unbelief that leads to eternal death, is just that, unforgiveable. It would basically be an effort to circumvent God’s entire Salvation plan, to pray that an unbeliever would be forgiven for their unbelief. Instead of praying for them to be forgiven of the unforgiveable sin, pray that they would Believe!

Jesus’ point was that the people who “Believed IN Him,” didn’t yet believe enough – they were still slaves

to the sin of unbelief... But He gave them the keys to change that, as we now read...



John 8:35&36, 35“The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. 36“So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The meaning of the statement is that a slave, no matter how appreciated, or long serving, is never actually family. Never a member of the house in the sense of its bloodline posterity. It sort of seems like an odd way of putting it, but that’s just because it doesn’t translate easily. In this case, the NIV and NLT each similarly smooth it out pretty well. The NLT has, “A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of

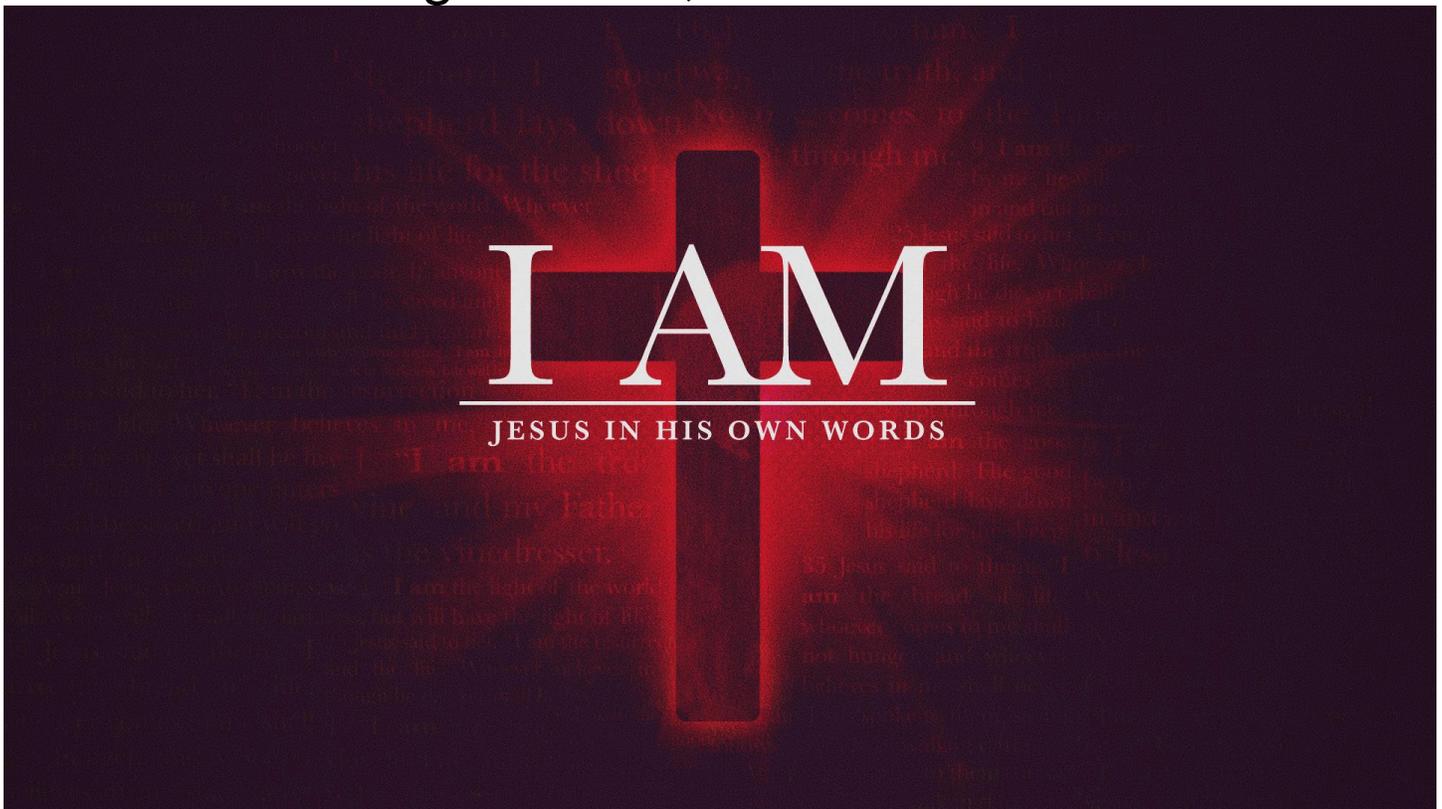
the family forever.” As an analogy, Sanford’s son, will always be his son. A better analogy might be the Royal Family of England. For some reason Americans seem fascinated by them. If you were born to the King and Queen, you would be a member of what is now called the House of Windsor and would have a standing within the House that would be far different than that of any slave.

In the next verse Jesus then says that if He as the Son, sets you as a slave, free. You’ll certainly be free. In this case we need to add to the example a couple of things that Jesus has already made clear. First, His Father, the King, appointed Him for that very mission – to set the slaves free. Secondly, that the Son is fully on-board with His role in accomplishing the mission.

Under such circumstances, if the Son sets you free, you are obviously free indeed. Remember that here we are talking about being set free from unbelief, primarily. Once set free from slavery to unbelief. Only once that’s accomplished can adoption into the royal family take place.

Jesus went on to address their point about Abraham, and I think that we have enough background and

context now to just read for a while and follow the flow of the argument. I'll use the NLT, with some minor tweaks, for its easy syntax, and I'll start back at verse 30 to get the whole thing together. As I read, put yourself in the scene, and pay particular attention to how this exchange started, and how it ended.



John 8:30–59 30Then many who heard him say these things believed in him. 31Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples IF you remain faithful to my WORD. 32And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

They understood that Jesus was implying that they were not there yet – that they needed Him for far more

than just providing a little help along the way in their journey to Heaven and they were indignant, offended, and annoyed at the suggestion...

33“But we are descendants of Abraham,” they said. “We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, ‘You will be set free’?”

34Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. 35A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. 36So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free. 37Yes, I realize that you are descendants of Abraham. And yet some of you are trying to kill me because there’s no room in your hearts for my WORD. 38I am telling you what I saw when I was with my Father. But you are following the advice of your father.”

The Jews in these exchanges are often seen as dull-witted, but that’s only because a lot of people don’t understand the dynamics of the argument. They got it, Jesus was implying that He was righteous and that they were not. That His Father was God, and theirs wasn’t.

39“Our father is Abraham!” they declared.

“No,” Jesus replied, “for if you were really the children of Abraham, you would follow his example. 40Instead, you are trying to kill me because I told you the truth, which I heard from God. Abraham never did such a thing.

41No, you are imitating your real father.”

They are quite incensed by this and recognize that Jesus was saying that they were illegitimate children – they were claiming Abraham as their father, with the implication that they were the very Children of God. Basically, Jesus was saying, that spiritually speaking, their claim of ancestry was a lie, that their birth certificates were forged.

They replied, “We aren’t illegitimate children! God himself is our true Father.” 42Jesus told them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, because I have come to you from God. I am not here on my own, but he sent me. 43Why can’t you understand what I am saying? It’s because you can’t even hear me!

The reason that they could not accept what Jesus was telling them was because they were dead in their sin

just like Satan the original unbeliever. Jesus went on to explain their condition...

44For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45So when I tell the truth, you just naturally don't believe me! 46Which of you can truthfully accuse me of sin? And since I am telling you the truth, why don't you believe me? 47Anyone who belongs to God listens gladly to the words of God. But you don't listen because you don't belong to God."

Now, what Jesus implied at the beginning about them not being there yet, He has made as blunt as a bowling ball. So, naturally...

48The people retorted, "You Samaritan devil! Didn't we say all along that you were possessed by a demon?"

For them, that was the absolute worst thing you could possibly say about a fellow Jew – the gloves are off.

49“No,” Jesus said, “I have no demon in me. For I honor my Father—and you dishonor me. 50And though I have no wish to glorify myself, God is going to glorify me. He is the true judge. 51I tell you the truth, anyone who obeys my WORD will never die!”

52The people said, “Now we know you are possessed by a demon. Even Abraham and the prophets died, but you say, ‘Anyone who obeys my teaching will never die!’ 53Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?”

54Jesus answered, “If I want glory for myself, it doesn’t count. But it is my Father who will glorify me. You say, ‘He is our God,’ 55but you don’t even know him. I know him. If I said otherwise, I would be as great a liar as you! But I do know him and obey him. 56Your father Abraham rejoiced as he looked forward to my coming. He saw it and was glad.”

Remember Abraham was the dude who, 2,000 years before these events, 4,000 years ago, proved His trust in God. His faith, credited to him as righteousness, was rewarded by a covenant that, in effect, created the Jewish people.

57The people said, “You aren’t even fifty years old. How can you say you have seen Abraham?”

The “fifty years old” thing throws people. It was the age of an Elder. It was plainly obvious to the most casual observer that Jesus was nowhere near being old enough to be an Elder, let alone a man over 2,000 years of age. Now, in response to that, Jesus tells them that He’s far more than an Elder and that He’s far older than 2,000, in what is the most dramatic informal “I AM” statement in the Bible.

58Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I Am!”

Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, πρὶν Ἀβραὰμ γενέσθαι ἐγὼ εἰμί. Literally, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.” It is an unmistakable claim to divinity and the proof that the Jews fully understood His meaning... We finish with verse 59...

59At that point they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus was hidden from them and left the Temple.

The very people who had “Believed IN Him” were now ready, willing, and eager, to murder Him on the spot. Of course, God had other plans.

Perhaps, the thing that is of greatest note for us today, is that those people really did believe in Jesus – they really did. The problem, as Jesus pointed out to them immediately, was the Jesus they believed in was not the Jesus Who IS.

They had many ideas about Jesus, but they all fell far short of accepting Him fully as the sole means of their eternal Salvation. Jesus said in verse 31, “IF you abide, remain, continue, dwell, in My Word, which is to say IN Me, then and only then, will you be true... And being true, you will know Me truly... You will know Truth and you will be free from all that hinders you from right relationship with God... IF.”

Their rejection of His correction demonstrates that their belief was not IN the Him Who IS, but in the Him of their own manufacture. Beyond that, one should ask why they rejected the correction – why didn’t they allow Jesus to adjust their understanding of Him?



There is only one reason, and it's the same reason, for every person who is bound for eternal death. In a word, it is pride.

Jesus suggested to them that they needed Him more than they were willing to accept. That is ego. That is the constant refrain throughout the entire Bible and continues to this day and beyond. "Pride goeth before destruction, And an haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18). The Bible tells us in several places that "God is actively opposed to the proud, but gives His Grace to the Humble." Jesus taught this over and over. It is pride that prevents people from trusting in Jesus with the totality of their Salvation.

We desperately want to be good enough – we want to be of some value – we want to pay back some portion – all because we don't want to feel the humbleness of accepting help, let alone the true humiliating weakness of acknowledging our complete inability and desperate need for help in what is truthfully our utter helplessness.

Don't let your ego keep you from eternal life.



What I can tell you is that when you are open to believing in Jesus, your belief will be imperfect in both its quantity and its quality. What I mean is that your

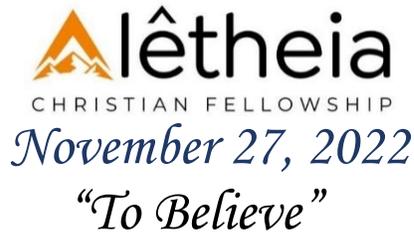
faith will be weak, and it will be in a Jesus more imagined than real.

Immediately Jesus will begin to teach you how your belief in Him must change. He will begin correcting your mistakes. This teaching from Him and this learning by you will continue at least for the rest of your earthly life – and perhaps far beyond.

At some point in this process, your faith is correct enough in both quality and quantity to be Salvific. From that point you are being sanctified by the Holy Spirit, whereas prior to that point, you were being wooed by the Holy Spirit.

The length of time you spend in the pre-Salvation wooing process is directly tied to how much pride you have. I'm here to tell you that if you completely empty yourself of your pride and collapse upon the Grace of the Father through the Son and open yourself entirely to the Holy Spirit without qualification... In other words, a complete unconditional surrender to Him, you will immediately "pass go and collect (a whole lot more than) \$200."

That's how you skip the line and go straight into the outstretched arms of the Savior. Then, sanctification.



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CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
November 27, 2022
“To Believe”

SS 9:30, Service at 10:30 with King's Kids.

News:

Wednesday Evening Classes 6:30-8:00

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You can see then that the expression, “Believe IN Him,” is used in the Bible for people who are Saved as well as for people not Saved.

“Belief IN Him” is a measurable ratio of both quality and quantity.

From the time of Jesus’ Ministry until today and beyond, there have been, and always will be, unsaved people masquerading as Saved people in the church.

It isn’t about what you do, it’s about what you really believe. True belief produces a perspective, which changes thought and speech patterns, which inevitably changes behavior. “You will know them by their fruit.”

Assurance is when you fully depend upon Jesus and His completed work on your behalf for the entirety of your Salvation.

Reject ideas about your worthiness of His Grace and remain humbly grateful.

The Jews who only thought they “Believed IN Him,” were outraged at His charge that they needed to “Believe IN Him” more, in order to be made free.

They said, “We are, and always have been, and forever will be, free!”

Fill out the other side, detach this part of the page, and place it in the offering plate or the prayer/suggestion box in the lobby or with an Elder or Deacon of the church.

God Bless You!

Jesus basically said if you are an unbeliever, you are still enslaved to unbelief and liable for all the multifarious sins that go with that single unforgiveable sin.

The grammar favors, not so much the committing of sins, but in being a sinful person. It is like, I John 3:9, "No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." It is impossible for a true Believer, "Born Again," to commit the sin of unbelief – it was belief that allowed them to be "Born Again."

How can you know for certain that your belief is genuine? Simple... Are you "Born Again"? (John 3:3, etc.). How is one "Born Again"? It is only ever by "Believing IN Him." What we know now, is that the single requirement of belief, must be significant, serious, and sincere.

Trust Jesus with 100% of your life both here and eternally.

When a person turns away from God, it is always because they are failing the test of their faith – always. There are two possibilities: 1) The person is "Born Again," but is failing their present test, presently. 2) The person is not actually "Born Again" and their failing the test of faith is merely their ongoing failure becoming evident.

I John 5:16. Instead of praying for unbelievers to be forgiven of the unforgiveable sin, pray that they would Believe!

John 8:30-59 ~

The very people who had "Believed IN Him" were now ready, willing, and eager, to murder Him on the spot. Of course, God had other plans.

Those people really did believe in Jesus, their problem was the Jesus they believed in was not the Jesus Who IS.

Jesus began to correct their misunderstanding of Him and they refused His instruction and rejected Him instead... Why?

There is only one reason, and it's the same reason, for every person who is bound for eternal death. In a word, it is pride.

Don't let your ego keep you from eternal life.

Write a brief note – detach and place in the offering, or the prayer box, or give it to a Deacon or Elder.

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____