

The Believers' Unbelief

INTRODUCTION:

John 10:10:I have come that they may have **life**, and that they may have *it* more **abundantly**.

- Jesus came to give us abundant life

Think of your life: where are you now? What season are you in? Is there life in all the areas of your life?

- Health? Body? Mind? Spirit?
- Family? Parents? Children? Siblings? Relationships?
- Workplace? Finances? Debt?

Do you trust Jesus for the more?

What are the words, Prophetic promises spoken over your life? Do you see them fulfilled? Is it starting to happen? Or is it just a vague memory? Have you lost hope that it will never come to pass?

Do you trust Jesus for the more?

When you look at your family, workplace, school, city, region, South Africa, World: Do you see.....?

- Revival? Salvations? Baptisms? Healing? Deliverance? Breakthrough? Restoration? Revival? Rebuilding?

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LORD I BELIEVE, HELP MY UNBELIEF

Mark 9:14-27: And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them. ¹⁵Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to *Him*, greeted Him. ¹⁶And He asked the scribes, "What are you discussing with them?"

¹⁷Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. ¹⁸And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not."

¹⁹He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." ²⁰Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.

²¹So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²²And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. **But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."**

²³Jesus said to him, "**If you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes."**

²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "**Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"**

²⁵When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" ²⁶Then *the spirit* cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

MANY OF US ARE IN THIS PLACE:

- If you can do anything.....have compassion on us.....and help us.
- Lord I believe.....help my unbelief.

JESUS SAYS:

- If you can believe.....all things are possible for him who believes.

!!! IMPORTANT

- Jesus said it was not a question of His ability to heal. But of the man's ability to believe.
- We want to believe, yet we are filled with doubt.
- This is the inward contradiction all believers face.

James 1:6 says that when we ask of God, we should ask in faith, with no doubting

Sometimes we have faith, other times we doubt and unbelief creeps in.

Lets see what God says.....

SEEK GOD ALWAYS – OBTAIN HIS REWARD

Hebrews 11:6: But without **faith** *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he **who comes to God must believe** that (1) **He is**, and (2) *that* He is a **rewarder** of those who **diligently seek Him**.

COME TO GOD, BELIEVING:

HE IS: we must believe that God is there (exists)

REWARDS those who diligently **SEEK HIM**

- He will reveal Himself to the seeking heart.

- Do we expect Him to reward us. Expectation, faith, trust.

Lamentations 2 v 22: The Lord is **good** to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him.

Mat 6 v 33: But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and **all these things (provision)** shall be added to you.

Psalm 9 v 10: And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, Lord, have **not forsaken** those who seek You.

Mat 7 v 7: Ask, and it will be given to you; **seek, and you will find**; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and **he who seeks finds**, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Psalm 34 v 10: The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall **not lack any good thing**.

Psalm 119 v 2: **Blessed are** those who keep His testimonies, Who seek Him with the whole heart!

UNBELIEF DESTROYS OUR FAITH, FUTURE, INHERITANCE, BLESSING

Hebrews 3:7-4:3 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, ⁹ Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. ¹⁰ Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in *their* heart, And they have not known My ways.’ ¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’ ”

¹² Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of **unbelief in departing from the living God**; ¹³ but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, ¹⁵ while it is said:

“Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

Failure of the Wilderness Wanderers

¹⁶ For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, *was it* not all who came out of Egypt, *led* by Moses? ¹⁷ Now with whom was He angry forty years? *Was it* not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? ¹⁹ **So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.**

Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; **but the word which they heard**

did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard *it*.³ For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said:

“So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest,’ ”

PUT ACTION TO YOUR FAITH

James 2:17-26: Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and **I will show you my faith by my works.** ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! ²⁰ But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? ²¹ Was not **Abraham** our father **justified by works** when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? ²² Do you see that **faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?** ²³ And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “**Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.**” And he was called the friend of God. ²⁴ You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

²⁵ Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?

²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

OUR FAITH MUST LEAD TO ACTION (WORKS)

WHAT ACTIONS (WORKS)?

- Our actions should back up our beliefs (and confessions)
- If we trust God for something, go to Him, ask, pray, have faith.
- Active Faith. Not sitting back and hoping, but pushing in and trusting.

Mark 11:20 – incident with the fig tree: ²⁰ Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. ²¹ And Peter, remembering, said to Him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away.” ²² So Jesus answered and said to them, “**Have faith in God.** ²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and **does not doubt in his heart,** but **believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.** ²⁴ Therefore I say to you, **whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.**”

TRUST IN GOD – HE IS ABLE

Romans 4: 3, 13, 18-22 – speaking of Abraham:

(v3) For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham **believed God**, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

(13) For the **promise** that he would be the heir of the world *was* not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but **through** the righteousness of **faith**.

(v18) (*Abraham*) who, **contrary to hope, in hope believed**, so that he became the father of many nations, **according to what was spoken**, “So shall your descendants be.”¹⁹ And not being *weak in faith*, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb.²⁰ **He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,²¹ and being fully convinced that what He (*God*) had promised He (*God*) was also able to perform.**²² And therefore “it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

- Abraham fully believed the Word (promises) of God.

Hebrews 11:19: By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*,¹⁸ of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,”¹⁹ **concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead**,

- Abraham concluded: God is able

Isaiah 55:11: So shall **My word** be that goes forth from My mouth; It **shall not return to Me void**, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper ***in the thing*** for which I sent it.

Naaman healed of leprosy on the 7th dip in the water. That was the word of God.

COMING TO GOD (JESUS)

COME TO GOD, BELIEVING:

- HE IS
- REWARDS those who diligently SEEK HIM

MATTHEW 8 & 9 – MANY PEOPLE COMING TO JESUS

- EXPECTANT, FULL OF FAITH, BELIEVING.
- FULLY CONVINCED: THAT WHAT GOD HAD PROMISED HE WAS ABLE TO PERFORM

EXAMPLES:

- 1) Leper
 - 2) Centurion
 - 3) Demon Possessed and sick
 - 4) Disciples in the boat
 - 5) Two demon possessed men
 - 6) Paralytic – friends
 - 7) Ruler of the synagogue whose daughter has just died
 - 8) Woman with the issue of blood
 - 9) Two blind men
 - 10) Mute, demon possessed man.
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RESPONSE

Think of your life: where are you now? What season are you in? Is there life in all the areas of your life?

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Do you trust Jesus for the more?

- PUT ACTION TO YOUR FAITH
- COME TO JESUS.
- SEEK HIM
- TRUST IN HIM
- HE REWARDS THOSE WHO SEEK HIM
- CAN DO WHAT HE PURPOSED, AND SAID HE WILL DO.

----- AMEN -----