Faith vs Unbelief

Robert Harkrider · Luke 5:1–11

INTRODUCTION

- What I want to talk about in these few moments is the difference between faith and unbelief.
- There's much more involved than just simply saying God is, or that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 At Thy Word: Faith That Obeys

Luke 5:5; Romans 10:17

- Here's a carpenter, the son of a carpenter, at least, telling two professional fishermen, let down your nets.
- If you're going to go by human reasoning, you'd say, Well, there's no point in letting down the nets.
- A faith that will not obey, will not save. Faith that obeys. At thy word.
- At least at thy word we will obey. That's the kind of faith that indeed saves.

2 Unbelief: Israel at Kadesh Barnea

Numbers 13:17–33; Hebrews 3:17–19

- We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.
- Now reason takes over. Who are we to go in and conquer that people?
- I'm convinced they knew God is, if that's the question. But they were unbelievers.
- So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

3 Our Response to God's Word Reveals Faith or Unbelief

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; James 2:20–24

- Our response to God's word reveals whether we really are people of faith or people of unbelief.
- He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. He who believes not shall be condemned. Is that hard to understand? It really isn't.
- Repent and be baptized. Every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- If they truly believe, will they not obey?

4 Someday, But Not Today: Reasons to Put It Off

John 12:42–43

- And someday I'm going to be baptized. But not today. Well, why not? Here comes reasoning in it.
- If you understand what God's will is, that's the time to obey.
- The devil just says, put it off till later. Wait till later. Don't do it now.
- They were not saved believers because they would not confess the Lord Jesus Christ.

5 Christians Can Become Unbelievers

Hebrews 3:12–13

- Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God.
- Can you depart from this auditorium if you haven't come into it?
- Christians can become unbelievers, can lose their soul.

6 As a Church: Philadelphia or Sardis

Revelation 3:8; Revelation 3:1; Philippians 3

- We as a congregation either can walk by faith or we can become unbelievers.
- The Lord said, I've set an open door for you.
- It said of Sardis, they had a name that they were alive, but they were dead.
- Are we a congregation with faith that says at your word, we will continue to reach forward.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Are you a believer or an unbeliever? Do you really have faith? Are you one who would say, well, later, Lord, but not today?**

MY NOTES