Three Types of Believers

Robert Harkrider

INTRODUCTION

- I'm convinced there are many people in our society today who have a view that all one needs to do is indeed read and quote, for example, John 3.16.
- And yet, what does it really mean to believe?
- Are you aware that the scripture indeed speaks about more than just a mental agreement? That we might say there are different types of believers.

1 Lost Believers Who Do Nothing

John 12:42–43; Acts 24:24–25; Acts 26:28

- But because of the Pharisees, they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue. For they love the praise of men more than the praise of God.
- There's something more in saving faith than just in some kind of mental acknowledgement of him.
- Here's a believer, trembled, was afraid, and yet he never found the convenient time.
- Almost is not enough. He was a believer.
- You believe that there is one God, you do well. Even the demons believe and tremble.
- The scriptures teach that a believer to be saved is a believer who obeys. But believers who do nothing are lost believers.

2 Believers Who Do the Wrong Thing

Matthew 7:21–23; Matthew 15:7–9; Hebrews 3:12–14

- There's some who believe in Jesus Christ and even would confess that he is the Son of God. Who may have been immersed or baptized into Christ. Who could be lost?
- Not everyone who says unto me, Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father in heaven.
- In vain they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.
- We must be careful what we preach and what we practice and what we believe.
- Beware, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God.
- There's some believers who do nothing, that'll be lost. But also believers who do the wrong thing will be lost.

3 Those Who Are Saved: Believers Who Obey

Acts 2:38; Acts 8:36–38; Acts 22:16

- Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- It was the eunuch who said, See, here is water, what hinders me from being baptized.

- Why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins.
- Belief that saves is a belief that obeys, but how can you obey if you don't know what to obey?
- The gospel preached, the gospel obeyed.

THE CHALLENGE

Are you like those throughout the centuries of men and women who've obeyed the gospel of Christ and remained faithful even to death? May God help us all that we be this kind of believer.

MY NOTES