Did They Really Believe?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

John 8:30-32, "As he spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'

Jesus taught the people and as they heard the words that he spoke many of them believed in him. The question is - just what did they believe? There are those who teach that to say that a person believes is all that is needed for salvation, but does that go along with the bible? Scripture must be compared with scripture, otherwise one may take a verse and build something that contradicts bible doctrines.

Yes, some of the people in the crowd believed in Jesus, at least for awhile. The problem was that when he spoke of bondage to sin, they thought of only physical bondage. The more they heard

the angrier they became. At the end of the discussion they claimed that he had a devil and tried to stone him to death. What kind of believers were they? Could anyone feel that people that could do this are saved and doing the will of God?

It is one thing to believe in God and another to walk with God. I have talked to many people who say that they believe in God, but do not obey his word. How can anyone help but wonder just what they truly believe? Jesus asked a very important question in Luke 6:46 when he said, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" God's word is not something that we can change, alter, or leave out.

Can a person be pleasing to God when they claim to obey him and then mock his word? Does a person really believe in the God of creation when they think that he does not, and will not, keep his word? Is there any hope for one who thinks so little of God that they don't honor him as God, but toys with worship? No matter what people may think, God is no beggar. He doesn't beg us to follow him and is not so desperate for worshippers that he will

take whatever we may choose to give him. When we follow him and heed his commands we help ourselves, not him. He is God whether we believe in him, or not.

Malachi 1:8., "And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the Lord of hosts." God demands the best from us, not the leftovers, and scraps of our time. I heard a man say once that if people worked for him and served him the way that they did the Lord that he would fire them all. Trouble is, many are more concerned with what man thinks than they are with what the Lord thinks of them.

If we really believe in God then let us serve God. To believe in God is to believe in Jesus, the Christ. Those who believe what God has said will walk with God and his word will be in evidence not only on Sunday morning, but each day that we live. Do you really believe? If so you will live by his word and be led by his Holy

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