

THEY BELIEVE BUT ARE THEY BELIEVERS?

“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20: 30-31)

John in his gospel he recorded seven miraculous signs and as the following:

1. The turning of water into wine (Read in your own bible John 2: 1-11)
2. The healing of the noble man’s son (Read in your own bible John 4: 46-54)
3. The healing of the man at the pool (Read in your own bible John 5: 1-15)
4. The feeding of the 5,000 (Read in your own bible John 6: 1-13)
5. The healing of the blind man (Read in your own bible John 9: 1-41)
6. The resurrection of Lazarus (Read in your own bible John 11: 1-44)
7. The miraculous catch of fish (Read in your own bible John 21: 1-14)

Jesus did not only do the above miracles but many others: ***“Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.” (John 21: 25)*** The reason that Jesus did these miracles that the people may believe that He is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing they may have life in His name, life eternal and life to the full.

Truly also the Word of God says, ***“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” (John 1: 12)*** While there are clear examples of such believers throughout the book of John like the disciples, the Samaritan woman, the Samaritan villagers, the nobleman and his family, the man at the pool, the former blind man, Martha and Mary, and the beloved disciples-it is also clear that not all those who believe are what one might call believers as we can see below and for the following reasons.

1- They believe in Jesus because they saw the miraculous signs that He did: “Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name.” (John 2: 23) Now many are attracted to Jesus because He do miracles for them or He answers their prayer. But the question is this: Does these people will continue to believe and have faith in Him even when He will not do miracles for them or answer their prayers.

2- They believe but Jesus would not entrust Himself to them: “But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. He did not need man’s testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man” (John 2: 24-25) Jesus knows what is in the hearts of the people and He knew the motive of each and every man. You cannot mock the Lord; He can probe your heart and knows what is inside you indeed.

3- They believed in Jesus because He gave them food: “Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill.” (John 6: 26) And that is the truth, many they believe and run after Jesus because He gave them food and other material things.

4- They believe but they did not continue to believe in Him and walk with Him because of the hard teaching: Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.” (John 6: 53-56) Jesus Christ is the living Word of God and to eat the flesh of Jesus and drink His blood is to accept and to digest all His Word that is in the Bible. ***“On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?” (John 6: 60)*** When we start to give the hard teaching many they cannot accept it and would not continue walking with the Lord. ***“Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him.” From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.” (John 6: 61-66)*** So when it come to hard teaching many they run away

5- They believe but they would not continue because they would betray the Lord: “Then Jesus replied, “Have I not chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil!” (He meant Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, who, though one of the Twelve, was later to betray him.)” (John 6: 70-71) Some who believe in Jesus would do a disgraceful things and harm the Lord. Judas Iscariot betrayed the Lord for the sake of money. Many they would betray Him for the sake of satisfying their earthly and worldly desires, ***“For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things.” (Philippians 3: 18-19)***

6- They believe but they are not the real disciples: “To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8: 31-32) The true disciples of Jesus are those who hold truly to His Word and to His teaching, and truly they are the true children of God. But if they are claiming that they are Jesus’ disciples but they are telling lies and living in disobedience to God’s Word, they are no more children of God but of the devil as Jesus said when He confronted some of them, ***“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies” (John 8: 44)***

My Dear and Beloved: Jesus said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.” (John 14: 17) To accept Jesus and to receive Him is to accept and receive His Word that is in the Bible. This would be the case for you; if you believe in Jesus you need to continue to believe in Him and to follow His Word that can give you eternal life as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord I receive You, and accept and hold firmly to all the teaching of Your Word. This is my commitment and my prayer to You in Jesus name, Amen.