

"I Know Whom I Have Believed"

Introduction

2 Timothy 1:12 For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

1. **Humanism deplors our tendency to put our faith in something or someone other than ourselves.**
2. **Nearly everything has been tried as a source of ultimate security.**
 - A. **People.**
 - B. **Money.**
 - C. **Power.**
 - D. **Pleasure.**
 - E. **Science.**
 - F. **Philosophy.**
3. **But nothing temporal has ever proved 100% trustworthy.**
4. **In 2 Timothy 1:12, Paul points us to the only source of true security.**

The Meaning of Real Faith

1. **The faith that is possible to have in God is not blind faith.**
2. **Faith is confidence in the reality of something “unseen.”**
 - A. **Faith is confidence based on that which either we or some credible witness has experienced firsthand.**
Hebrews 11:1
 - B. **“Unseen” does not equal “unreal!”**
 - C. **There is a significant difference between:**
 - 1) **Believing in the existence of England and that of the Land of Oz.**
 - 2) **Believing in the trustworthiness of my father and that of a total stranger.**
3. **God has never asked anyone to trust His word without having furnished more than ample evidence of His credibility.**
Matthew 9:1-8
 - A. **Ultimately, God is asking us to trust what He tells us about things that we are not yet in a position to verify — because He has shown us that His character is perfectly dependable.**
 - B. **Everything we have seen teaches us to trust what God says about anything we have not seen!**

4. **We need to have a faith in God that is both real and active.**
 - A. **We need to put our confidence in God Himself.**
 - B. **We need to believe everything He says to us enough to obey and take whatever risks may be involved. TRUST AND OBEY!**

Three Notable Examples of Trust in God

1. **Noah.**
Hebrews 11:7
2. **Abraham.**
Hebrews 11:8-10, 17-19.

Genesis 15:6 And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

Galatians 3:6-9 just as Abraham "BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS ACCOUNTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS." Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." **So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.**

3. **Moses.**
Hebrews 11:23-29

The Need to Commit Ourselves to God

1. **As Christians, we know better than to put our faith in the undependable things the world trusts: money, pleasure, etc.**
2. **But do we do any better when we put our faith in the church, tradition, elders, preachers, brethren, etc.?**
3. **The only thing we can safely put our ultimate trust in is God Himself.**
 - A. **Our faith needs to be in the Creator, and not in anything created by Him.**

Romans 1:25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and **worshiped and served the creature** rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

4. **We need to “commit” ourselves to Him.**

2 Timothy 1:12 For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for **I know whom I have believed** and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

1 Peter 4:19 Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, **as to a faithful Creator.**

1 Peter 5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

5. **Specifically, we need to learn to trust God for how things are going to work out in the future if we obey Him in the present!**

Conclusion

1. **Since the beginning of time, God has been giving evidence that He can be counted on.**
2. **The very best of that evidence was given at the Cross:
Romans 8:31-32**
3. **The evidence of God's dependability is so strong that there ought to be nothing that could shake our confidence, no matter how contradictory it appears.**

Job 13:15 Though He slay me, **yet will I trust Him**. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.

Daniel 3:16-18 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, **our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand**, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

4. **What God desires on our part is the obedience of faith.**

Romans 1:5 Through Him we have received grace and apostleship **for obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name,

5. **Do we know whom we have believed — and are we persuaded that He is able to keep what we have committed to Him until that Day?**

