

Monday, 19 February 2018 1 John 5:10

Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

This passage begins with a very interesting sentence. The witness (other translations) is in me; the evidence that the belief cycle is active and effective in my life. The righteousness, peace, and joy, to the extent that it characterizes my life, is the witness. The compulsion to know the LORD, God, the Almighty more deeply is the witness. The desire to live according to His Law is the witness. The transformation that has taken place in my life is the witness. I am the witness and am continuously growing into that witness in all aspects of my life.

Tuesday, 20 February 2018 1 John 5:13

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

A sampling of what John wrote to guide me:
Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. 1 John 2:10
Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 1 John 2:15

And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us. 1 John 3:23-24

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 1 John 4:7-13

Wednesday, 21 February 2018 Jude 1:5

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.

If I'm looking for proof that belief and obedience are tightly woven together, I need look no further than Exodus and Numbers. The story of Israel's flight from Egypt to the Promised land is filled with examples. Ex. 32:26-28 when 3000 died for worshipping the golden calf. Num. 11:31-34 as the Israelites craved other food than the manna provided. Or Num. 14, the record of Israel's rebellion and banishment to the wilderness until all had died who refused to obey the LORD and trust Him by entering the Promised Land.

Thursday, 22 February 2018 Revelation 21:3-5

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. (KJV)

There are passages, and this is one such, which cry out to be read in the King James Version. The modern translations lack the comfort and finality, the rhythm, the warmth and familiarity of the Authorized Version. "These words are true and faithful." They are indeed worthy of faith, for the former things will pass away.
Hallelujah! Come. Lord Jesus, come.

Friday, 23 February 2018 Revelation 22:6

And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place."

The angel of the LORD, God, the Almighty said, "These words are trustworthy and true." As I approach the end of this study, I am completely convinced that the words of this Book are indeed worthy of belief/trust/commitment/obedience all wrapped in one word, **FAITH**.
He, the LORD of all things said, "*And behold, I am coming*

soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

Saturday, 24 February 2018 John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

So to the original question, "What does it mean to believe?" It is not a simple statement to be recited at an altar call and then forgotten until next time the evangelist comes to town. No, it is a solemn statement of complete acceptance of the grace and mercy of the LORD, God the Almighty's forgiveness of my sin. It is a statement of intent to live a life of trust in the promises of the LORD, God the Almighty through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is a statement of commitment and obedience to the Word of God as my guide to life in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth as I await His return for His people. Maranatha!

Lord's Day, 25 February 2018 Psalm 119:169

Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word!

Lord, we need understanding in the matter of the congregation we currently attend and have a covenant relationship with. Is there a place for us to contribute and fulfill the Great Commission? Is there a call to witness here that we are not seeing? Guide us, Lord, and give us your peace.

Lord willing, I will begin a series, "To Fear or Not to Fear, That is the Question," on 2/26 to examine what Scripture tells me about what it means to fear or not fear the Lord. Please join me and enter into the conversation.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



February 19-25, 2018

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: Philippians 1:3-6

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

LORD, one of my problems is not lacking confidence that You will carry the work You have begun through the [congregation] to completion. Nor is it remembering to pray for the [congregation] when I pray. No, it is remembering to pray without ceasing.

My prayer for myself and for my fellow saints is that we become saints of prayer; that we spend more time on our knees praying and less time on our feet doing and that we pray with joy for the partnership that You have formed among us. *Amen*

Creational Theology hint for the week—We are in the midst of a typical Vermont winter. Pleasant days in the upper 20s to mid 30s, crisp nights, an occasional blanket of fresh snow to maintain the pristine beauty of the snow cover. A most beautiful time of year for those blessed with warm housing. However, we need to keep those who are without housing, fuel or adequate food in our prayers and in our awareness of important mission fields.

Voices Together is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ. These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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