

GOSPEL OF JOHN
CAN WE BELIEVE GOD AND JESUS?
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Introduction

Last week we began looking at *John 14:1* as we saw “**JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS.**” Specifically we looked at the **TROUBLED HEARTS** of **JESUS’ DISCIPLES** and the various **REASONS** why their **HEARTS** were **TROUBLED!** We saw multiple **REASONS!** We also talked about **REASONS** our **HEARTS** might be **TROUBLED!**

Then we saw the cure or **REMEDY** for **TROUBLED HEARTS** is to **BELIEVE in GOD** and the **LORD JESUS CHRIST** and I said that I reserved the right to come back and look at this a little more.

And that’s what I want to do as we look more at *verse 1* and answer this question—**CAN WE BELIEVE GOD AND JESUS?** This is important because **JESUS** said that **BELIEF IN GOD AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS THE REMEDY FOR TROUBLED HEARTS!** (*Vs 1b*)

I. LET’S UNDERSTAND DEFINITION OF THE TERM “BELIEVE” THAT JESUS USES HERE! (*John 14:1*)

The word that is translated “**BELIEVE**” here in **BOTH** of these places in this verse means to “**BELIEVE, TRUST, OR PUT FAITH IN!**”

A. BELIEVE, TRUST, Or PUTTING FAITH IN SOMEONE Comes From A CONFIDENCE In Their PERSON!
(i.e. Their CHARACTER!)

Is the **PERSON** known to be TRUTHFUL and **TRUSTWORTHY?**

Does the **PERSON** have a RECORD of BELIEVABILITY?

Some people are long on promises and short on delivery!
Did you ever know anybody that was that way?

B. BELIEF, TRUST, Or PUTTING FAITH IN SOMEONE Comes From A CONFIDENCE In Their POWER!
(i.e. Their ABILITY!)

Is the **PERSON** ABLE to DO what they SAY?

Do they have the necessary **POWER** to back up their talk?

We might could look at other things that give us **CONFIDENCE**, but **these two are especially important!**
Amen!

II. LET’S APPLY THIS TO THE PERSON OF GOD?

The bigger the PERSON the more we would expect them to have a RECORD Of DOING POWERFUL and otherwise UNBELIEVABLE things! Right? There is none bigger than **GOD.**
A. From What We Know Of GOD, Can We Have Confidence In HIS PERSON?

i.e. Is **GOD** Known To Be **TRUTHFUL?** Does **GOD** have a RECORD of BELIEVABILITY? **HE** most certainly does!

All the way back to the beginning of things in **GOD’S** dealing with mankind **GOD** has proven to be **TRUTHFUL!**
*Genesis 2:15–17—“15 And the **LORD** God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And the **LORD** God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: **for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.**”*

In Moses Day The **PROPHET BALAAM** told **BALAK...**
*Numbers 23:19—“**God is not a man, that he should lie; Neither the son of man, that he should repent: **Hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?**”***

In **GOD’S** dealings with **HIS PEOPLE** through **JOSHUA’S DAY...**
*Joshua 21:45—“**There failed not ought of any good thing which the **LORD** had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.**”*

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Joshua 23:14– “And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.”

In GOD’S dealings with HIS PEOPLE through SOLOMON’S DAY...

1 Kings 8:56–“Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.”

PAUL’S acknowledgment in HIS DAY...

1 Corinthians 1:9–“God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.”

1 Thessalonians 5:23–24–“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.”

So, in what we know of GOD’S PERSON:

Is HE TRUTHFUL and TRUSTWORTHY?

Does HE have a RECORD of BELIEVABILITY?

YES! YES, HE DOES! I CHALLENGE YOU TO PROVE OTHERWISE!

B. From What We Know Of GOD, Can We Have Confidence In HIS POWER?

(i.e. Is GOD known to be POWERFUL? Does GOD have the ABILITY to DO what HE SAYS HE will do?)

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Does GOD Have A RECORD Of DOING POWERFUL and otherwise UNBELIEVABLE Things?

All the way back to the beginning until now GOD has proven to be ALL POWERFUL (i.e. OMNIPOTENCE!)

In CREATION...

Psalm 33:8–9–“8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. 9 For he spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.”

In ABRAHAM’S day...when SARAH laughed...

Genesis 18:14–“Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.”

Genesis 21:1–2–“1 And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as he had spoken. 2 For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.”

In MOSES’ day at the RED SEA...

Exodus 14:31– “And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.”

They were so in awe of the POWER of the LORD that MOSES and the CHILDREN OF ISRAEL sang a song to that effect that is recorded in *Exodus 15!*

In MOSES’ day in the desert wilderness when ISRAEL got tired of MANNA and wanted meat...

Numbers 11:23–“And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD’s hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.”

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KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR of BABYLON after being humbled by the LORD...

Daniel 4:35—“And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?”

In the VIRGIN BIRTH of our LORD and SAVIOR...

Luke 1:35—“And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.”

I could stand up here and tell story after story recorded in the WORD OF GOD of the POWER OF ALMIGHTY GOD!

III. LET’S APPLY THIS TO THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST!

A. From What We Know Of JESUS CHRIST, Can We Have Confidence In HIS PERSON?

(i.e. Is JESUS CHRIST Known To Be TRUTHFUL? Does JESUS CHRIST have a RECORD of BELIEVABILITY? HE most certainly does!)

I’m not going to take time to go back to the many PRE-INCARNATE manifestations of the LORD JESUS CHRIST in the OLD TESTAMENT other than to say that the many manifestations of THE ANGEL OF THE LORD in the OLD TESTAMENT are the same as JESUS CHRIST of the NEW TESTAMENT but before HE was VIRGIN BORN. And the ANGEL OF THE LORD ALWAYS spoke TRUTH!

We have the WORDS of the APOSTLE JOHN...

John 1:14—“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”

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John 1:17–18—“17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. 18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.”

We have the WORDS From JESUS regarding the TESTIMONY of JOHN THE BAPTIST...

John 5:31–33—“31 If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true. 32 There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true. 33 Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth.”

We have the TESTIMONY from JOHN THE BAPTIST...

John 1:29–34—“29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. 30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. 31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. 32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. 33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. 34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

John 3:33–36—“33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. 34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. 35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. 36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

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We have the WORDS of JESUS regarding HIMSELF...

John 8:45–46—“45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. 46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?”

John 14:6—“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

Now, understand that we will have more to say about **JESUS CHRIST** being **THE TRUTH** when we get to *John 14:6* in just a few verses from now!

But know that **JESUS CHRIST** spoke the **TRUTH** and **HE** was known to be **TRUTHFUL** and had a record of **BELIEVABILITY!** (e.g. *The preaching in ACTS!*)
WE CAN HAVE CONFIDENCE IN JESUS' PERSON!

- B. From What We Know Of JESUS CHRIST, Can We Have Confidence In HIS POWER?**
(i.e. Is **JESUS CHRIST** known to be **POWERFUL**? Does **JESUS CHRIST** have the **ABILITY** to **DO** what **HE SAYS HE will do**?)

As GOD does JESUS CHRIST have a RECORD of DOING POWERFUL and otherwise UNBELIEVABLE things?

Well, we need not point any further than to **HIS MIGHTY MIRACLES!** In some circles it is taught that **JESUS** performed **MIRACLES** as an example for **CHRISTIANS** to follow. But that is **NOT** the case!

John 20:30–31—“30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.”

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But **THE GREATEST PROOF OF JESUS CHRIST'S POWER** (and **TRUTHFULNESS!**) was when **HE GAVE UP HIS LIFE FOR US** and then **TOOK IT BACK UP AGAIN** just like **HE SAID HE WOULD!**

That is an EVIDENCE of JESUS CHRIST'S POWER that we have but the APOSTLES did not have at the time of John 14:1. All they had was **JESUS CHRIST'S MIRACLES** that they were eyewitnesses to!

And here in *John 14:1*, **JESUS is calling on HIS APOSTLES** to **“BELIEVE ALSO IN ME.”**

Did they know that **JESUS** could raise people from the dead? Oh yes they did! The latest would have been **LAZARUS!**

To **RAISE ONE FROM THE DEAD** especially after that one has been **dead for four days** is both **POWERFUL** and **UNBELIEVABLE!**

But listen to what **JESUS** told a crowd that **HE** would do recorded in the chapter **prior to raising LAZARUS!**

John 10:17–18—“17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. 18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.”

Now **THAT** raised the **POWERFUL** and **UNBELIEVABLE** meters off the charts! That is why **PAUL** said what he said in:

Romans 1:4—“And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:”

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That was something that the **APOSTLES** and others in the **BOOK OF ACTS** were **so convinced of** that they were willing to give their lives to preach and minister the **GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST!**

What convinced them? They personally SAW with their own eyes the RESURRECTED CHRIST!

Conclusion

Now here is what we need to see here as we wrap this verse and this message up. **JESUS** is saying to **HIS APOSTLES** (*And us!*), **“LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED.”** (They were **most troubled** by what **CHRIST** had told them relating to what was about to happen to **HIM!**)

The **APOSTLES** had enough already to not only **BELIEVE IN GOD**, but also to **BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST!** **JESUS** had told them that **HE** was going to be arrested, crucified, and buried, **BUT HE WASN'T GOING TO STAY DEAD!**

Were they going to **BELIEVE IN GOD WHO** said in **HIS WORD** that this was going to happen? And were they going to **BELIEVE IN CHRIST WHO PROMISED** them that this would not be the end, but that **HE** would **LIVE AGAIN?**

And listen, **IF GOD'S WORD CAN BE BELIEVED** (*and IT can be*) and **IF GOD HAS ALL POWER** to be able to do anything (*and HE does*), then **HE** is worthy of our **BELIEVING HIM or TRUSTING HIM!**

And if **JESUS CHRIST CAN BE BELIEVED or TRUSTED** (*and HE can be*) and **IF HE HAS BEEN GIVEN ALL POWER** (*and HE has—Matthew 28:18*), then **HE** is worthy of our **BELIEVING HIM or TRUSTING HIM!**

We can **TRUST GOD** and **JESUS CHRIST** to do what **THEY** said **THEY** will do! **THEY WILL DO THEIR PART!** (They have the **TRUTHFULNESS** and the **POWER** to **FULFILL IT ALL!**)
Our part is to **“let not your heart be troubled”** by **TRUSTING THEM!**