

John 2:23-25

Unsafe Faith

1) What Jesus Knows

a) What is in mankind – v. 25

- _____ Jn 3:16, Rev 21:4, Mt 25:41,46
- _____ Ps 14:3, Eccl 7:20, Rom 8:7-8
- _____ Jer 17:9

b) What is in individuals – v. 24

2) Safe (Saving) Faith

a) Hear (Knowledge)

- _____
Eternal Ruler, Legislator, Judge
Creator, Sustainer, Owner
Holy, Righteous, Merciful, Gracious
- _____
Created, Commanded, Accountable
Sinful, Enslaved, Hopeless
- _____
Son of God, Lamb of God
Ultimate Human Prophet, Priest, King
Virgin Born, Sinless Life, Sacrificial Death
Resurrected, Ascended, Returning to Reign
Only Way, Truth, Life from God

b) Respond (Belief)

- _____ – Gospel testimony as true and actual – 1 Thess 2:13
- _____ – Heartfelt sorrow over your sin against God – 2 Cor 7:10-11
- _____ – Turn from sin – 1 Thess 1:9, Ezek 18:21, Acts 17:30, 26:20
- _____ – Trust in Jesus alone for forgiveness of sins – Rom 4:5, 1 Thess 1:10, Luke 24:46-47
- _____ – Follow Jesus in obedience and faith – John 3:36, Luke 9:23

c) Remain (Perseverance)

- _____ the Faith – Col 2:6-7
- _____ the Faith – Col 1:21-23

John 2:23-25

NOTE: Perseverance is not “works salvation”

- James 2:14-17
- Matt 13:18-23

3) Unsafe Faith

a) _____ Faith – v. 23

- Believed because they were seeing
- Believed while they were seeing
- Other Examples:

b) _____ Faith

- Gain Power for Self – John 6:2,14-15, Acts 8:19, 3 Jn 9, Mark 10:35
- Retain Freedom for Self – Mark 10:17, Acts 5:2, Heb 12:15-17, Mt 7:23-27

c) _____ Faith

- Seek Approval of Others – Matt 6:1-18, Luke 11:37-44
- Cloaking Own Sin – John 12:6
- False Teachers (Jude, 2 Pet 2) / False Brothers (Gal 2:4)

⇒ Examine Yourself – 2 Cor 13:5

Praxis

1. In what ways did “today” take too much emphasis over eternity in your actions and responses in the last week?
2. What are some practical ways to examine your faith (2 Cor 13:5) in the knowledge factor? In the obedience factor? In the motive factor?
3. Given that a person can “believe in Jesus” in an unsafe way, how should this impact the way we explain the “response” in Gospel conversations?
4. Practice explaining “believe” out loud, as you would in a witnessing situation...