



THE CHAIR ANALOGY ERROR (IS IT EASY TO BELIEVE?)

JOEY FAUST (6-21-23)

B-A-B-E = V-IV-V-I

$$fb = e$$

**"Face it brother. You have
an ugly fin that needs to be
cut off."**

<http://livingwordrec.ca/archive/whoever-believes-in-him-should-not-perish/>

"So we have to ask: What does it mean to 'believe in Jesus'?...Think of it this way. Chairs keep us from falling on the floor when we sit down. Sitting in a chair and expecting it to hold me up requires a certain measure of faith..."

"It's not enough to know who Jesus is and what he's done; we have to believe that what we know is true. Let's go back to the chair analogy..."

"I know that a chair is what will keep me from falling on the floor when I sit down. But if I'm not convinced of that knowledge, will I actually sit down in a chair?..."

"Trust is what takes us beyond mere knowledge of the Gospel, beyond being convicted that the Gospel is true, and leads us to truly putting it to work in our lives...real faith in the chair's ability to hold me up is seen when I actually sit down on it..."

""Yes, Jesus, I trust in you to save my soul, but if you wonder why I'm not tithing, it's because I'm going to keep trusting in myself for my daily bread.""

<http://fpcurrent.com/the-faith-that-saves/>:

"The Apostle James says that even the devils believe, but their faith is not saving faith...this doctrine in the head must eventually make its way to the heart...You must go from simply knowing a biblical fact to actually believing that fact to be true..."

"Sinners must not only know facts and believe them to be true, but rest upon them for their own personal salvation...A chair analogy helps to illustrate this point..."

"What is keeping you from being held up by the chair? The obvious answer is that you are not sitting in it...Standing beside the chair is not the same thing as sitting in it...No one can claim to be saved who merely believes the facts about Christ..."

THE FALSE SET-UP:

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

1. Merely Believing the Gospel.

II. Sitting in Chair:

1. Trusting Christ with the will and surrendering to Him in obedience in all things.

A RIGHT SET-UP:

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

1. Merely **HEARING** the truth of the Gospel.

II. Sitting in Chair:

1. **Believing** the Gospel.

Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe...

**28 Therefore we conclude
that a man is justified by
faith without the deeds of
the law.**

Romans 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Luke 17:20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:

21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, **the kingdom of God is within you.**

Matthew 13:19 When any one
heareth the word of the kingdom,
and **understandeth it not**, then
cometh the wicked one, and
catcheth away that which was
sown in his heart. This is he which
received seed by the way side.

Acts 15:7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should **hear the word of the gospel, **and believe.****

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

- 1. Believing I have good enough works to save myself eternally.**
- 2. Believing God (and or Jesus) exists.**
- 3. Believing He does great things.**
- 4. Believing He can answer prayers. Etc.**

II. Sitting in Chair:

- 1. Believing the Gospel (trusting the Lord Jesus to save eternally).**

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

1. Believing that IF I trusted in Christ, He would grant me eternal life.

II. Sitting in Chair:

1. Trusting that Christ has saved me eternally by His Blood.

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

1. Believing that God HAS saved the world by His Blood, in a legal/provisional sense.

II. Sitting in Chair:

1. Believing that He HAS saved me, personally.

*"Whosoever," surely meaneth
me, Surely meaneth me, O
surely meaneth me;
"Whosoever," surely meaneth
me, "Whosoever," meaneth me.*

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

1. Believing that God HAS saved the world by His Blood.

II. Sitting in Chair:

1 Going beyond mere "belief," to actually "trusting" that chair can hold.

3 John 1:14 But I **trust I shall shortly see thee...**

Hebrews 11:6 But without **faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must **believe** that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

Romans 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham **believed** God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

5 But to him that worketh not, but **believeth** on him that justifieth the ungodly, his **faith** is counted for righteousness.

Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also **trusted**, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also **after that ye believed**, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Proper Set-Up of Chair Analogy (if one must use it!):

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

1. Mere Hearing of the Gospel.

II. Sitting in Chair:

1. Not only hearing, but believing/trusting that the Gospel is true (resulting in personal assurance of everlasting life!).

I. Pre-Sitting in Chair:

1. Believing the Gospel and thus having assurance of everlasting life.

II. Sitting in Chair:

1. Striving to obey Christ in all His commandments, in godly fear, to receive the prizes set before us, here and at the Judgment Seat of Christ, and avoid Divine discipline in all its forms!

Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.