

DOUBT
A Living Gospel
Sunday, January 14, 2018
Phil Courson

Mark 9:14-24

“Jesus is NOT afraid of your doubt, so let it draw you to a greater relationship with Him”

I. Help My Unbelief

“Doubt is not just a Christian problem. It’s a human problem...Doubt is no respecter of persons. Seasoned saint or hardened sinner, we’re all susceptible.” Bobby Conway

What is Doubt?

Six different words (puzzlement or wondering), key meanings include uncertainty or hesitation between two positions. To doubt is to waver between the two, to believe and doubt at once, and so to be “in two minds.” To believe you are ‘in one mind and to disbelieve you are ‘in one mind’ but to doubt put you ‘in two minds.’

“Christ never failed to distinguish between doubt and unbelief. Doubt is can’t believe; unbelief is won’t believe. Doubt is honest; unbelief is obstinacy. Doubt is looking for light; unbelief is content with darkness. Loving darkness rather than light – that is what Christ attacked and attacked unsparingly.” Henry Drummond

“Doubt often leave its victims in a state of desperation...Doubt can leave us emotionally wasted...Doubt’s lingering effects drain and deplete our intimacy with Jesus, making us feel fake around more confident believers.” Bobby Conway

“Doubt doesn’t stay put. A person will either doubt toward unbelief or they will doubt toward faith.” Bobby Conway

II. Help My Belief

“Ultimately, the problem with man is not the absence of evidence, it is the suppression of it.” Ravi Zacharias

Belief is not just mental assent!

James 2:19 – “You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe and shudder (tremble).”

What is Belief? It is mental assent and faith that leads to transformation.

“Christianity is built on transformational belief...Belief leading to salvation must be more than mere knowledge. Something must change; a fundamental shift must happen. That sort of belief is what the Bible calls faith. Faith is what differentiates a Christian from a demon. Faith is belief that transforms into action, into new actions.” Barnabas Piper

Belief or faith is not just ‘intellectual assent’ but includes a “moral element of personal trust.”
Wayne Grudem

“The more we know about him and about the character of God that is completely revealed in him, the more fully we are able to put our trust in him. Thus, faith (belief) is not weakened by knowledge but should increase with more true knowledge.” Wayne Grudem

“He does not believe who does not live according to his beliefs.” Thomas Fuller

III. Conclusion