

Why It Is Difficult To Believe God

Introduction

- A. If a person is a believer, knows God is faithful and all-powerful, and the promises in the Bible then it would seem that faith/belief would be simple, easy and powerful.
- B. All believers realize that this is usually not true in daily life. One of our most serious difficulties is in this area of faith. Doubt is apparently intuitive and overwhelming.
- C. Although we know that faith is an ability given in salvation, that it is a decision to trust God in the application of His Word to daily life -- we seem weak, hindered, and often confused when we attempt to do so. Why is this so?

I. Examination of Passages that Witness to Unbelief.

A. The Unbelief of Israel : Numbers 13,14. (Note 14:11)

1. What had God promised them regarding Canaan? (Gen 12:7; 13:15; 17:8)

2. How had He displayed His sovereignty and power? (Ex 3-19; 40; Lev 10:1,2)

3. What did the ten spies say? Why did they bring such a report? (Num 13)

4. What did Caleb and Joshua say? Why did they bring such a report? (Num 13,14)

5. What effects did these reports have? Why did the evil report win?

6. What should the people have done? Explain why.

B. The Unbelief of the Disciples: (Matt 8:22-27; Luke 8:22-25)

1. What were the circumstances in each of these situations?

2. What was the result in the life of the Disciples?

3. What appeared to control them and keep them from believing God?

II. What Areas of the Israelites and Disciples' Inner Life most Affected by Unbelief?

III. What Area of Caleb and Joshua's Inner Life most Affected by Faith?

IV. Examination of a Passage that is a Witness to Faith. (Rom 4:17-25)

A. What was God's promise to Abraham and Sarah? Gen 17:1-5, 15-19)

B. What was the response of Abraham and Sarah? (Rom 4:18-21)

C. What area of their inner life was most affected by faith?

Conclusion: What are we Taught from these Passages?

Regarding our Thinking and Emotions? _____

Regarding our Will? _____
