

the importance of believing

2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Timothy 2:15; John 5:38-39; John 1:1

We have a *responsibility* in the body of Christ, not just to go to a church, but to tell others about Jesus. The Word is God. It should convict us to do right when we have it truly hidden in our heart.

One of the greatest systems we have in our society today is belief. Much of what we live by or respond to is what we believe and what we trust. Believe and trust are two compelling words. You cannot trust what you don't believe. Many churches and denominations are built on various theological debates. Many of our traditions: proper days of worship; baptism rituals; the Lord's supper; qualifications for clergy; keep us divided because we don't believe what God has already said in His Word. All these denominational debates are based out of how we see God, how we believe God, and how we want God to move.

We must believe God as we believe our cars, the aircraft pilots, and the chairs we sit in every day. When we press our brakes, we believe it will stop our vehicle. We get on planes and trust the pilot to take us to our destination. This is where God wants us: absolute faith—to believe even when we can't see. When we get this understanding, we can be a greater witness to those around us. We are assigned to a vineyard. This is why it is important to understand belief.

The church is becoming irrelevant to the world because too much of the church is in the world. We can't take what we see in Babylon and bring it into the church. But if the church believes; if we operate in the power of God, we can make the church relevant again.

Obey God! Believe in His Word, and trust Him. The church must see the power given to believers and walk in it. The world needs to see something supernatural that can only be explained through God. The world needs our help, not for us to put bandaids on cancer. We must demonstrate that there is a real God of the universe who sacrificed himself for our sins; that Jesus is Lord, and no one comes to the Father except through Him.

We must go and preach the gospel to all creatures. Paul believed and acted on it, and God used him to write most of the New Testament; Peter believed and acted on it, and was crucified upside down; John believed and acted on it, and was exiled to Patmos, where he was given the visions of Revelation. Learn to forgive, and believe in the Word of God!