

The Lord's Definition Of A Believer

I. Introduction:

A. The Lord doesn't look on man as man does (**I Samuel 16:7** and **Luke 16:15**).

1. The Lord's thinking is not defined by us (**Isaiah 55:7-9**).

2. Our thoughts need to be defined by Him (**Psalms 37:23** and **Proverbs 3:5-7**).

B. We must remember that the Lord views things as either/or (**Luke 11:23**).

1. He says do it or don't, but there is no middle ground (**Revelation 3:14-16**).

2. God says choose (**I Kings 18:21**).

3. The Lord sees doers of His word or not, He does not see some idea of inbetweeners (**Matthew 6:24**, **I Corinthians 10:21**, and **I John 3:8-10**).

II. Body: God differentiates between believers and unbelievers based on action (**Luke 6:46-49**).

A. A believer has a Greek dictionary definition (as used in **I Timothy 4:12**):

"trustworthy; subjectively, trustful:--believe(-ing, -r), faithful(-ly), sure, true" (Strong's # 4103).

1. God's definition of faith: *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen... 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"* (**Hebrews 11:1; 6**).

a. Faith is what moves us to please God (**Hebrews 11:5; 7**).

b. Faith works by what (**Galatians 5:6**)?

c. How is love proven (**John 14:15**)?

d. Can a person without Christ claim to have hope which is the substance of faith (**Ephesians 2:12**)?

2. Faith must be obtained (**II Peter 1:1**), continued in (**John 8:30-31** and **Acts 14:21-22**), and put to continuous use (**Titus 3:14**).

3. An example of believers is found in those who receive and do the word of God (**I Thessalonians 1:3-10**).

B. There is a difference between saying God exists and being a believer (**James 2:14-26**).

1. Being a believer is about action (**James 1:19-27**).

2. Just because people show interest, become fascinated, etc.; that does not mean they believe (**Mark 6:1-6**).

3. Some “followers” of Jesus were unbelievers (**John 6:60-64**).

C. Because they believed not (**Psalms 78:1-32**).

1. This lesson applies to us (**Hebrews 3:1-4:3**).

2. The word WORKS on true believers (**I Thessalonians 2:13**).

III. Conclusion: Are you a believer (**Titus 3:8**)?