

To believe in Christ is the core foundation leading to salvation. How does the Word of God so proclaim this?

Acts 16:31 says: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved."

John 3:36: "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

Acts 4:12: "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

As such Jesus said:

John 14:6: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 5:24: "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."

The reason why:

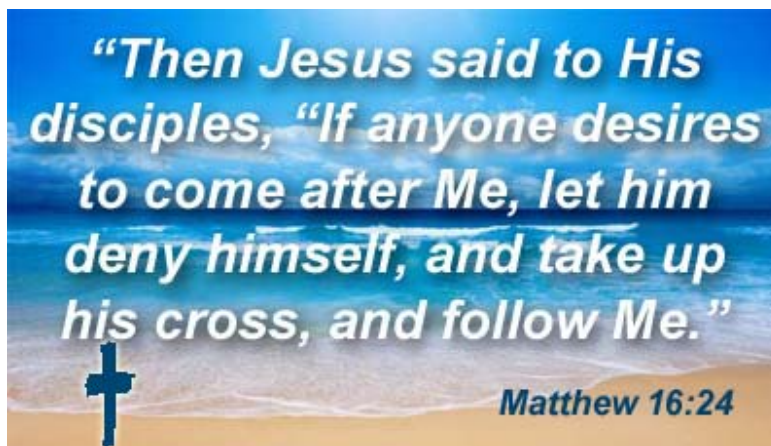
John 3:17-18: "God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

Therefore:

Mark 1:15: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

In light of scripture, do I believe in salvation through Christ only?

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What are the elements involved in truly believing in Christ for salvation? In John 8:31-32, Jesus said: "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Where do we find such truth?

2 Timothy 3:16-17: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

What's more?

Romans 10:17: "Faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

As such we must:

1 Peter 1:14-16: "As obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance; but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

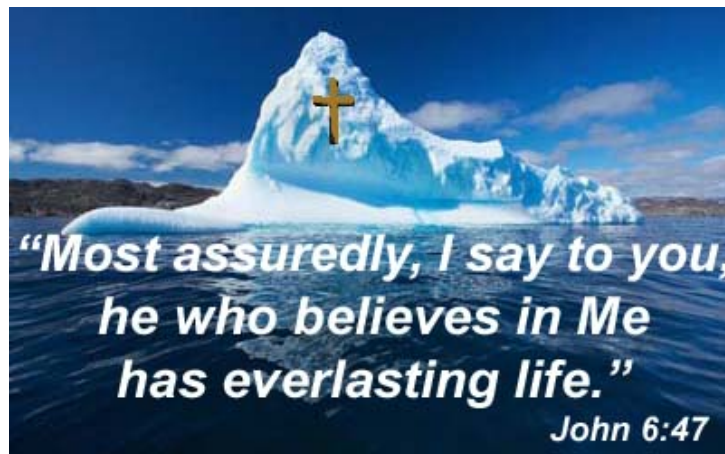
Philippians 2:12-13: "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure."

Therefore:

Hebrews 10:22: "Let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

Do I understand that believing in Christ is way more than just acknowledging who He is?

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How is the power of God enabled in the life of a true believer who abides in Christ?

John 20:31: "These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name."

As such Jesus said:

John 15:5: "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

John 15:7-8: "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."

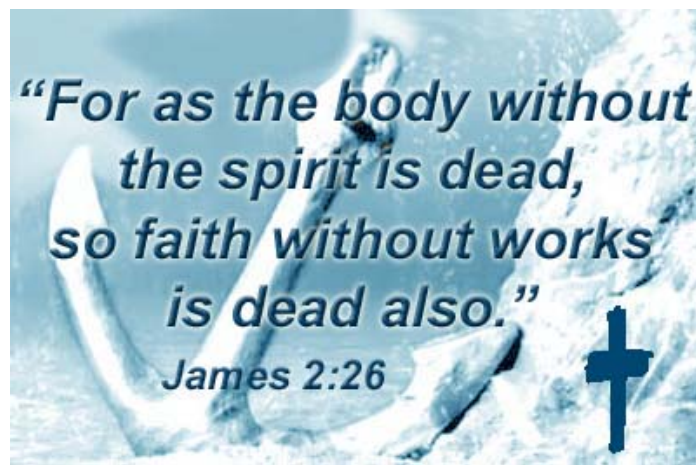
The purpose being:

1 Peter 3:18: "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit."

Ephesians 1:18-20: "That you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places."

How strongly is the power of God at work in my life right now, in abiding in Christ and bearing fruit to the glory of God?

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Why must we follow Christ, if we truly believe in Him as the Savior of the world?

John 8:12: "Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 4:42: "We have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world."

The purpose being:

Ephesians 2:10: "We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

1 Peter 2:21: "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."

As such:

James 1:12: "Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which *the Lord* has promised to those who love Him."

Therefore:

2 Corinthians 5:17: "If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Our ultimate focus being:

Philippians 3:20: "Our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

How anchored in Christ am I, so I live to abide in Him and His Word?

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***“By faith we understand  
that the worlds were framed  
by the Word of God, so that  
the things which are seen  
were not made of things  
which are visible.”***



*Hebrews 11:3*

Here's a testimony of true faith in God:

Hebrews 11:7: “By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”

Now, here's how Jesus explained true faith through the parable of the seed:

Luke 8:11-15: <sup>11</sup> “The seed is the Word of God.

<sup>12</sup> Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the Word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

<sup>13</sup> But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the Word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.

<sup>14</sup> Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

<sup>15</sup> But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the Word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.”

The purpose of faith being:

John 11:40: “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?”

Is the ground of my faith the wayside, the rocks, the thorns, or rather the Good Ground in Christ?

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How do we know what true belief in Christ is, and what are the pitfalls of pseudo belief?

1 John 2:3-4: “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

James 2:14, 17: “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?” <sup>17</sup>“So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

As such we are warned:

James 2:19-20: “You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?”

1 John 4:1: “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”

Therefore:

1 John 5:12: “He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.”

James 1:22: “Be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

And as Jesus clearly said:

Matthew 10:38: “He who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.”

Is my belief in Christ from the heart, so that I carry my cross and truly follow after Him?

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