

Q. Why was the Gospel of John written?

A. So that we might believe that Jesus is God the Son and in doing so we will receive eternal life!

JOHN 20:30 - 31 (NASB)

³⁰THEREFORE MANY OTHER SIGNS JESUS ALSO PERFORMED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE DISCIPLES, WHICH ARE NOT WRITTEN IN THIS BOOK;

³¹**BUT THESE HAVE BEEN WRITTEN SO THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD; AND THAT BELIEVING YOU MAY HAVE LIFE IN HIS NAME.**

JOHN 12:1 – 10-11 (NASB) ¹⁰BUT THE CHIEF PRIESTS PLANNED TO PUT LAZARUS TO DEATH ALSO; ¹¹BECAUSE ON ACCOUNT OF HIM MANY OF THE JEWS WERE GOING AWAY AND WERE **BELIEVING IN JESUS.**

JOHN 11:15 (NASB) ¹⁵AND I AM GLAD FOR YOUR SAKES THAT I WAS NOT THERE, **SO THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE;** BUT LET US GO TO HIM.”

JOHN 11:25 - 27 (NASB)

²⁵JESUS SAID TO HER, “I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE; **HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE EVEN IF HE DIES,**

²⁶AND EVERYONE WHO LIVES AND **BELIEVES IN ME** WILL NEVER DIE. DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?”

²⁷SHE SAID* TO HIM, “YES, LORD; **I HAVE BELIEVED THAT YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD, EVEN HE WHO COMES INTO THE WORLD.**”

JOHN 11:40 (NASB)

⁴⁰JESUS SAID* TO HER, “DID I NOT SAY TO YOU THAT **IF YOU BELIEVE,** YOU WILL SEE THE GLORY OF GOD?”

JOHN 11:42 (NASB)

⁴²“I KNEW THAT YOU ALWAYS HEAR ME; BUT BECAUSE OF THE PEOPLE STANDING AROUND I SAID IT, **SO THAT THEY MAY BELIEVE THAT YOU SENT ME.**”

JOHN 11:45 (NASB)

⁴⁵THEREFORE MANY OF THE JEWS WHO CAME TO MARY, AND SAW WHAT HE HAD DONE, **BELIEVED IN HIM.**

JOHN 11:48 (NASB)

⁴⁸“IF WE LET HIM GO ON LIKE THIS, **ALL MEN WILL BELIEVE IN HIM,** AND THE ROMANS WILL COME AND TAKE AWAY BOTH OUR PLACE AND OUR NATION.”

True Discipleship

John 8:31 - 32 (NASB) ³¹So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine;

³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

One may come to a mental acceptance of certain facts about God and deceive himself into thinking he believes on Christ, but the genuineness of that faith needs to be tested before it is judged as real.

- *“THOU BELIEVEST THAT THERE IS ONE GOD; THOU DOEST WELL: THE DEVILS ALSO BELIEVE, AND TREMBLE. BUT WILT THOU KNOW, O VAIN MAN, THAT FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD?” (JAMES 2:19-20).*
- *Works, of course, do not save one’s soul, but the faith that does save is a faith that produces good works.*

An earlier group of listeners had also “believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did. But Jesus did not commit himself unto them [literally, ‘did not believe on them’], because he knew all men” (John 2:23-24).

The test is simple!

1. *If we continue in His Word, then we are real disciples. Not just church members.*
2. *Our dedication to Jesus is measured by our obedience to His Word. Not just lip service.*
3. *If we question His Word, or resent His Word, or try to avoid obeying His Word, by “interpreting” some preferred meaning of our own into His Word, then we urgently need to seriously examine the genuineness of our belief in the Lord Jesus.*
4. *As true disciples (that is, “learners”), we have His assurance that our continuing studies in His Word will yield an ever-increasing comprehension of God’s created and revealed “truth,” with ever-growing freedom to understand and obey the perfect will of God. Please read Romans 12:1-2.*

Monday Morning Moment:

Believe what you know (God’s Word) and know what you believe!

Proverbs 14:15 (NLT) ¹⁵Only simpletons believe everything they’re told! The prudent carefully consider their steps.

Proverbs 14:15 (NASB) ¹⁵ The naive believes everything, But the sensible man considers his steps.

John 6:68 - 69 (NASB) ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.

⁶⁹“We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God.”

Homework Q & A: *(Please use scripture where appropriate to support your answers.)*

1. What evidence do you have that you are a true Christian?
2. What is a true disciple of Jesus Christ?
3. Are you typically known for what you stand for or are you typically characterized by what you stand against?
___ Stand against person
___ Stand for person
4. What is your definition of the word “believe”?
5. Please explain the following verse in your own words:
JAMES 2:17 (KJV) ¹⁷EVEN SO FAITH, IF IT HATH NOT WORKS, IS DEAD, BEING ALONE.