

If We Believe

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:14
Romans 10:9

1 Thessalonians 4:14 (NKJV) For *if we believe that Jesus died and rose again*, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

Romans 10:9 (NKJV) that *if you* confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and ***believe in your heart*** that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Introduction

There are some evidences of our belief in Jesus' death and resurrection. If we believe Jesus died and rose again, it will affect the way we live our lives. Our belief in Jesus will dramatically alter:

I. How we view life

Luke 12:15 (NKJV) And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, ***for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.***"

A. Our goals

Colossians 3:1-2 (NKJV) If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

1. We will not buy into the materialistic mind set
2. Our goals will have an eternal perspective

B. Our priorities

James 5:20 (NKJV) let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

Jude 1:20-23 (NKJV) But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. 22 And on some have compassion, making a distinction; 23 ***but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire***, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

1. We will prioritize the spiritual well being and growth of our families and friends
2. We will prioritize sharing our faith
3. We will prioritize the spread of the gospel

C. Our lifestyle

Colossians 3:8-14 (NKJV) But now you yourselves are to ***put off*** all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have ***put off*** the old man with his deeds, 10 and have ***put on*** the new man who is renewed in

knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all. 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, ***put on*** tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things ***put on*** love, which is the bond of perfection.

II. How we view others

Genesis 4:9-10 (NKJV) Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. ***Am I my brother's keeper?***" 10 And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.

A. Their worth

Matthew 10:31 (NKJV) "Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

B. Their circumstances

Matthew 10:8 (NKJV) "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give

1. Food, clothing and shelter
2. Health

- a. Spiritual
- b. Physical
- c. Emotional

C. Their spiritual well being

Ezekiel 3:18 (NKJV) "When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; ***but his blood I will require at your hand.***

III. How we view the future

1 Thessalonians 4:13 (NKJV) But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, ***lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.***

- A. We will look beyond the present life
- B. We will know there is a future
- C. We will prepare for eternity