

Why I Believe Part IV 3-17-13

I. Satan's War Against Faith

- A. I Corinthians 1:18-21 - "knowledge" vs. knowledge
- B. Our war against Satan is with knowledge - II Corinthians 10:4-5

II. Identity of Worldly Knowledge

- A. Evolution – our ungodly origin (Romans 1)
- B. Prehistory – our unbiblical past (Romans 15:4)
- C. Theology – our less than divine God
- D. Psychology – our carnal mind

III. Why do doubts arise? According to Mark 4 there are two reasons:

- A. Persecutions or suffering
 - 1. John the Baptism – Matthew 11:2-5
 - 2. Elijah – I Kings 19:3-11
- B. Cares of the world
 - 1. Peter – Matthew 27
 - 2. John Mark – Acts 16

IV. Dealing with Doubts

- A. Consider Peter's example – John 6

John 6:67-69 Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

- 1. There is nothing better in which to believe

- B. Consider Job's response

Job 19:23-27 For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God, Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

- 1. What I believe in is my only hope

V. All men struggle

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

- A. Everyone has struggles, pains, death, and some joy
- B. The great difference is that we have real hope.

VI. Conclusion: Believing is a choice

- A. It requires action on it – James 2
- B. We need to increase our faith
 - 1. To be ready for the dark days
 - 2. Ecclesiastes 12
- C. We need to raise our countenance
 - 1. I Peter 4:13-16