

# Unbelief, Disobedience, and Lack of Faith

Scripture:	
Announcements:	
Scripture Reading:	
RECAP:	<p>So last week we looked at the dangers of evil and the deceitfulness of sin.</p> <p>— We saw what it means to partake in Christ and how our Christian walk, our faith, and our relationship with Christ need to be dependable.</p> <p>— — We see a unity that believers should have so that we don't fall into sin and away from God.</p> <p>— — — We talked about how we have to work for things that are good.</p> <p>— — — — We saw that we should encourage one another and that we are to look out for one another.</p> <p>— — — — — We are dependent on each other even if we want to act like we are not.</p>
INTRODUCTION:	<p>So today we are going to talk about unbelief.</p> <p>— We will talk about disobedience.</p> <p>— We will talk about a lack of faith.</p> <p>— We will need to take a look at our hearts and our lives and inspect where we are and cry out to God.</p>
Passage Begins	

Scripture:	
<p><b>Hebrews 3:16–19 (NASB95): 16 For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses?</b></p> <p><b>17 And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?</b></p> <p><b>18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?</b></p> <p><b>19 So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.</b></p>	<p>What we need to understand is that those that are non believers are provoking God all the time.</p> <p>—A non believer can not please God at any time in any way.</p> <p>— —Why? Well, any “deed” they do is covered by the stain of sin; covered in their unrighteousness.</p> <p>— — —<b>READ: Hebrews 11:6 (NASB95): 6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.</b></p> <p>— — — —Well, deeds have to be pleasing to God right?</p> <p>— — — — —<b>READ: Romans 14:23 (NASB95): 23 But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.</b></p>
	<p>All the “good” a non believer does count for nothing because they are done without faith in God.</p> <p>—Faith is believing in something to be true and, hence, worthy of being trusted.</p> <p>— —A non believer is someone who does not believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and savior.</p> <p>— — —They do not believe in the God of the universe, that He created all things, sustains all things, and knows all things.</p> <p>— — — —They have not trusted God enough to hand their lives over to God to do with what He pleases to do.</p> <p>— — — — —They are without faith; so they can not please God.</p>

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	<p>Now Christians, this message is a heart check moment for us based on what we have seen in the history of God’s people.</p> <p>— Are you trusting God with every aspect of your life?</p> <p>— — This is what God calls the Israelites to do. He calls them to trust Him with their lives.</p> <p>— — — <b>This was their report: <u>READ: Numbers 13:27–28 (NASB95): 27 Thus they told him, and said, “We went in to the land where you sent us; and it certainly does flow with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. 28 “Nevertheless, the people who live in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large; and moreover, we saw the descendants of Anak there.</u></b></p> <p>— — — — They did not trust God, His promises, and His will.</p> <p>— — — — — They trusted God when it was reasonable, when it made sense, when it was convenient, and when His plan met theirs.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>How should we be? How would someone who trusts God, has faith in God, and believe that God is the truth act?</p> <p>—Like this: <b>READ: Numbers 14:6–9 (NASB95):</b> 6 Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; 7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, “The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. 8 “If the Lord is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us—a land which flows with milk and honey. 9 “Only do not rebel against the Lord; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the Lord is with us; do not fear them.”</p> <p>— — Now honestly what is your response to God when He asks you to give up your life for Him?</p>
	<p>The harsh reality is that so many Christians walk around living like Israelites.</p> <p>—Andrew Murray wrote, “There are believers who alway walk in the twilight and bondage of the Old Testament; there are others, who truly know the joy of the power of the New Testament, and have fellowship with God, not as through the prophets, but truly and directly in the Son Himself.”</p> <p>—This was a striking thought to me. There are those who as the Israelites did claim to be a person of God but only in name.</p> <p>— — They claim Christianity but live like the world.</p> <p>— — — There are those that think the morality that they live in will make them right with God. This is what the Israelites did too.</p> <p>— — — — There are those that only come to God when things get difficult, God is their last fleeting chance.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>None of those things are what God intended with His people.</p> <p>— God doesn't want people terrified, hoping they have done enough to please Him, people claim to be His but really living for the enemy, and He doesn't want to be someone's Hail mary.</p> <p>— — God wants to be in relationship, not be used.</p> <p>— — — This is what we as humans with a sinful nature are good at.</p> <p>— — — — We are awesome at using tools, ingredients, materials; but also people and we try to use God.</p> <p>— — — — — The line of believers in Christ and non believers becomes very hard to tell when our relationship with Christ is not the most important to us.</p> <p>— — — — — — When Jesus was being attacked verbally by the religious leaders (those that should have had the closest relationship with God) He pointed out their neglect in their relationship with God: <b><u>READ: John 8:47 (NASB95): 47 "He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God."</u></b> God is speaking but they are not hearing because relationship is not important to them. What about you? Are you hearing God? Or is He speaking and you don't even know?</p>

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Scripture:	
	<p>Murray wrote, “Their faith was by for a time: they had faith to leave Egypt; they had not faith to enter Canaan. Among the Hebrews there were Christians who were in the same state. They had begun well, but had been hindered....And there are many Christians....they say they know God had saved them from Egypt. They rest content with the thought of having been converted. There is no hearty desire, no earnest purpose to press on to a life of holiness, no readiness at any sacrifice to go up into the promised land of rest and of victory.”</p> <p>—God does not bring us out of slavery, captivity, sin, death, bondage, and deception so that we may continue in it.</p> <p>—This was said of God taking Israel out of Egypt (physical slavery, captivity, bondage): <b>READ: Deuteronomy 6:23 (NASB95): 23 He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land which He had sworn to our fathers.’</b></p> <p>— —God brings us out of this land of slavery into freedom not so we can go back to slavery but so we can enjoy freedom.</p> <p>— — —Enjoy unbelievable powerful freedom that is able to do the impossible.</p>
	<p>But how often do we leave Egypt but are not ready to embrace freedom and walk with God in freedom.</p> <p>—How often are we scared to enter the land promised to us.</p> <p>— —We will have to face some giants in this land of freedom that God has promised us but with God we can beat even the most powerful foes.</p> <p>— — —We love to be freed but we don’t want to have to live a holy life of service for our God.</p> <p>— — — —We do not believe like Caleb but we fear the sacrifice it will cost to get to the land promised to us, we don’t listen to God’s voice like the religious leaders, and fall back to worldly living thinking only of the temporary.</p> <p>— — — — —God calls us to put in the work, make the sacrifices, listen to His voice, and live in His kingdom here and now and when it will come in its entirety.</p>

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	<p>My practical application was sprinkled throughout the sermon today but I could not leave you without some practical application.</p> <p>—Jesus is returning from the transfiguration experience and is met with a crowd of people. Jesus gets the situation explained to Him and after hearing what has gone on He responded with: <b>READ: Mark 9:19 (NASB95): 19 And He *answered them and *said, “O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me!”</b></p> <p>— — Jesus’ complaint? Unbelief.</p> <p>— — — The problem was a boy was possessed with bad spirits and the disciples could not cast out this evil spirit.</p> <p>— — — — They brought the boy to Jesus and the father of the boy said this: <b>READ: Mark 9:22 (NASB95): But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!”</b></p> <p>— — — — — Once again Jesus is met with unbelief.</p> <p>— — — — — — Jesus responds with this to the father: <b>READ: Mark 9:23 (NASB95): 23 And Jesus said to him, “ ‘If You can?’ All things are possible to him who believes.”</b> Like defeating giants!!!!</p>



Scripture:	
	<p>The boys father fell to the ground and said probably the most Christian statement that there is: <b><u>READ: Mark 9:24 (NASB95): 24 Immediately the boy’s father cried out and said, “I do believe; help my unbelief.”</u></b></p> <p>—What was the dad saying? “He was saying, “My faith is not perfect, I have faith but it is not perfect, it might not be enough, please help me!!!!”</p> <p>— —Jesus is pleased with the father’s response and heals the boy.</p> <p>— — —Christians, our faith is far from perfect and we need help with our faith, but we also need to cry out to God for help with our faith.</p> <p>— — — —We need to cry out to God in our unbelief, in our disobedience, and in our lack of faith.</p> <p>— — — — —He is the one that supplies all our needs.</p> <p>— — — — — —What can we learn from this narrative? Assess where you are with God. Then ask Him for more faith.</p>