

Believe On Jesus

What It Means To Believe On Jesus (Route 4)

John 3:14-16 This text is sometimes called the “Golden Text of the Bible.” This is so because it presents to us in one verse the following:

- The Greatest Being - God
- The Greatest Motive - Love
- The Greatest Need - the World
- The Greatest Sacrifice - the Only Begotten Son
- The Greatest Offer - Whosoever
- The Greatest Condition - Believeth
- The Greatest Tragedy - Perish
- The Greatest Promise - Everlasting Life

Most everyone is acquainted with this text. However, few truly understand what it means to believe on Jesus. In our study, we want to learn what it means to believe on Jesus Christ and be saved.

Numbers 21:8-9 God told Moses to make a brass serpent and put it on a pole in the center of the camp. He said everyone that had been bitten by the fiery serpents that came to the pole and looked on the brass serpent would be healed. Israel was saved by faith; however, it was not by faith alone. There was something God required of them to be healed—they had to look. They could not remain in their tents and say, “I believe, I believe!” No, they had to obey God. Now, Jesus said that He, the Son of Man, would be lifted like the serpent in the wilderness was lifted. Just as the Israelites were not saved by faith alone, neither are we saved by faith alone; we must obey Jesus. There is no doubting that we are saved by faith, but we are NOT saved by faith alone. [Familiarize yourself with this entire context to communicate the story in your study.]

John 3:18-21 Jesus describes the character of the faith that is required to be saved. The man that believeth not and is condemned is the man that “doeth evil” and whose “deeds were evil.” But the man that believeth on Him and is not condemned is the man “that doeth truth” whose deeds are “wrought in God.”

James 2:14,17,26 Faith without works is dead being alone. Just like the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead. It is neither faith nor works alone, but both together. This is illustrated by desire without the appropriate action in relieving the needy (cf. **1John 3:18**), by the dead faith of the demons, the obedience of Abraham and the obedience of Rahab. [You should familiarize yourself with this whole context thoroughly in preparing for your studies.]

Genesis 22:12 When did Jehovah say He knew that Abraham feared God? It was not until he had done all that Jehovah commanded him concerning Isaac (cf. **22:2**). [Familiarize yourself with this entire context to communicate the story in your study.]

Hebrews 11:17-19 Abraham “offered up Isaac” by faith. His obedience to God was a matter of faith.

Joshua 2:18-19 Rahab was instructed to put the scarlet cord in the window of her house which was on the wall and bring all her family inside. If she did not do this, she and all of hers would perish. Rahab and her family were saved alive. [Familiarize yourself with this entire context to communicate the story in your study.]

Hebrews 11:31 By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not. Her obedience was of faith. Her faith saved her because it was made perfect through works, that is, obedience.

Acts 2:36-41 Peter preached Christ to this audience. **Verse 36** indicates without doubt that these men were convicted of the truth of his preaching—they were pricked in their hearts. However, they were not considered saved at that point. It was after repentance and baptism that they were saved and added to the church (**v. 47**, *the Lord added to the church daily such as were being saved* [ASV]).

Acts 16:14-15 When did Lydia regard herself as a believer? When she heard the Gospel or after she had obeyed the Gospel? Obviously, she was not regarded a believer until after her obedience to the Gospel.

Acts 16:31-34 When was the Philippian jailer called a believer before his repentance and baptism or after? He is not called a believer until after he is baptized into Christ.

Hebrews 5:8-9 Of whom is Jesus the Savior? Jesus is the Savior of ALL that obey Him? Are there any who Jesus saves that have not obeyed Him?

Mark 16:16 This is what Jesus has asked you to do. Will you obey Him and be saved?

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