

The Message of the New Testament

John – Part 2

Review: The Message of John

The message of the Gospel according to John is that Jesus is the Messiah (the Christ), the Son of God. His _____ demonstrate that it is so. And if you will _____ in Him, you will have _____ through him. He is the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Him.

20:30-31 --- Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Main Points of John's Message

Christ

Son of God

Believe

Life

If you will believe

John uses the verb "believe" _____ times in this book. Not every instance refers to saving faith in Jesus, but the vast majority do. (Thomas Schreiner, *The King in His Beauty*, 531)

THE _____ OF BELIEVING

John the Baptist: The purpose of John the Baptist's ministry is set forth as follows in 1:6-7 ---
He came to provide testimony that would lead people to believe in Jesus.

The Father: The testimony of the Father, the works that Jesus did, and the Scriptures were also given so that people might _____.
5:36-40 ---

Moses: The testimony of Moses was provided so that people might _____.
5:45-47 ---

Disciples: For the earliest ones, _____ Jesus was a matter of believing that he is the Messiah.
1:35-50 ---

The Baptist introduces his disciples to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. One of those disciples, Andrew, went and told his brother, Peter, "We've found the _____." Jesus told Philip to _____ him and Philip went and found Nathanael and told him he'd found the one the Scriptures promised. Nathanael doubted anything good could come from

Nazareth, but Jesus came and revealed he knew the heart of Nathanael. Nathanael responded by acknowledging Jesus as Messiah and Son of God. Jesus said he had _____.

Nicodemus came to Jesus admitting that he must have come from God. Otherwise he would not be able to do the SIGNS he did. Jesus told him there was much more than that. And

_____ was key.

3:14-18 ---

Eternity hangs in the balance with reference to believing.

Eternal life comes to those who will _____. 11:25-26

Believing is the only hope to avoid _____.

Believe and receive eternal life.

Do not believe and perish (be condemned). 8:24

Those who are not believing are resting under condemnation _____.

THE NATURE OF BELIEVING

What then is the nature of believing? Thomas Schreiner writes, "John communicates the vitality of faith in a variety of ways, using different verbs and images to convey the breadth and depth of what it means to believe." (*The King in His Beauty*, 532)

Receiving: Those who believe in Jesus receive or welcome him. along with His words and the witnesses that testify to Him.

1:11, 12 ---

5:43 ---

13:20 ---

Those who believe in Jesus receive or welcome him His words and the witnesses that testify to Him.

3:11 ---

3:32-33 ---

12:48 ---

17:8 ---

Obeying: The nature of believing also includes obeying. Faith by its nature obeys.

3:36 ---

Notice above that the opposite of believing is disobeying. Disobedience is _____. It is inconceivable to John that a person would believe in Jesus but not _____ him. (Schreiner, 532)

8:51-52 ---

14:15 --- If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

14:23-24 ---

15:10 ---

17:6 ---
 8:12 ---
 12:26 ---
 21:19 ---
 21:22 ---
 10:4-5 ---
 10:27 ---

Remaining: The nature of believing includes the idea of remaining.

15:4-5 ---
 15:6 ---
 15:9-10 ---

Loving: The nature of believing is further characterized by loving Christ.

1. Those who disbelieve love something _____ than Christ.

3:19-20 ---
 12:42-43 ---

These authorities believed in Jesus in a manner of speaking; they believed him to be the Christ, BUT they were not believing in him because they would not align themselves with him. Their minds were convinced but their affection was _____.

2. Those who believe in Jesus _____ Him.

8:42 ---
 14:15 --- If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
 14:21 --- Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me.
 14:23 ---

Moving: To believe is to follow, to come, to _____, to go.

1. Those who shrink from evil do not _____ to the light. (3:20)

2. Believers do _____ to the light (3:21)

3. People must come to Jesus to have _____.

5:40 --- yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.
 6:35 ---
 6:37 ---
 6:44-45 ---
 7:37 ---
 14:6 ---

4. Believers in Christ have nowhere else to _____. (6:68)

5. Believers _____ the sheepfold by Christ (10:9)

Says Schreiner, “John would not recognize as faith what many today identify as faith, for faith is never separated from _____.” (The King in His Beauty, 533)

Partaking: Believing is also partaking of Jesus.

4:13-14, 39 ---

7:37-38 ---

6:48-58 ---

“Only those who put their _____ in Jesus’ bloody death have life.” (534)

THE GIFT OF BELIEVING

Believing cannot be brought about by _____ effort; it is a gift of God.

1:12-13 ---

→ Those who believe are _____ not because they believe but in order to believe.

3:3-8 ---

5:21 ---

6:44 ---

→ Human beings are _____ of coming in faith apart from the work of God.

6:37 --- All that the Father gives me will come to me

→ All those the Father gives the Son WILL come

6:63-65 ---

10:25-26 ---

→ Those who do not believe do not believe because the Father has not _____ it to them and he has not granted it to them because they are not from the _____ has chosen.

In sum, we must affirm that believing is far more than mere mental _____. Is Jesus the Christ?

Mental assent says, “yes” and that is it. Believing according to John is evidenced also by _____

and _____. If I believe in Jesus I follow, I obey, I love, I stay, I go, I come, I drink, and I eat.

And if I believe in Jesus, the ultimate reason is because of the work God has done in me. I can be humbly confident in my standing before God. But I also display the genuineness of my believing by my living to the praise of His glory.

You Will Have Life

Those who believe are promised life.

20:31 --- “by believing you may have life in his name.”

3:16 --- whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life

10:10 ---

John uses the word “life” 43 times and “eternal life” 17 times.

What is the nature of this life? Of what are believers assured in the promise?

1. It all begins with _____. Life inherently exists in Him.
1:4 --- In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

People are in darkness. Sinners love the darkness. By nature people do not understand heavenly things. Life from the dead brings light to understand. When the light shines in the darkness it is not understood. But when the light brings life to a man, life brings light.

Hence no one can come _____ the Father draws. And hence Jesus tells Nicodemus, "Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

2. Life is connected with the idea of _____.
5:19-21 ---
5:28-29 ---
6:40 ---

Jesus raises the dead on earth, but he will also raise the dead in the day of judgment for the age to come. Some will live and others will be judged. So life has to do with the vitality that will characterize existence for God's people for all eternity.

3. Life is to _____ God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
17:3 ---

4. But we need not wait for the day of judgment to literally experience this life.
5:24 ---
10:27-28 ---
11:23-26 ---
20:31 ---

5. The life he gives is tied to the _____.
6:53-58 ---

Think how the Lord's Supper given to the disciples makes this abundantly clear. Eat for this is my body which is broken for you and my blood which is shed for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

10:10-11 ---
10:28 ---

Jesus gives his life for the sheep so he can take it up again so he can give life to his sheep. Life not condemnation. Life not death. Life to know God. Life to have light. Life to anticipate a future of being with Him.

6. Life is being in his _____.
14:1-3 ---
14:18-20 ---

CONCLUSION

Jesus is Messiah,
the Son of God.
Believing in Him,
you will have life in his name.