

UNBELIEVER?

As we wait (wait eagerly, hopefully, expectantly) on Dad/ Lord/Father, we are lifted into His overpowering and overwhelming presence, filled with His light and love, covered by His warm embrace and sense an overcoming faith, our very being is united into His life, our thoughts become the mind of Christ, our breath His breath, as we come face to face with Him and we see Him as He is.

This is exactly what came to me as I looked in the mirror. I knew He was with me, even in me and yet I couldn't see Him. My question was why not? Why could I not see Him? And as I pondered this in my heart, I heard Him say, "Because you are looking for me". I took this with me to bed that night along with all the questions I had. There was some confusion in me the next few days as I sought Him for the answer to what He had said to me. Looking for Him? Of course, I was looking for Him all the time, day and night. He was all I desired. Then, one day it became clear. Allow me to tell you at the risk of sounding religious that God can and will speak through the mouth of an UNBELIEVER.

It was one afternoon; I stopped by to pick up some dinner at a little family restaurant that I often visited on my way home. As I entered the restaurant, the mouth watering aroma of a fresh cooked meal filled my nostrils, creating a sudden appetite within me. I couldn't understand how quickly my senses had been overcome by this delicious aroma of food creating within me a desire to voraciously attend to that so called need, I call hunger. I immediately began calling on the Lord or as some put it, went to Dad, so that my craving (desire to eat) could immediately be subject to His higher authority in me and again immediately, He (Dad) directed me to turn my gaze to the corner of the room, where a lady was lighting incense before some pictures which I could barely make out to be images of worship. Included in this grand gallery, I also spotted a picture of an image we "Christians" call Jesus Christ.

After she had finished her act of worship, she came towards me to ask for my order. Friendly greetings were exchanged and Dad urged me to speak with her. "Hello, I see you were worshipping. I see that you are a God fearing lady". "Yes", she replied. I continued, "I see that in that altar (the place where all the pictures were hung) you also have a picture of a man hanging on the cross". "Yes", she said. "Dear child", I said: "He came and died for you and me and NOW IS IN you and me and WITH you and me and should you need to talk, ask or pray, all you need to do is close your eyes and call on Him who is in you and He will answer, just like He always answers me and even now asked me to share this with you". To my amazement and delight, I believe, Dad spoke through the mouth of this woman and her response was most encouraging, she said, "I see you as Jesus, speaking to me". I left that restaurant feeling complete in Christ, knowing, that one day SOON, He is also working in her to will and to do. It's a matter of time before she also will be quickened into His presence and will start BELIEVING.

This brings us back to the reason we are constrained to write this piece to bring to light, who, we understand an unbeliever to be.

Very often, when the religious are gathered together, during the course of their conversation, the word unbeliever is heard, so much so that names like kaafir (infidel) have become the defining letters to pronounce a curse of some sort on those whose beliefs may differ from the so called religious. Even, when we “the Christians” sit together, the noun for people who don’t believe “in Christ” is “unbeliever”.

We do understand that it is natural to call such a person an unbeliever for that is exactly what an unbeliever would mean in the natural; one who does not believe in the same thing.

But we are not speaking to the natural (existing in the natural or formed by the nature of) man but to the spiritual (existing in the spirit now). For in the natural, one’s position, perception, comprehension or understanding is based on how one sees things from where one is standing and therefore the understanding of that one is veiled (limited). And every one finds himself in this place of limitation (looking vaguely through a dark glass from which the vision beyond is not very clear) in the natural but in the spirit there is no limitation, there are no boundaries, in the spirit all things appear in their true nature, as they are.

The perspective that we are trying to focus on, pay attention to and examine is “who is an unbeliever or nonbeliever”? As we have been borne (carried) by the Spirit, there has been unction in us to lay down, bring to, submit before those who wish to read and understand these matters, what we have come to understand as “unbelievers”. The purpose being, that we could begin to see clearly and see others in the truth that the light will reveal and seeing clearly we can edify each other.

The root word for “believe” in the Greek scripture (New Testament) is PISTIS, meaning faith (confidence in, assurance, persuaded by), and the opposite of that being unbelief is also a form of that same word in the negative, meaning faithless. All one has to do is go through the concordance and one will see this. So “believe” simply equates to faith and “unbelief” to faithlessness. A classic example of this is found in Mark 9:24.

This narrative speaks of a father bringing his epileptic son to Jesus. Earlier his disciples had tried to heal this boy but were unable to do so. When the father approached Jesus with his son and asked him to help, Jesus perceived that the disciples had not been able to cast out the evil spirit and His reaction was one of anger and frustration at their faithlessness. Jesus then made an amazing statement, saying “If you can (believe)? All things are possible to him who believes”. At this the father cried out “I do believe; help my unbelief”.

So we have this question to ask, if he believed why was he asking for help with his unbelief? What did he believe and what was it that he could not believe? Do not expect an answer from us, just take it to Dad and wait for Him to answer (increase your understanding and faith).

Has it happened also to us, in the body? We know that nothing is impossible for Him, and we mentally place our trust in Him, thinking surely He will answer for we have believed Him, yet nothing happens. We wait and wait hopefully believing (mentally) that our help will come and what we have believed will come to pass, but it does not. This is

presumption. And we find ourselves wondering, asking many questions. Did we not believe enough? What else could we do? Was there something in us that did not bring it to pass? We find ourselves even more confused than when we started. Lord Oh Lord! We cry out to him.

Let us consider the narrative before us. The first thing we read is that it was Jesus that approached them. The Word of God comes to us when we wait on Him. We have this urgency to bring before him, but only when He comes to us can we find ourselves knowing that the end of the matter is at hand for He will do our request. We now know that nothing is impossible for Him, we find comfort and assurance in Him, this is faith. Linger at the back of our mind is this unbelief in our ability to join hands with Him. We think, we surely cannot bring it to pass and we certainly cannot unless the Word comes to us and abides in our heart and we have unction to join hands with Him, for our cry is surely heard.

The natural man finds this duality within Him; Belief and unbelief. We must practice singularity. We must seek Him, call on Him, till He gives us an assuring word in our heart that urges us to belief (bring it to pass).

So believing is receiving or hearing clearly the sure WORD OF THE LORD in a certain matter which creates a surge of confidence in the one who has heard and as he trusts in that word and becomes a partaker of that word, bringing it to pass, he becomes a BELIEVER.

And by that same rule, the one who finds himself in the position of the UNBELIEVER is one who does not spend time participating waiting before the throne of God, in His presence and therefore does not clearly and confidently hear a certain word, but presumes that God will bring an end to the matter at hand. This man has not asked for the wisdom concerning the matter and because he has not received a confident answer is groping about in the darkness of his doubts, tossed to and fro with every wave of teaching, not having seen for himself what the hand of the Lord can do.

So let us honestly and persistently come to the Father (Spirit) who gives to everyone abundantly and generously, let us come boldly knowing and not doubting (double minded) and let us bring our request and wait patiently, expectantly and eagerly before Him, until we hear from Him.

Another great example we would like to consider is in Matt 7 and Luke 13. This narrative reveals a certain people who claim to have prophesied, healed and done many wonderful works in the Name of the Lord, yet He says that He never knew them. Does that make these people believers or unbelievers? They were able to perform great acts of healing and do many wonders in the power of His name yet why was it the Lord rebuked them? Was it because they were not doing these things in union and according to His will and purpose. False signs and lying wonders are possible but they do not glorify the Father, neither are they in the purpose of the works of God and solely deceive those who are lost.

Another example to lay hold of is found in Matt 15 and Mark 7. Let us understand that Jesus CAME to the coastal cities of Tyre and Zidon. A woman, a Greek, a Syrophoenician by nation (a Gentile unbeliever?) HEARD of Him and sought Him that He would cast the devil out of her daughter, and because she BELIEVED or had enough faith cause she had heard Him for herself, she was PERSISTANT and was able to will with the Lord in casting the devil out of her daughter because Jesus replied, "Oh woman, great is thy FAITH, be it unto you as you WILL".

Finally, we would like to end our thoughts on this by quoting from Romans: Even when Gentiles, who do not have God's written law, instinctively follow what the law says, they show that in their hearts they know right from wrong. They demonstrate that God's law is written within them, for their own consciences either accuse them or tell them they are doing what is right. The day will surely come when God, by Jesus Christ, will judge everyone's secret life. This is my message.
Are these believers or unbelievers?

To believe God is to bring His purpose to pass in our life by doing His will and an unbeliever is one who has not heard from God a sure word for himself but is presumptuous and religious minded in that he thinks he can and to his disappointment finds out that God did not come through for him. So before we go about calling one an unbeliever or giving them other similar and like names, let us look to see if these by instinct are able to demonstrate the Law of God written in their hearts. And let us examine ourselves, if we are walking in FAITH.