## Im a Believer!

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Millions say: "I'm a Believer!" and they are sure it is a true statement about their faith in Jesus—but saying I'm a Believer includes living as a believer—every day. A Christian is someone who believes in the living God and also believes that His Son Jesus is the Savior of all those who trust Him in faith for all things in life.

Anyone can be a believer—Jesus said John 12:46 "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." The foundation of true faith in God comes from true faith principles in Scripture.

The basis of all Christian beliefs is God's Word—and knowing His character. John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." Knowing God and knowing of His love for His creation enables us to trust Him for everything.

For a person to say I'm a Believer would mean putting their trust on the Atonement Blood of Christ regarding every life issue. Valid Christian beliefs must be based on eternal truths of Scripture. John 17:6 "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word." Keeping God's Word means keeping our trust on Him through all trials and troubles.

Jesus went on 7-8 "Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me." Knowing that God sent Jesus to pay our debt for us enables us to appreciate His sacrifice for us.

Following Christ means having His attitude, and that every choice we make is according to the will of God. Becoming a believer is a life-changing decision, because the apostle says—Romans 12:2 "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

It is a total transformation—something we really desire because God has shown such mercy toward us, and He loves us so much—that He really wants to help us. We are told to Romans 12:1 "Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." It is a complete conversion of our heart that now trusts God for everything in life.

This converted attitude of trusting *God* by faith for everything He has promised, instead of trusting a substitute by sight the devil has offered, is a total turn-around in our thinking and a major *change* in our reasoning. Only the Holy Spirit can bring about this heart-attitude conversion.

A believer must first accept the *Bible* as the inspired *Word* of God, and that the instructions Jesus gave in the New Testament are to be followed—without adding any wrong meaning to them, and not removing any principle of trust *from* them. Religious statements and outward appearances cannot *change* the heart, but 1 Corinthians 7:19 "Keeping the commandments of God is what matters."

The Bible does not give any example of taking medication for relief, yet many who *say* they

are believers in Christ, accept medical assistance, take drugs, or have surgical operations. Many people *say* they trust God, but they really put their trust in some drug for relief. Many who *profess* to have faith in Christ, do not put their faith on the Blood of Jesus—even though the Word says Isaiah 53:5 "By His stripes we are healed."

Not many who *profess* faith in God, really trust Him for finances each day—although the principle of trust on God is clearly explained.

Matthew 6:19 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth," because Jesus wants our faith to be real. "Give us this day" our needs for this day Matthew 6:11—words written by God.

Jesus tells us to eliminate stored-up treasures on earth, so that our money would be transferred to our account in Heaven. Getting rid of stored financial assets on earth *compels* us to trust God in Heaven—in faith.

People depend on all types of assets—savings accounts, Social Security, Lottery winnings, government assistance, real estate, houses, apartments, stimulus checks, company stock, gold, insurance policies, and a multitude of other plans the devil offers—all meant to eliminate *trust* on God.

All too many change or distort God's Word to suit a lifestyle that wants to trust in something that *can be seen* on earth, rather than to trust God who *cannot be seen* in Heaven—He has our money there with Him. Keeping financial resources on earth to *depend* on, is not permitted by our heavenly Father.

Jesus said not to store money for the future, but to trust God for each day. Matthew 6:34 "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Anything we could depend on is to be placed in Heaven—because Matthew 6:21 "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Jesus had no home, no bed, and no pillow, but God provided His every need, every day. The world, and many who *say* they are a believer, will not live by *faith* that way, because they will not put their trust in *God* that way. It is a refusal to accept the divine principle of truth Jesus spoke—that of trusting God each day by faith. Matthew 18:3 "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Many such commands of trust in the Bible, are not followed by the majority of those who say they are a believer—even though these divine principles of truth are the basis for all believing faith in God. The Holy Spirit inspires us to *believe* the teaching of Scripture because He *inspired* those Words. The spiritual value of that teaching can only be *understood* by those who are enlightened by the Holy Spirit 1 Corinthians 2:14 "because they are spiritually discerned."

An unbeliever saves up everything for the future, but the Holy Spirit inspires a *believer* to trust God—one day at a time. The Spirit inspires us to give donations when asked—then trusting God to reward us for obeying His Word. God's Spirit enables us to pray for our enemies and to do good things for people—regardless of what their attitude *toward* us may be.

The Lord inspires us to take someone *two* miles when they ask us to take them *one*. The Spirit inspires us to give to the poor anonymously—then praying for our promised blessing. The Holy Spirit inspires us to forgive from the heart—no matter what anyone has said *about* us; or what they have done *to* us—because Christ has forgiven *us* more times than we could count. Ephesians 4:32 "Be [ye] kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

The Spirit of Christ enables us Colossians 3:12-13 "As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved,

clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and [readily] forgive whatever grievances [offenses; complaints; quarrel] you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

These instructions by the *Son of God* are to be followed by the inspiration of the *Spirit of God*. Jesus wants us to actually *live* the Christian life, and not just make verbal *statements*. He wants us to *do* His Father's will by *doing* what we believe—because faith without deeds is not valid. James 2:26 "Faith is lifeless if it is unaccompanied by obedience."

Abraham's faith was real! James 2:22 "You notice that his faith was co-operating with his actions, and that by his actions his faith was perfected." Jesus said, "There is no merit in our service: what we have done is only what we were in duty bound to do," Luke 17:10.

Following the will of God in any given situation or when responding to any difficult circumstance, is directly connected to entering the kingdom of God. Matthew 7:21 "Not every one who says to me, 'Master, Master,' will enter the Kingdom of the Heavens, but only those who are obedient to [does the will of] my Father who is in Heaven."

Saying: *I'm a Believer* includes acting in faith on the inspired Word of God. We *give* donations to those who ask because *His Word* says to do that. We *pray* for those who criticize us because Jesus said Matthew 5:44 "Love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!"

We *loan* things to people and expect nothing in return, because we *love* God, and our faith is in Christ who said Luke 6:46 "Why do you all call me 'Master, Master' and yet not do what I tell you?" A statement of faith in words must come from sincere belief in our heart of the Master.

We truly *believe* that *Jesus* is *God* in person—and who lived on earth to *inform* us

and show us His Truth. Colossians 2:9 "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily."

1 Timothy 2:5-6 "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." Real faith really trusts God for everything!

As a Christian, we truly believe in our heart that the resurrection power of Jesus is what destroyed the power of the devil. 1 Corinthians 1:23-24 "We preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."

Jesus was Romans 1:4-5 "Declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith." As a believer, we truly believe in our heart, that Jesus took our place on the cross—and by His resurrection to life, we are forgiven of past sins—we are now true children of God.

As a child of the Father and believing in faith on the shed Blood of His Son—we have a *faith* that endures through all trials and tests and troubles—and we will enter God's kingdom as an heir to the promise. *That* is the result of a continuing *faith* in God and a continuing *trust* on the Atonement Blood of Jesus.

Christian beliefs are clearly explained in the Bible and are for anyone who is willing to believe. Therefore, anyone who reads, applies, and lives by those Christian beliefs can make this true and accurate statement: I'm a Believer!

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