

Are You A Believer, Unbeliever, or Rebel?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

People have said that there are only two kinds of people on earth, the believer and the unbeliever, or the saved and the unsaved. While it is true that there will be two groups at the judgment, the saved on the Lord's right hand, and the unsaved on the left hand, I believe that the Bible indicates that there will be believers among the unsaved. I realize that there are those who do not see this, but if we accept what God has said we have to believe it.

Throughout the Bible we see those who knew that there was a God, yet they did not obey nor honor Him as God. Different scriptures tell of those who will be turned away from heaven in spite of their works for the Lord. They believed, called Him Lord, but did not obey His commands. Many today are the same way, they say that they are Christians, but do not follow the Lord. Some sin openly and say

that, because they believe, that they are alright.

We can see why unbelievers don't obey, or have an interest in, the Word of God. They are living what they say, and their lifestyle matches their beliefs, or lack thereof. They are lost and apart from God, yet, they are not hypocrites. They don't pretend to be something that they are not.

Those who believe and follow the Lord are not hypocrites either. They obey the commands of the Lord and follow Him throughout life. Mistakes? Yes, we that follow the Lord fail at times, but there is always repentance and healing. Some folks think that a Christian should never make a mistake, or do anything wrong. That sounds good and we wish that it were so. The trouble is we are fighting not only the spirits of evil, a world that is in sin, the sin that is thrust in our faces by a wicked society, and even our own flesh. While the Christian errs at times, he or she, will not live that way as a way of life.

The rebel is the one who believes in God and yet, will

not seek to do God's Will. They know that God is real, but love the world better. I don't know how many people that I have known who say that they are a member of a church, yet never attend, or serve the Lord in any way. I have witnessed different ones who have heard of someone getting saved, telling how happy they were for them, while they don't go to church themselves.

How can a person believe in God, and that the Bible is His Word, and then live in sin, doing the things that God condemns? If we know the Word of God, we know that sin is not just in doing evil, but is also in not doing good works. James 4: 17. Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. Then there is always the verse that Jesus spoke to those who claimed to be believers and wouldn't do His commands, Luke 6: 46. And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? What answer, or excuse, could anyone give to this question?

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HER NAME APPEARS ONLY ONCE IN THE BIBLE—BUT...

DORCAS (OR TABITHA - THE ARAMAIC FORM OF THE NAME) A FEMALE DISCIPLE OF JESUS, LIVING IN JOPPA. SHE WAS KNOWN FOR HER GOOD WORKS SUCH AS MAKING COATS AND GARMENTS FOR THE POOR. WHEN SHE DIED, HER FRIENDS PREPARED HER FOR BURIAL AND SENT FOR PETER, WHO HAPPENED TO BE IN NEARBY LYDDA AT THE TIME...

... WHEN PETER ARRIVED HE SENT THE MOURNERS OUT OF THE ROOM AND PRAYED EARNESTLY. THEN HE BADE THE YOUNG WOMAN TO ARISE - AND SHE OPENED HER EYES AND DID! NEWS OF THIS ACT SPREAD ABOUT JOPPA AND INSPIRED MANY CONVERSIONS TO THE NEW CHRISTIAN FAITH. (ACTS 9: 36-42)

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