

Scriptures and Doctrine :: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?

Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work? - posted by DesiJr, on: 2007/12/28 15:53

Question:

If these statements are true:

Holy Spirit alone by a Sovereign act of God convicts you of your sin.

Holy Spirit alone reveals to you Jesus as the Lord and how you must surrender your life to Him as a sacrifice because He alone is the Sovereign King of all for eternity.

Does believing or having faith that God did this work in you by the Holy Spirit constitute a work of man? In other words, is the act of believing or having faith, a work?

If it is a work...then is it saving faith?

If it isn't a work then what is the definition of true "belief" or true "faith"?

Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work? - posted by BlazedbyGod, on: 2007/12/28 16:15

John 5:36 But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same WORKS that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.

John 10:37 If I do not the WORKS of my Father, **believe me not**. 38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, BELIEVE THE WORKS: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.

John 14:10 Believeest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the WORKS. 11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very WORKS' SAKE.

To answer your question directly, yes, even believing is a Work of God produced in us by God -not of man.

1 Thess 1:3 Remembering without ceasing your **WORK OF FAITH**, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

2 Thess 2:11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the **WORK OF FAITH** with power:

Again I will state that even faith, is a work of God produced in us by God, according to the work or operation of God done upon us.

We are of course saved BY GRACE, THROUGH FAITH-but also knowing that faith without works is dead, or I could say it this way faith without fruit is dead.

James 2 is great in understanding this: James 2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. 18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. 19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified BY WORKS, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and BY WORKS WAS FAITH MADE PERFECT? 23 An

d the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. 24 Ye see then how that BY WORKS a man is justified, AND NOT by faith only. 25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified BY WORKS, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

I pray this helps, this is just my understanding of it. :0)

**Re: - posted by DesiJr, on: 2007/12/28 16:20**

So if what you say is true (and I believe it is) can man then be compelled by the Spirit to believe and have faith and yet deny the Spirit to bear fruit in his life?

**Re: - posted by BlazedbyGod, on: 2007/12/28 16:32**

Well I believe my answer to that would be:

Heb 6:4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, 5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, 6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame. 7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: 8 But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is high unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.

Heb 10: 26 For if WE (the Church) SIN WILLFULLY after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. 28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

The reason why I quote these two verses is because both of these verses describe genuine believers who at some point being to deny the Spirit and the Lordship of Jesus Christ-thus they become Christians who continually walk against the Spirit or in denying of the Spirit. in which it brings Christ words to life:

Matt 12:32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come. (understanding the "speaketh" is not always verbal, but even in actions)

Or another way I would answer that is: Christ told all those who came to him to ABIDE (remain) in him, and he in them.

John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye **CONTINUE** in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

Matt 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. (It is not really per se if you started the race, it is if you finish the race and how you do so)

Jesus once said "he choose" the 12 and one of them "was" a devil-referring to Judas-now Jesus, even being the Spirit compelled/choose Judas to believe for a season, but then to deny Jesus-which I might add again He is the Spirit-thus Judas did not "CONTINUE, ENDURE, or ABIDE" in or Christ to remain fruitful and faithful UNTIL THE END. I say that to say, I don't believe Judas will be the only person like this....just think of the "great FALLING away"

**Re: - posted by DesiJr, on: 2007/12/28 17:00**

So then if God by the Spirit draws man to himself and convinces man by the Spirit that he must surrender to God...man can reject this compelling by the Spirit of God?

**Re: - posted by BlazedbyGod, on: 2007/12/28 17:07**

Luke 22:42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

The same way that Jesus said "not my will, but thine, be done" is the same way that a person could say the opposite of this:

In other words, I do believe one could not choose to surrender or yield his will to the Father-in Luke 22:42 you see Jesus making a conscience decision to yield to the Father's will, even though Jesus had the Spirit without measure and though it was even the Father who dwelleth in him that did the works-he still had to subject his will to the Father-I do believe there are people who do NOT subject their will to the will of the Father.

Though Jesus is in the Father, and the Father in Jesus, He still had to submit his will-for one not to submit to the Spirit would be to reject the Spirit (rebel against)

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work? - posted by jimp, on: 2007/12/28 17:44**

hi, faith is hearing that voice inside your knower, believing it unto obedience. by faith Noah built... by faith Abram left... all examples in the scripture of faith demonstrate this truth.. faith without corresponding action is not faith at all.. we hear the good news and the voice tells us that God loves me and it is my time to react to His calling in obedience..jimp

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2007/12/28 20:41**

Hi DesiJr,

Is breathing 'a work'?

Is eating 'a work'?

Can we distinguish between the hunger for oxygen and the hunger for food?

I'm asking because I'm not sure what you're trying to find out, and whether you're trying to understand something about God, or man, or both.

Did you consciously frame your question in non-biblical terminology, or, are you thinking about the Spirit's work and that's why you mention Him?

By 'non-biblical' I mean a phrase like this: 'Holy Spirit alone reveals to you Jesus'. Do you remember that Jesus said:

John 6:44

No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Below are some thoughts on your question by Oswald Chambers.

October 28th.

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." Romans 5:10

I am not saved by believing; I realize I am saved by believing. It is not repentance that saves me, repentance is the sign that I realize what God has done in Christ Jesus. The danger is to put the emphasis on the effect instead of on the cause. It is my obedience that puts me right with God, my consecration. Never! I am put right with God because prior to all, Christ died. When I turn to God and by belief accept what God reveals I can accept, instantly the stupendous Atonement of Jesus Christ rushes me into a right relationship with God; and by the supernatural miracle of God's grace I stand justified, not because I am sorry for my sin, not because I have repented, but because of what Jesus has done. The Spirit of God brings it with a breaking, all-over light, and I know, though I do not know how, that I am saved.

The salvation of God does not stand on human logic, it stands on the sacrificial Death of Jesus. We can be born again because of the Atonement of Our Lord. Sinful men and women can be changed into new creatures, not by their repentance or their belief, but by the marvellous work of God in Christ Jesus which is prior to all experience. The impregnable safety of justification and sanctification is God Himself. We have not to work out these things ourselves; they have been worked out by the Atonement. The supernatural becomes natural by the miracle of God; there is the realization of what Jesus Christ has already done - "It is finished."

What do you think about all that now?

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work? - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2007/12/30 1:27**

Hi DesiJr, in case you haven't, have a look at John 6:29.

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work? - posted by Logic, on: 2007/12/31 14:28**

Quote:

-----DesiJr wrote:

Question:

If these statements are true:

Holy Spirit alone by a Sovereign act of God convicts you of your sin.

-----

**John 16:8** And when he is come, **He will convict the world of sin**, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Quote:

-----Holy Spirit **alone** reveals to you Jesus as the Lord and how you must surrender your life to Him as a sacrifice because He alone is the Sovereign King of all for eternity.

-----

The Scriptures would also reveal Jesus to you as the Lord and how you must surrender your life to Him.

Quote:

-----Does believing or having faith that God did this work in you by the Holy Spirit constitute a work of man?

-----

What is wrong with work if it's not "works of the law"(Rom 4:2)?

**Heb 4:11** Let us **labor** therefore to enter into that rest...

**Jamess 2:21** Was not Abraham our father **justified by works**, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?

Quote:

-----In other words, is the act of believing or having faith, a work?

-----

It better be.

**James 2:26** For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

I have a friend that "believes" but he has no works(fruit).

He is not saved, but talks religiously and proclaims Jesus.

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work? - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2007/12/31 15:04**

Hi again DesiJr,

"If it is a work...then is it saving faith?"

Maybe another way to look at the question is to ask: whose work is it?

I mentioned before John 6:29. Maybe take a look at Luke 8:10, 10:22, and John 6:45.

Take care for now,

Chris

**Re: faith in our faith - not a good thing! - posted by roadsign (), on: 2007/12/31 15:57**

Quote:

-----If it is a work...then is it saving faith?"  
-----

We can run around in circles over words forever and we just find ourselves spinning.

Let's admit, work is really not a bad thing! And faith can be intensely hard work at times -- especially when trying to overcome the constant voices of doubt. Maybe it would be better to ask the question: "How do we acquire eternal life?" Let's admit, we can never get that by anything we do any more that we could make ourselves get born in the first place. Really our faith cannot give us new life. Only God can. We can be tempted to idolize "faith" and turn it into a magical formula. How many false conversations have been sanctioned by the human stamp labeled: APPROVED BY FAITH but is essentially a faith in one's faith.

Let's admit, faith can be a work of the flesh - nothing more than a human construct. That cannot save us.

I remember reading a portion by Duncan Campbell in which he distinguished between natural faith and supernatural faith. He points out that natural faith cannot save us. Of course, that begs the question, how can we know the difference?

Maybe this is one question that we should let God himself answer. Because if we try, we just end up creating a "sure"-fix formula that sends us spinning again. And then we put our faith in our formula.

"The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." Rom. 8:16

The challenge: Can we trust God to illuminate by his Spirit, or do we trust in our own human attempts to do so. Now that would also be a work apart from faith.

"..and everything that does not come from faith is sin." Rom. 14:23

Diane

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2007/12/31 16:36**

hi, the difference between faith and presumption is that word from God. if you have a word from God in your heart{know er)and you believe to obedience this only is bible faith.jim p  
faith without works is dead (not faith at all)

**Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2008/1/1 1:09**

Faith without works is dead?

Then this must also apply; works without faith are dead self works. Which comes first the Chicken or the egg?

Galatians 2:16-21 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

Works or Faith, which is it that does the work of Jesus Christ that is born again in us?  
It must be His Faith that gives us His Faith to do the works of Him. Who are we without Christ?  
What can we do without Christ? With Christ in us what can we do?

The Answer to all these is: without Him doing the works in us our works are worthless, without Him giving His Faith to our Faith our faith is dead. With Christ, faith is the beginning of good works in Christ Jesus. Let us have this mind which was in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Philippians 2:1-13 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

It is God through Jesus Christ in us that is working out His good pleasure. This must be our way of thinking and keep these things in our mind and the things of Christ will become increasingly line upon line and precept upon precept the works we are to be willing to have done through us by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, by whom we have new life and live in and for and through Him.

In Christ: Phillip

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2008/1/1 6:08**

hi, i will tear this verse out of my bible 'faith without works is dead' i couldn't find the chicken verse. iam with you that works do not save anyone. obedience is better than sacrifice. Jesus calls you.. you come. thats all... jimp

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 10:31

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:"

- Ephesians chapter 2 verse 8

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 10:32

For we are his workmanship...

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/1 11:21

Quote:

-----Christinyou wrote:  
Faith without works is dead?

Then this must also apply; works without faith are dead self works. Which comes first the Chicken or the egg?

-----  
That is correct.

**Heb 6:1** Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto maturity; not laying again the foundation of repentance from **dead works**, and of faith toward God,

**Heb 9:14** How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purify your conscience from **dead works** to serve the living God?

Dead works would be legalism, works of the law which is opposed to works of faith.

I would say that the Chicken came first, God made animals, not eggs.  
He made Adam & Eve fully grown, therefore, HE made the Chicken fully grown, not the egg.

Quote:

-----Works or Faith, which is it that does the work of Jesus Christ that is born again in us?  
-----

Please, stop it, I am tired of hearing this "Jesus Christ that is born again in us"

Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us.

Quote:

-----The Answer to all these is: without Him doing the works in us our works are worthless,  
-----

Show me where Jesus is doing our works of faith.  
He enables us to bear fruit, but HE does not bear the fruit for us.

Quote:

-----without Him giving His Faith to our Faith our faith is dead.  
-----

Where does Christ "give us HIS faith"?

Quote:

-----faith is the beginning of good works in Christ Jesus.  
-----

Chapter & verse please.  
Faith is not the beginning, but the only way for "good works"

Quote:

-----It is God through Jesus Christ in us that is working out His good pleasure.  
-----

No, it is to for **us to will & to do of** His good pleasure.

In other words, it is God working on our will that we may be desiring to work obediently out of love for HIM for the sake of His delight.

Quote:

-----...the things of Christ will become increasingly line upon line and precept upon precept...

-----  
This is not a good thing.

**Isa 28:10-13** For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

**:11** For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

**:12** To whom he said, This is the rest with which you may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

**:13** But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; **that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.**

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 12:17**

Hi Logic,

I wanted to offer some passages in regards to some of the questions you have here. I do not know if Phillip had these things in mind or not. I hope they will be helpful though.

You asked,

"Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us."

One passage that comes to mind is Galatians 4:19.

But I don't know exactly what Phillip means for sure.

Also,

"Show me where Jesus is doing our works of faith.  
He enables us to bear fruit, but HE does not bear the fruit for us."

What I think of is Galatians chapter 5 which describes the fruit of the Spirit. That it is His fruit.

Also,

"Where does Christ "give us HIS faith"?"

Not sure about this either, but I think the scripture is indicating that faith in Christ is the work of God:



"Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

- John chapter 6 verse 29(KJV)

And also,

"No, it is to for us to will & to do of His good pleasure. In other words, it is God working on our will that we may be desiring to work obediently out of love for HIM for the sake of His delight."

What came to mind was this from Hebrews 13:21 where it says...

"...working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ"

Take care for now,

Chris

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/1 13:49

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic,

-----

Hi.

Quote:

-----

Quote:

-----"Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us."

-----

One passage that comes to mind is Galatians 4:19.

-----

**Gal 4:19** My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,  
That would be a Christ like character, not christ Himself being born in us.

Quote:

-----

Quote:

-----"Show me where Jesus is doing our works of faith.

He enables us to bear fruit, but HE does not bear the fruit for us."

-----

What I think of is Galatians chapter 5 which describes the fruit of the Spirit. That it is His fruit.

-----

His fruit which we bear.

He does not bear the fruit, we do.

**Joh 15:4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can you, except you abide in me.

The branch(us) bears the fruit, the vine(Jesus) enables the branch.

Quote:

Quote:

-----"Where does Christ "give us HIS faith"?"

Not sure about this either, but I think the scripture is indicating that faith in Christ is the work of God:

"Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

The work that we do of GOD(not from GOD) is to believe on Him.

We do GOD"s work by believing.

Quote:

Quote:

-----"No, it is for us to will & to do of His good pleasure. In other words, it is God working on our will that we may be desiring to work obediently out of love for HIM for the sake of His delight."

What came to mind was this from Hebrews 13:21 where it says...

"...working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ"

**Heb 13:20** Now the God of peace...

Hebrews 13:21 Make you complete in every good work **to do** his will, to do in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. In other words:

Now the God of peace(Heb 13:20)...

...(Heb 13:21) Make you complete in every good work causing to bring forth HIS will, and that is causing to bring forth in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 15:03**

Hi again Logic, and thank you for the response.

Logic, regarding Galatians 4:19 you said

"That would be a Christ like character, not Christ Himself being born in us."

But where does it say that? Is Christ's character separate from Christ Himself? What do you mean?

Prior to this in verse 6 it says

"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

In John 14:18 the Lord says

**I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**

Also, regarding fruit you said

"The branch(us) bears the fruit, the vine(Jesus) enables the branch."

In Matthew 26:29, Mark 14:25, and Luke 22:18, the Lord Jesus, speaking about wine I think, refers to it as **the fruit of the vine**

he vine.

Isn't it that the branches **hold** the fruit that the vine is bearing? Everything for life comes from the vine, not the branches, right? And again, the fruit in Galatians 5 is not called the fruit of the believer.

I thought also of this where it says

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us."

- 2 Corinthians chapter 4 verse 7(KJV)

Also, regarding John 6:29 you said

"The work that we do of GOD(not from GOD) is to believe on Him.  
We do GOD's work by believing."

But where does it say that? This is the same context in which He says all that are given to Him will come to Him(v37), that no one can come to Him except God draws them(v44), and also that everyone that is taught by God and that have heard and learned will come to Him(v45). Whose working here, isn't it God at work?

Regarding Hebrews 13:20 I'm not clear what you were saying, maybe you could rephrase it?

I noticed you emphasised **to do**. In John 14:10 the Lord Jesus said it was His Father that did the works.

Thanks again and take care for now,

Chris

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/1 15:05**

Hi Logic,

I'm going to answer just one of your questions:

Quote:  
-----Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us.  
-----

Romans 6

3 are ye ignorant that we, as many as were baptized to Christ Jesus, to his death were baptized?

4 we were buried together, then, with him through the baptism to the death, that even as Christ was raised up out of the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we in newness of life might walk.

1 Corinthians 15

20 And now, Christ hath risen out of the dead--the first-fruits of those sleeping he became, 21 for since through man *is* the death, also through man *is* a rising again of the dead,  
22 for even as in Adam all die, so also in the Christ all shall be made alive,  
23 and each in his proper order, a first-fruit Christ, afterwards those who are the Christ's, in his presence,

Galatians 2

20 with Christ I have been crucified, **and live no more do I**, and Christ doth live in me; and that which I now live in the flesh--in the faith I live of the Son of God,

That part of Romans 6:4 referring to Jesus' resurrection, is translated in my interlinear as 'from among the dead', but Tyndale has 'from death'. There is also the assumption that being raised to newness of life automatically leads to walking in the Spirit.

If we do not say that Jesus was somehow 'born again' through His resurrection, on what basis can we claim to be 'born again' through participating in His by faith? Seriously?

At the same time as asking this, I do realise there is a crossover between life in the flesh which He made, which we do not.

His death was complicated by His battle with sin on our behalf, by which our life in Him (through new birth), can lead to the kind of overcoming life which He already had in the flesh because He didn't have *fallen* flesh to deal with.

Nevertheless, His victory against sin in His personal life - in that He didn't once succumb to sin - is not insignificant for us either. This is the life to which we aspire, is it not, which can only begin *after* new birth?

Thus, now, we live *through* Him (because His death opened the way for us to have the life of God in us).

1 John 4

9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

12 No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 15:37**

I was just thinking how these discussions seem more like talking about how Lazarus was able to put one foot in front of the other instead of being astounded that He was raised from the dead.

**Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2008/1/1 15:44**

Quote:  
-----I was just thinking how these discussions seem more like talking about how Lazarus was able to put one foot in front of the other instead of being astounded that He was raised from the dead.  
-----

Well said. One foot in front of the other! It puts a whole new spin on the word *pedantics*.

Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/1 16:00

ChrisJD wrote:

Quote:  
-----I was just thinking how these discussions seem more like talking about how Lazarus was able to put one foot in front of the other instead of being astounded that He was raised from the dead.  
-----

Okay, Chris,

How would you have us move on from a state of astoundedness?

Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/1 16:04

Paul said

Quote:  
-----It puts a whole new spin on the word *pedantics*.  
-----

that's funny

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2008/1/1 16:05

""""Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us?""""

Jhn 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

John 3:3-5 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Who is the Water of Life which this is speaking of? Who's Spirit must we have or we are none of Gods sons'.

Rev 21:6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Rev 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

The Water of Life springing up to everlasting life is "Christ in you the Hope of Glory".

Jhn 4:14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

The Spirit of Christ is ours at the birth of Christ in us.

Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

1Pe 1:11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified

beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

Where is the water? Where is the Spirit of Christ? Born Again of Water and Spirit.

The incorruptable Seed of God the Father is Christ Jesus, this is the Sperma of God. That is why Jesus told us to pray this way, "Our Father". The Seed in this scripture is "Parentage Seed". This Seed is born again in you. This Seed is the Word. The Word is Christ.

"The Word became flesh", and dwelt among us.

The "Logos" was Supreme Divinity"

Rom 8:10 And if Christ in you, the body dead because of sin; but the Spirit life because of righteousness.

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Here is the Holy Spirit in you and By the Spirit of Christ that dwelleth in you these bodies have been quickened to contain The God Head, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We not only have the new birth by the Spirit of Christ that dwell in us, but we have been given the Holy Spirit also and the Father's abode is also with us. If you don't have the Spirit of Christ birthed in you you are none of His.

Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

In Christ: Phillip

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 16:08**

Hi Dorcas.

I don't know.

But then again let's not wait around for Lazarus to die again so we can do an autopsy to find out what kept him alive.

It's miraculous.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 16:11**

Better yet, when people around us start asking us about the hope we have in us, and they see a man come back from the dead, maybe we'll be qualified to take it all apart with our words.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 16:12**

Its high time our experience start matching the verbosity of our theology.

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/1 17:20**

Quote:

-----Its high time our experience start matching the verbosity of our theology.

I agree. Obviously, you missed an earlier discussion in a previous thread, where hopes of raising the dead were suggested by one poster, to be improper for today's Christians.

Me and another were on the side of doing it, though, and I am always encouraged when prayers for healing are answered miraculously, as this seems to be in keeping with the spirit of health and life - resurrection, if you will. We forget how much our lives have been changed by medicine - even by simple aspirin.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/1 19:46**

Dorcas, I appreciate what you shared.

I was concerned after I posted these comments tonight that I might have gotten out of line in what I said. If I was please forgive me. And that is to all.

Thank you,

Chris

**Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2008/1/1 20:48**

What is the greatest miracle of all?

Colossians 1:18-19 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

Colossians 1:20-22 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:

The miracle of birth is something we don't even to this day, completely understand. We do see the evidence of it everyday. How can we miss the miracle of rebirth, by The Seed of the Father, Jesus Christ in us.

How can we not see this as the greatest miracle of all which God has now revealed to His sons'.

Taking this body of sin of whom we all are the chiefest of sinner, that is all that is against God and unable to save ourselves, in this body of death and corruption and God making us perfect before God in Christ Jesus. This is the greatest Miracle of All, "Christ in you the Hope of Glory".

Colossians 1:26-29 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

"STRIVING ACCORDING TO HIS WORKING"

How does He Work? By the Son, through the death of the Cross, by the Blood of Christ, through the resurrection of new life, by the rebirth of Christ in us.

IN CHRIST, my LIFE: Phillip

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2008/1/1 22:12**

hi,Christinyou said Jesus must be born again in us...i thought to myself we must be born in Him ... i prayed and like a lot of things in the bible; it is not either or, but both and... ty for teaching an old dog.jimp

**Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2008/1/1 22:44**

Thank you jimp,

Amen, He is in us and we in Him, praise God.

1Cr 1:5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and all knowledge;

1Cr 1:30 But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

1Cr 1:31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

1Cr 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

How can we know the Spirit of Christ unless He is in us as our Spirit.

1Cr 8:6 But to us one God, the Father, of whom all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things, and we by him.

Us in Him:

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

My Prayer:

Phl 3:9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Finally:

Jhn 6:56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

Jhn 10:38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.

Jhn 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Rev 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

In Him, Amen



1Jo 4:13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

In Christ: That is me in Him: Phillip

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/2 17:37

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

Logic, regarding Galatians 4:19 you said

Quote:

-----"That would be a Christ like character, not christ Himself being born in us."

-----  
But where does it say that?

-----  
It is implied.

If one is already saved, he already has Christ in him.

Why would one need Christ to be formed in him if he already has Christ in him?

Because they need their own character to be conformed to HIS.

**2Peter 1:5-7** And for this reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

**:6** And to knowledge self control; and to self control patience; and to patience godliness;

**:7** And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness love.

Quote:

-----Is Christ's character separate from Christ Himself? What do you mean?

-----  
I'm sure that you have some of your parents character.

That does not mean that they are in you bringing it about. It is just that you lived with them for so long, they rubbed off on you.

Quote:

-----Prior to this in verse 6 it says

"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

In John 14:18 the Lord says

I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

-----  
That word comfortless in greek is "orphanos"

He will not leave us orphaned.

He will come to us and we will receive power to become witnesses(Act 1:8).

He is our Helper:

**John 14:16** And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Helper, that he may abide with you forever;, John 14:26, John 15:26, John 16:7.

HE is not the doer, but the helper.

Quote:

-----  
Quote:

-----"The branch(us) bears the fruit, the vine(Jesus) enables the branch."

-----  
In Matthew 26:29, Mark 14:25, and Luke 22:18, the Lord Jesus, speaking about wine I think, refers to it as the fruit of the vine.

-----  
John 14:16 is specifically speaking of our works of/from faith that HE calls fruit.

Not wine.

Quote:

-----Isn't it that the branches hold the fruit that the vine is bearing? Everything for life comes from the vine, not the branches, right? And again, the fruit in Galatians 5 is not called the fruit of the believer.

Without branches, the vine can not bear fruit.

The "Fruit of the Spirit must be manifested by our own yielding to HIS spirit.

**Rom 6:13** Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God., Rom 6:16, Rom 6:19.

HE also says, "**abide** in me"

That means to continue, dwell, endure, stay present, remain, stand, tarry. It is our initiative.

Quote:

-----"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us."

That is in context with spreading the Gospel.

**2Corinth 4:5-7** For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

**:6** For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**:7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels...

This "Treasure" is the illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God, the Gospel in verse 5.

The Earthen vessel is the man who brings it.

The treasure or "the light of the knowledge of the glory of God."

The fragile "earthen vessel" is the body, the "outward man"

**2Corinth 4:7b** that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

— that the power of the ministry (the Holy Spirit), in respect to its surpassing "excellency," exhibited in winning souls (1Corinth 2:4) and in sustaining us ministers of the Gospel, might be ascribed solely to God, we being weak as earthen vessels.

Quote:

Quote:

-----"The work that we do of GOD(not from GOD) is to believe on Him.

But where does it say that?

In context.

**John 6:28** Then they said to Him, **What may we do that we may work** the works of God?

Jesus replies that the work which they may do is to believe into Him whom that One sent(Joh 6:29b).

Quote:

-----This is the same context in which He says all that are given to Him will come to Him(v37), that no one can come to Him except God draws them(v44),

I gave you the correct context, however, to know how God "draws" is in the last part of **Joh 6:45b** So then everyone who hears and learns from the Father comes to Me;

Quote:

-----and also that everyone that is taught by God and that have heard and learned will come to Him(v45). Whose working here, isn't it God at work?

Yes, God is always at work, but it is up to the man to decide to listen.

Who is it that will hear?

**John 5:25** Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when **the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God:** and they that hear shall live.

It is not the ones who are so called "regenerated".

Quote:

-----Regarding Hebrews 13:20 I'm not clear what you were saying, maybe you could rephrase it?

I was responding to Christinyou who wrote

Quote:

-----Faith without works is dead?

Then this must also apply; works without faith are dead self works. Which comes first the Chicken or the egg?

Quote:

-----I noticed you emphasised to do. In John 14:10 the Lord Jesus said it was His Father that did the works.

In context of Heb 13:21, it is us that brings forth HIS will by the the God of peace making us complete in every good work.

However, in John 14:10, Jesus is speaking about HIMSELF.

He does the miracles through us as we yield to HIS Spirit.

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/2 17:47**

Quote:

-----dorcus wrote:

Quote:

-----Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us.

Romans 6

3 are ye ignorant that we, as many as were baptized to Christ Jesus, to his death were baptized?

4 we were buried together, then, with him through the baptism to the death, that even as Christ was raised up out of the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we in newness of life might walk.

1 Corinthians 15

20 And now, Christ hath risen out of the dead--the first-fruits of those sleeping he became, 21 for since through man *is* the death, also through man *is* a rising again of the dead,

22 for even as in Adam all die, so also in the Christ all shall be made alive,

23 and each in his proper order, a first-fruit Christ, afterwards those who are the Christ's, in his presence,

Galatians 2

20 with Christ I have been crucified, **and live no more do I**, and Christ doth live in me; and that which I now live in the flesh--in the faith I live of the Son of God,

That part of Romans 6:4 referring to Jesus' resurrection, is translated in my interlinear as 'from among the dead', but Tyndale has 'from death'. There is also the assumption that being raised to newness of life automatically leads to walking in the Spirit.

Still, no where is Jesus "born again".

Or even "born again in us"

Quote:

-----If we do not say that Jesus was somehow 'born again' through His resurrection, on what basis can we claim to be 'born again' through participating in His by faith? Seriously?

**Titus 3:5** He **saved** us through the **washing of regeneration** and **renewal of the Holy Spirit**,

Jesus was never saved.

Jesus was never washed.

Jesus was never renewed.

**1Peter 1:23** Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which lives and abides forever.

Jesus was never born from corruptible seed.

**John 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born from above(again), he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Jesus was never born from below.

Or

Jesus never needed to be born from above since He is the "above which we need to be born from."

I can not believe that you are asking this.

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/2 18:04**

Hi Logic,

Thanks for your response.

Quote:

-----Jesus never needed to be born from above since He is the "above which we need to be born from."

-----  
He didn't need to attend the temple either, or to be baptised, but He went through those things to show us 'the Way' (John 14).

For many years I resisted the idea that Jesus should be *in* me. I was happy to receive the Holy Spirit, by which I cry 'Father' - the spirit of adoption. But... there is a real gear shift if one once begins to believe 'Christ is in me'. And because it is the *risen* (crucified) Christ whom I have met, who reveals the Father to me, as He makes His abode in me, I find that I am in Him. You will find, if you look out for it in the New Testament, both of these 'in Him' and 'in us' (and 'by us').

The only way that the life of God can be 'by us' is if it is 'in us' first. This is the growth of the incorruptible Seed. That's one picture which brings its own parallels, such as Christ being born in us.

To be honest, if you reject a verse like Gal 4:19, you can't expect to find agreement even in spirit, with those whose terminology may be slightly idiosyncratic, but nevertheless carries the intent of scripture. We're all a bit unique in the way we express ourselves and sometimes the only safe thing to do is quote scripture precisely.

I can't stay late tonight... so I apologise if this seems brusque. No offence intended.

Happy New Year. :-)

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/2 18:05**

Quote:

-----Christine you wrote:

Quote:

-----Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us?

-----  
John 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

-----  
That is "we must be born again", not Jesus .

Quote:

-----Blah, blah, blah...ect...

-----  
Within all your post, I see no where Jesus is "born again in us"

You are only trying to manipulate the Scripture to your emotionalism, sentimental, romantic speculations of Christ. You are very close to error that leads to heresy.

This is not a doctrine, it is your molded, artificial or false use of the term.

You are going too far with it.

I will repeat:

**Titus 3:5** He **saved** us through the **washing of regeneration** and **renewal of the Holy Spirit**,  
Jesus was never saved.

Jesus was never washed.  
Jesus was never renewed.

**1Peter 1:23** Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which lives and abides forever.  
Jesus was never born from corruptible seed.

**John 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born from above(again), he cannot see the kingdom of God.  
Jesus was never born from below.  
Or  
Jesus never needed to be born from above since He is the "above which we need to be born from."

As you say that Jesus was "born again" you stray from the truth.

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/2 18:19**

Quote:  
-----dorcas wrote:

For many years I resisted the idea that Jesus should be *in* me.  
-----  
I am not resisting the idea that Jesus is in me.

Quote:  
-----The only way that the life of God can be 'by us' is if it is 'in us' first. This is the growth of the incorruptible Seed. That's one picture which brings its own parallels, such as Christ being born in us.  
-----  
To be born is to be native to the locale stated, in us. This is very wrong.

Not Born, implanted, yes. indwelt, yes. to have come in to us, yes. to possess us, yes. NOT BORN AGAIN IN US!!!

Quote:  
-----To be honest, if you reject a verse like Gal 4:19, you can't expect to find agreement even in spirit, with those whose terminology may be slightly idiosyncratic, but nevertheless carries the intent of scripture.  
-----  
The Scripture does not have any intent of Christ being "Born again in us"

Did you even read the response that I gave to Gal 4:19?  
You can not refute it.  
Christ is in them while HE needs to be formed in them.  
This can not be that HE is born again in us.

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/2 18:27**

Hi Logic,

I happened to spy this just before it fell off the front page in Devotional Thoughts. It may help you to see where not just Phillip gets ideas about Christ being 'born' in us.

The 'Bethlehem' of the Son of God

Â'O, Come to My Heart, Lord JesusÂ'

**Galatians 1:15, 16; 4:19**

Every man is meant to be the 'Bethlehem' of the Son of God by the regenerative power of Redemption. Just as the historic Son of God became Incarnate in the Virgin Mary – "that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God" – so the Son of God is formed in the life of the individual saint by the supernatural grace of God (Gal. 4:19).

Are we willing to submit to the 'new man' that is formed in us until our natural life is transfigured by His personal indwelling? It has nothing to do with our eternal salvation; it has everything to do with our temporal value to God. All most of us are concerned about is being saved from hell only and being put right for heaven. But there is something infinitely grander than that. We are given the marvellous chance of give up our right to ourselves to Jesus Christ so that we may become the devoted bondslaves of God Who saves us so supernaturally.

~ Oswald Chambers, *Still Higher For His Highest*, December 25th

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/2 18:38**

Hi again Logic, I hope you are doing well. It is good to remember that the people we are typing to are people and not ideas or arguments.

About this in regards to Galatians 4:19 again,

You said "It is implied."

I disagree. Verses 11 and 20 seem to say he was rather concerned about the standing of their faith, not whether character was being formed in them? Where is that, the matter of character, even being discussed? Verse 17 talks about those who were zealously affecting them and verse puts it out the issue plainly:

"Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?"

What does any of that have to do with character?

Logic, this was given as a reference to point to the language of birth being used in regards to Christ.

Also, about fruit,

"John 14:16 is specifically speaking of our works of/from faith that HE calls fruit. Not wine."

Is that the point Logic? I do not mean this in a condescending way, but this is really silly. Do you want to argue over where fruit comes from? a branch or a vine?

About John 6:29.

He said the work, of God, was to believe on Him.

He said God gives them(v 37), draws them(v44), and teaches them(v45).

"...but it is up to the man to decide to listen."

Those are your words.

Take care for now,

Chris

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/2 22:07**

It means, until Christ reigns wholly in your heart, soul & attitude; until you wholly and entirely embrace his doctrines; and conform your whole life to, and until you become wholly overwhelmed with his spirit.

Not until He is born in you.

They are already saved, HE is already in them.

You never explain why HE should be "born in them" if HE is already in them?

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/2 22:37**

Hi Logic,

"You never explain why HE should be "born in them" if HE is already in them?"

Right, I think I know what you are saying here. What I was looking at is that the language is used at all. If it was to happen **again**, that means it had to have happened **at least once** to begin with.

You asked initially,

"Show me where Jesus is ever born again in us."

So this was in response to that.

You may be right about this and it may not even be referring to Christ being born in believers. I do not know.

Robertson's Word Pictures says in regards to the phrase **until Christ be formed in you...**

"This figure is the embryo developing into the child."

Elsewhere the scripture refers to being born of incorruptible seed. That would seem to be a similar picture as what springs from the seed continues to grow until it is fully developed.

Hope this helps,

Chris

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/3 10:37**

Quote:  
-----Elsewhere the scripture refers to being born of incorruptible seed. That would seem to be a similar picture as what springs from the seed continues to grow until it is fully developed.  
-----

It says that **WE** are born of that incorruptible Seed.  
The Seed is not born in us.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/3 17:37**

Hi again Logic,

Logic, do you think much about what others write to you?

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/3 18:06**

I have two dogs. I've noticed that one of them can be very protective of her food and acts like it is something to be defended. She certainly doesn't act like she wants to share it with the other dog. Pretty much the only sound she makes while eating is to growl if you bother her.

We shouldn't be like that should we? Unless we only view our food as something to defend?

Chris

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/4 12:09**

Quote:  
-----ChrisJD wrote:

We shouldn't be like that should we? Unless we only view our food as something to defend  
-----

We shouldn't make things up that are not true, like Jesus being born again.  
That is heretical.  
Even to say that HE was born again in us, it blurs the line of truth.



Nowhere does it say that HE was.

If Paul or any other of the Apostles meant that Jesus was "born again" in the christian, or even "birthed", they would have explicitly said it.

I am serious of keeping the truth of the Scripture PURE.

The Scriptures are our food, they are something to defend.

I don't like people muddying the pureness of it.

This could go to another topic if one wants to discuss it more so we may get back to the main topic of this thread.

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2008/1/4 14:17**

hi, once again we have 2 people standing on either side of a door arguing over if it an exit or an entrance. jimp

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/4 14:37**

Believing Jesus' Words **is** a work, but not a work of the law.

One must choose to believe, and acting upon HIS words prove that one does believe.

The acting upon HIS words are the works of faith.

What are Jesus' Words?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Love is a verb, work is a verb, Believing Jesus' Words **is** a work.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/4 19:19**

Hi again all,

Logic, you said

"One must choose to believe,"

The Lord Jesus said to those who had asked Him if He was the Christ

"...ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you." - John 10:26(KJV)

Next He said His sheep do hear His voice, and that His Father gave them to Him.

Chris

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/4 23:03

Quote:  
-----ChrisJD wrote:  
Quote:  
-----"One must choose to believe,"  
-----  
The Lord Jesus said to those who had asked Him if He was the Christ  
  
"...ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you." - John 10:26(KJV)  
-----  
**John 10:26-27** But you believe not, because you are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.  
**:27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:  
  
If they would hear HIS voice, they would be HIS sheep.  
Therefore, if they would hear HIS voice, they would believe.  
If it was not for pride, prejudice, and for their false assumptions of who the Messiah should be, and from a determination not to believe, they would be HIS sheep.

Quote:  
-----Next He said His sheep do hear His voice, and that His Father gave them to Him.  
-----  
By the hearing from the Father and learning of the truth, is the way that the Father gives them to Him.  
**John 6:45** It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Everyone then, who hears from the Father and is learning the truth, is coming to Me.

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/5 3:22

Hi Logic, thank you for writing back.

Logic, you said,

"If they would hear HIS voice, they would be HIS sheep."

The Lord Jesus said,

**My sheep hear my voice...**

- John 10:27(KJV)

Logic you said,

"If it was not for pride, prejudice, and for their false assumptions of who the Messiah should be, and from a determination not to believe, they would be HIS sheep."

The Lord Jesus said,

**...ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep,...**

- John 10:26(KJV)

The word translated because, according to Strong's is

G1063

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gar

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A primary particle; properly assigning a reason (used in argument, explanation or intensification; often with other particle s): - and, as, because (that), but, even, for indeed, no doubt, seeing, then, therefore, verily, what, why, yet.

Again, Logic, you said

"...if they would hear HIS voice, they would belive."

The Lord Jesus said,

**He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.**

- John 8:47(KJV)

John also wrote,

"He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

- John 1:11-13(KJV)

Logic, you said,

"By the hearing from the Father and learning of the truth, is the way that the Father gives them to Him."

The Lord Jesus said,

**But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. All that the Father giveth me shall come to me.**

..

- John 6:36-37(KJV)

The Lord Jesus also said of His disciples

**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.**

He also said

**"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live."**

- John 5:25(KJV)

and...

**""For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth *them*; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will."**

- John 5:21(KJV)

Thanks again,

Chris

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/5 10:40**

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic, thank you for writing back.

Logic, you said,

Quote:

-----"If they would hear HIS voice, they would be HIS sheep."

-----

The Lord Jesus said,

**My sheep hear my voice...- John 10:27(KJV)**

Logic you said,

Quote:

-----"If it was not for pride, prejudice, and for their false assumptions of who the Messiah should be, and from a determination not to believe, they would be HIS sheep."

-----  
The Lord Jesus said,

**...ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep,...** - John 10:26(KJV)

The word translated because, according to Strong's is

G1063

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gar

gar

A primary particle; properly assigning a reason (used in argument, explanation or intensification; often with other particles): - and, as, because (that), but, even, for, indeed, no doubt, seeing, then, therefore, verily, what, why, yet.

Again, Logic, you said

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Logic, you said,

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He also said

**"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall I live."** - John 5:25(KJV)

and...

**"For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth *them*; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will."**- John 5:21(KJV)

Thanks again,

Chris

-----  
So, you agree that if they would hear HIM they would believe and be His sheep.

Thanx for reiterating.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/5 10:59**

Hi Logic,

"Jesus answered and said unto them,

**This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. "**

- John 6:29(KJV)

**Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because ye cannot hear my word.**

- John 8:43(KJV)

In answer to your question, no.

Take care for now,

Chris

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/7 11:53**

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic,

"Jesus answered and said unto them,

**This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.** " - John 6:29(KJV)

-----

Yes, to believe on HIM is the work.

Quote:

-----Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. -John 8:43(KJV)

In answer to your question, no.

Take care for now,

-----

You quote the same Scriptures as I do, but, you still say no, How is that?

Are you implying that it is God who rejects man instead of man rejecting GOD?

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/7 20:15**

Hi Logic,

I guess we read or understand these passages differently.

Take care,

Chris

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/8 9:06**

Hi ChrisJD and Logic,

I wonder if you both can see the same interpretation of who is doing 'the work', if I re-arrange the clauses of the sentence construction?

*that ye believe on him whom he hath sent, is the work of God*

If we put this into the past tense, it might be even clearer.

*that ye believe on him whom he hath sent, was the work of God*

Or, we could try:

*that ye believed on him whom he has sent, is the work of God*

Okay.... try this...

*The work of God, is that ye believe on him whom he has sent*

Lastly, following in the thoughts conveyed around English grammar in the thread 'Presenting the Apostrophe', 'the work of God' can be written as *God's work*.

Now, the original would read:

This is (or, It is) God's work, that ye believe (or *to believe*) on Him whom He hath sent.

In other words, if there is any 'work of believing', God does it all for us.

This is in accordance with other aspects of the gospel, such as 'the gift of God is eternal life' (Rom 6:23) and 'not of work s, lest any man should boast' (Eph 2:9)

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God,

I think we have to imagine a conversation with someone we know very well.

Logic, let me put this to you... When you give your wife some information she needs, so that she can carry out a task you wish her to do, does she have to work at believing you are telling her the truth, and that she will find things just as you said they would be?

In other words, the context of your speech to your wife, is that you are already both assured of your existence, and of your knowledge of each other's hearts. These parameters are originally patterned for us regarding our relationship to God, in Hebrews 11:6, as the basis for consciously approaching God at all.

I guess what I'm trying to say is, that if *believing* (or *faith*) is 'the work', then we should all be exhausted by every relationship into which we enter, which requires a response from us, or, to which we find ourselves desiring to respond.

Much as you find it tempting to entertain this possibility, there is much in personal experience (therefore), which militates against drawing such a conclusion.

The explanation for the truth that faith is not a work, may lie in the spiritual nature of true communication between God and His creatures, and between creatures themselves.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/8 11:49

Quote:

ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic,

I guess we read or understand these passages differently.

Take care,

Chris

Are you implying that it is God who rejects man instead of man rejecting GOD?

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/8 12:01

Quote:

dorcas wrote:

Hi ChrisJD and Logic,

I wonder if you both can see the same interpretation of who is doing 'the work', if I re-arrange the clauses of the sentence construction?

*that ye believe on him whom he hath sent, is the work of God*

If we put this into the past tense, it might be even clearer.

*that ye believe on him whom he hath sent, was the work of God*

Or, we could try:

*that ye believed on him whom he has sent, is the work of God*

Okay.... try this...

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Lastly, following in the thoughts conveyed around English grammar in the thread 'Presenting the Apostrophe', 'the work of God' can be written as *God's work*.

Now, the original would read:

This is (or, It is) God's work, that ye believe (or *to believe*) on Him whom He hath sent.

In other words, if there is any 'work of believing', God does it all for us.

Or we can read it in context of the previous verse.

**John 6:28** Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

This would make sence for the responce to be:

"that ye believe on him whom he hath sent, is the work of God"

Quote:

-----Logic, let me put this to you... When you give your wife some information she needs, so that she can carry out a task you wish her to do, does she have to work at believing you are telling her the truth, and that she will find things just as you said they would be?

Believing is an action, verb.

All actions are works in one way or another.

Quote:

-----I guess what I'm trying to say is, that if believing (or faith) is 'the work', then we should all be exhausted by every relationship into which we enter, which requires a response from us, or, to which we find ourselves desiring to respond.

Is your marriage exhausting?

Lets just face it, in conctect of John 6:28, the only way to read John 6:29 is "that ye believe on him whom he hath sent, is



the work of God"

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/8 17:02

How did the Lord Jesus respond to what Nicodemus said about Him?

Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/8 19:00

Hi Logic,

I liked your point about context, and went back to read more of the chapter, not merely the preceding verse. I see why you want to make it a work of man, to believe Jesus, but I also see that Chris wants to give all the glory for faith, to God, emphasising that it is God who draws us to the place of faith.

That particular point comes out very clearly in the following passage. Nevertheless, I do believe it is even easier than whether it is man or God who does the 'work' of believing, as Jesus places special emphasis on *seeing Him*. Also, it is possible to 'see Him' and *not* believe, which implies a choice on the part of the unbelievers, as much as a choice on the Father's part not to draw them to Jesus.

Later in John 19, Jesus comments on the blessedness of those who believe without having *seen* Him in the flesh (or resurrected flesh). Perhaps there is an important distinction here, which is endorsed by Paul in Romans 10:9, over the importance in believing in His resurrection. As Paul also says in 1 Cor 15:14, if Christ is not risen, our faith is vain.

Related to John 6, that old proverb 'seeing is believing' comes to mind, in the light of the discussion Jesus has with the people here, esp v

John 6

26 Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.

27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.

32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.

35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

37 **All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.**

38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

40 **And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

It seems that when the people ask Him what He's going to do so that they can see His display of power and believe in Him, He answers in several ways, the main one of which is to say, *I'm going to give you my flesh to eat*.

At the same time, He tells them that if they've seen Him, believing is the required response, but they choose rather to go away arguing about the logistics of how He could give them His flesh to eat. Sounds a lot like this discussion... in that if you want to believe that Jesus is saying the act of believing is a work, no-one can rob you of that interpretation, except perhaps Hebrews 4:9 - 11:

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God from His. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Amen.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/8 20:21

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

How did the Lord Jesus respond to what Nicodemus said about Him?

-----

Huh, Please refriaze that.

Again, Are you implying that it is God who rejects man instead of man rejecting GOD?

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/8 20:32

Quote:

-----dorcas wrote:

I see why you want to make it a work of man, to believe Jesus.

-----

It is not that I **want** to make it a work of man, it is just what it sais, you can not deny that.

Other work we must do:

**Rom 2:7,10** To them who by who by endurance in **good works** are seeking glory and honor and immortality, eternal life

:

**:10** yet glory and honor and peace to every **worker** of good, both to the Jew first, and to the Greek.

There is more, but, gotta run.

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/8 21:21

Hi Dorcas, how are you?

About the context,

Before this it says

Jesus answered them and said,

**Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.**

Could that be a motive for their question that follows?

And how would God answer the spirit of such a question?

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/8 21:24**

Hi Logic,

In regards to Nicodemus I was thinking of John 3:2.

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/9 13:50**

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic,

How did the Lord Jesus respond to what Nicodemus said about Him?

In regards to Nicodemus I was thinking of John 3:2.

Nicodemus asked was saying, "we know that you are a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that you do, except God be with him."

Because of chapt. 2 when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables(2:15).

Then Jesus answered that by saying, "unless someone is born from above he is not able to **understand** the kingdom of God(3:3).

What Jesus was speaking "kingdomeez" when HE said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."(19)

They did not understand it(20).

The disciples understood it only when He was raised from the dead, His disciples recalled that He said this to them(V:22).

What is your point of asking about this?

for the 3rd time, would you please answer my question:

Again, Are you implying that it is God who rejects man instead of man rejecting GOD?

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/9 17:37**

Hi Logic.

I think there is more to what Nicodemus said than what you mentioned. I see three things in particular.

Also, why do you keep asking me this question?

Thanks,

Chris

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work, on: 2008/1/9 17:48**

Hi Chris,

I'm ok thank you. :-)

'Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.'

You asked

Quote:

-----Could that be a motive for their question that follows?  
-----

Yes. I noticed this; that they seemed to think their challenge was to be able to do what Jesus could do, rather like Simon the sorcerer who offered money for the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:18).

It's quite a fine line. He seems to understand they might want to make bread for themselves.

Quote:

-----And how would God answer the spirit of such a question?  
-----

Well it seems to me that the Lord put their priorities back in order. The whole 'do'ing thing, is like 'do'ing what it says in the law. He wanted them to perceive the free gift of Himself, rather than a gift which enabled them to consume its outworking upon their own flesh.

Embedded in His reply, is the necessity of looking away from self.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/9 18:07**

Dorcas, thank you for the reply, I think it was helpful.

"they seemed to think their challenge was to be able to do what Jesus could do, rather like Simon the sorcerer who offered money for the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:18)."

I think so too.

So, how does the Lord respond, by giving them the answer to **their** question? I don't think so.

I think He changed the emphasis, like you suggested.

They asked Him what they needed to do, to work the works of God.

I think He told them what God's work(not works) was instead.

Does that make sense?

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/9 20:15**

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic.

I think there is more to what Nicodemus said than what you mentioned. I see three things in particular.

-----  
What are those three things?

Quote:

-----Also, why do you keep asking me this question?

-----  
It seems that you believe it.

I don't want to think it if it ain't true.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/9 22:33**

Hi Logic,

The three things were: that He was a teacher come from God, that He was doing miracles, and that God was with Him.

I know you qouted the verse but I was asking about the Lord's response to Nicodemus having said these things.

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/10 12:06**

Quote:

-----

ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic,

The three things were: that He was a teacher come from God, that He was doing miracles, and that God was with Him.

I know you qouted the verse but I was asking about the Lord's response to Nicodemus having said these things.

-----

What does that have to do with the subject?

Why won't you answer the question?

It is a simple qestion.

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/10 15:57**

Hi Logic,

I was looking to compare the response there with how the Lord responded in John chapter 6.

As to the question you keep asking me, haven't I only qouted to you the scriptures?

Chris

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/10 16:47**

Quote:

-----ChrisJD wrote:

Hi Logic,

I was looking to compare the response there with how the Lord responded in John chapter 6.

-----

What is there to compare?

Quote:

-----As to the question you keep asking me, haven't I only qouted to you the scriptures?

-----

Your answer to my question will be how I see you interpreting the scriptures.

Will you answer or not?

Do you think that it is God who rejects man instead of man rejecting GOD?

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/10 17:00**

Logic,

I think the scriptures are more profitable for us.

Chris

Edited to correct spelling

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2008/1/10 17:35**

hi,in choosing the jews,God rejected the rest of humaniy. in choosing noah God rejects the rest of the world.He even tell s his army to kill everything and everyone in a nation.don't use logic use the bible.jimp

**Re: Is it a Work to Believe the Words of Jesus, on: 2008/1/10 18:40**

Good evening ChrisJD,

You asked if this made sense:

Quote:

-----I think He told them what God's work(not works) was instead.

Absolutely. I've seen the plural contrasted with the singular in other pleges also. 'Seed' and 'seeds' come to mind, as do es 'generation of Jesus Christ' and 'generations of Adam' (KJV).

These singulars seem always to point to the completeness and singularity of God, compared with the many generations, bloods and peoples of humanity. That reminds me of what Paul said in Acts 17 on Mars Hill, that God had made of one blood, all men. Interesting... sorry I'm drifting away from the matter of whether it's any effort to believe?

**Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2008/1/10 19:09**

Dorcas, good evening to you too :-)

"...sorry I'm drifting away from the matter of whether it's any effort to believe?"

That's alright, and I appreciate the emphasis you added here in question, of it being *any effort*.

If we agree that the Lord was telling them what the work of God was, instead of telling them how to work the works of Go d, we might ask:

Could they have worked the works of God in and of themselves anyway? Could they have fed all of those multitudes for instance, in their own power or **by their own effort**?

I think of what the Lord Jesus said in John 5:17,19-20.

Thanks :-)

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2008/1/10 19:50**

hi, is resting in the finished work of Christ a work? jimp

**Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2008/1/12 15:12**

Quote:

-----jimp wrote:

hi, is **resting** in the finished work of Christ a work? jimp

**Hebrews 4:11** Let us **labor**(make effort) therefore to enter into that **rest**, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

**Re: Is Believing Jesus' Words a Work?, on: 2008/1/12 17:10**

Hi Logic,

The labor leads to the rest. Can't do both at once. Once resting, the labor is over. Is this what you meant?