

# “Why Believe???”

*Written September of 2012*

**Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:1, 6**

## Introduction

I am very appreciative for the invitation tonight; and most of all I am amazed that Ramon (*the Program coordinator*) asked if I could speak in regards to a specific topic which is “Faith”. With the help of the Holy Spirit, this important topic will be unfolded here tonight by the Message I bring you. God works in mysterious ways my dear Brothers and Sisters because the Holy Spirit has shown me a lot in this area and through the sermon you will see what I mean. I pray that through tonight’s Message you will be able to answer within yourselves the question that tonight’s Message title asks:

*“Why Believe”???*

Let us bow our heads and invite the Holy Spirit to open our Hearts, Minds and spirit so that we can receive what the Lord has prepared for us tonight.

## Sermon

The Sermon title asks a question that I asked myself for almost (11) years of my life. I left my house at age (17) and for the following (11) years I questioned if there was truly a God. You see I had embraced Atheism in order to be able to explain all of the Emotional, Physical and Spiritual Abuse I had experienced throughout my childhood, due to parents who professed themselves to be “Christian” but were not.

I began to read and study a lot of Philosophy books, which teach that you have the power within yourself to do whatever you want in your life. I spent a lot of years studying the theory of evolution, the big bang theory and many other Evolutionistic theories and came to an all-important conclusion.

Just to give you a little insight, my mind and my way of thinking is to rationalize things and look for the logic of things in order for me to accept them. When I sat and studied all of these things, one by one I began to truly analyze the feasibility of each theory. I would like to share with you what I discovered. For example:

- **The Big Bang Theory** = The Theory that all of these gases and elements in space caused a gigantic blast, and some how formed the planet Earth and over Millions of years life, micro-organisms evolved into mankind.

\*The conclusion after careful study of Planet Earth is that there is no logical way that it could of all come together by chance. There are definite signs of Intelligent Design. That’s a word the Atheist and Evolutionists hate, that’s like saying a curse word to them.

Yet when you analyze the fact that if the Earth’s orbit was just 10 feet closer to sun than what it is now this planet could not sustain life, because we would all burn up.

The precise rotation on its axis in unison with its orbit around the sun create a perfect balance for the seasons, not to mention that the gravitational pull of the moon controls the tides, literally keeping the oceans in place. **To many factors were too precise to happen by chance...**

- **Evolution of Man** = The Theory that we evolved from single celled micro-organisms and that over millions of years, those cells began to split into multi-celled organisms and that then, they evolved into water dwelling animals that eventually evolved lungs and came out of the water, and then eventually evolved into land dwelling animals.

One of which was an Ape, of which over the course of another Million years began little by little to walk upright into what we know today as Homo-sapiens.

\*When you truly begin to study Human anatomy and the Physiology of the human body, you begin to truly understand the complexity and precision of the human body that there is no way logically that could've happened by chance.

What I discovered was that there had to be an **Intelligent Designer** behind the Human race, the likelihood of us evolving from an Ape became more and more ridiculous as I studied the different parts of the body and how they all work together. The evidence for Faith in God kept mounting.

These are just a couple examples of things that I discovered on the journey of Faith that I was on for eleven years. **My ultimate conclusion was that it would take more Faith to believe in Evolution and stay an Atheist, than it would take to be or pursue Christianity.**

There are a lot of people that are afraid of Science and the study of it because they think that Scientist are Atheist, yet it was Science that help me disprove Evolutionists beliefs and begin turning away from Atheism.

As I began to research the historical facts related to the Bible and its Authors and analyze the fact that over the course of thousands of years, with all the different Authors that wrote books, yet the Bible is a fluid work that connects and inter-twines itself from one end of the Bible to the other. The complexity of the Bible could only truly be explained by an Intelligent Design as well. Yet more evidence that led to having Faith in the unseen.

I would like for us to back to our Scripture Reading found in: **Hebrews 11:1.**

***“Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”***

So that we can better understand what this powerful text is telling us; I want to take a moment and define the word Faith. Because this is a word that has many different meanings, and it is also a word that we truly don't understand the depth of what it implies to us. According to Webster's Dictionary the word "**Faith**" is defined as the following:

- **Faith** = Ones religious beliefs, Trust and loyalty in someone, Devotion and Confidence, to believe in something that isn't tangible, belief in the unseen.

My approach to Faith was more of an intellectual search at first; but the more I began researching, the more evidence kept mounting until I began to **BELIEVE**; which leads us into the second **Verse** of our Scripture Reading: **Hebrews 11:6**.

***"But without Faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is rewarder of them that diligently seek him."***

Now this text plainly tells us a couple of things. The first is that God Rewards those who truly seek Him. The second is that before we come to God we must first ***"BELIEVE that He is."*** I want to take a few seconds and define the word "**Believe**" so that we can understand this text in its deeper context.

- **Believe** = regard as true, have trust or faith in.

**Now we have reached the pinnacle of today's Message my dear Brothers and Sisters. What does it mean to truly believe?** Answering this question will help us to answer at the end of tonight's Message, the question the Sermon title gives us: ***"Why Believe???"***

I would like to do a small illustration to better gain a deeper depth of understanding on how to truly answer this question: "WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRULY BELIEVE

**Illustration:**

This is an illustration that the entire congregation can participate in. All you have to do is answer a simple question:

- How many of you believe in God? Raise your hands.
- Now I would like to ask one or two brave people to stand up and say why they believe in God?

I would say that the vast majority of everyone here raised their hands. Now let's apply this illustration to the following text, and it is absolutely vital that everyone looks up and reads this text PLEASE! It is found in: **James 2:19**.

***"You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that and tremble".***

**So my dear Brothers and Sisters what's the difference between a demon that believes in God and "Christians" that say they believe in God?**

**Unfortunately, its NOT enough to just BELIEVE.** That doesn't grant us anything in Eternity. How many people here believe that by putting God at the top of your list of priorities is how a "Christian" should live their lives, don't be afraid to lift your hands now, honestly who believes that.

What if I told you that God doesn't want to be at the top of your list of priorities, a manmade list of priorities will not get you a Golden Ticket to the Kingdom of Glory Brothers and Sisters. Think about that for a minute because this is truly the Meat of the Gospel I am bringing you today. Listen closely brethren...**He wants to be your only PRIORITY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

It is a Religious mindset that has led many to believe in a list of things that must be done in order to please God. This is completely incorrect...what God wants us to do is to truly **BELIEVE THAT HE IS.** This is why Paul tells us in **Romans 12:2** that **"we must renew our mind, so that we can truly know the will of God."**

So, what's the difference between a believing demon and a believing "Christian"? In my opinion the demons have more reverence for God than most professed "Christians". Look at the last part of **James 2:19**, where it says they **"tremble"** at the sound of the name of God.

**Do we do same thing?** How many times have you seen people walking into church like if their walking into the mall or something; talking about the latest fashion, hair style and so forth not showing any respect at all for Gods' House.

**What should separate a believing "Christian" and a believing demon, is that the demons believe but they do not follow. A True Christian puts action behind their belief, they put action behind their FAITH and follow Christ Jesus.**

In every Miracle that Christ performed we see the evidence of this. Christ always provided the Miracle only after that person exercised their Faith and took action to claim that healing. Let's look at a very brief example found in: **John 9:5-7.**

**This man would've never received Gods' reward for his belief in HIM. As Hebrews 11:6 tells us.** He put action behind his Faith and he was able to experience Gods' Awesome Power. Another thing to note in these texts and in all the Miracles that Christ performed was that: Christ never gave them a list of things they need to do first before they would experience the TRANSFORMING Power God in their lives.

Christ never told them: you need to stop eating pork, go to church on a certain day, dress better, stop smoking, stop drinking, stop fornicating and THEN you can receive your Miracle, **NO!** None of that mattered to Christ, because once that person allowed the Holy Spirit to enter into their hearts, He (*Holy Spirit*) would create those changes.

So many times, Religion tries to change to the outside of a person, so that we appear to be “Christian” when in actuality we should be more concerned in planting a seed in someone’s heart so that the Holy Spirit causes that change to happen from within.

### **Its time for us to stop playing church and be the church Body of Christ!**

There are a lot of people wanting to have a real tangible encounter with God; but the only way that can happen is by teaching people on how to have a Relationship with God Almighty.

Many people are trying to get to God, but they are tripping over us and our Religious ideals. We are called to be Lights in this World, not stumbling blocks. This is why the Body of Christ must reflect Gods’ Love at all times, and allow others to see who lives in us, and share that Love with others.

When we have a Relationship with God my dear Brothers and Sisters, the LOVE of God will permeate through every aspect of our lives. People should see us at our jobs, at school and wherever we go with what we have on the inside. So, I ask you this question brethren:

### **“How can we truly prove that God exists?”**

Its real simple by the lives that we live, by embracing our Brothers and Sisters that surround us, not seeing their faults and shortcomings, but seeing them through the EYES OF JESUS; we need to plant the seed my dear Brothers and Sisters and Pray that the Holy Spirit causes that seed to grow.

### **Closing**

People have many different ways and reasons to believe. Many of us without realizing it, (or not), are all searching for PURPOSE. We want to give our life meaning in some way, in some form or fashion. We are all programmed by God to Worship.

But unfortunately, many fall into the traps of satan as I did in my youth, and try to find my identity in drugs, alcohol, partying and sexual immorality. Without realizing it I began to worship my possessions and the money I was making in my profession, which drifted me further and further away from God.

This was all an illusion of satan. All because I didn’t know in what to believe. So, I leave you with a slightly different question than what we began:

### **“Why NOT Believe”?**

### **Altar Call**

As this closing song plays, I would like to invite all those who would like to begin to be the True Body of Christ and declare that “**He IS**”, to come forward for a special prayer. This is a prayer that will declare in Heavens and on Earth your belief in God and your surrender to the Holy Spirit to begin to work in your life.