

Do People Believe Jesus for Nothing

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Water of Life Bible Class

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Introduction

We will not meet May 25

Sometimes *believe* has a personal object; sometimes it has words as its object

Many wrongly claim that the two types of objects imply a different kind of faith

Many of them also claim that believing a person is superior to believing words

Those believe that the two types of objects are like oil and water (which cannot mix)

They claim that many “believers” are not really “believers,” based on which type of faith one has

Rather, believing with a personal object is quite compatible with believing with words as the object

Initial Critique of Wayne Grudem, who thinks believing a person is superior to believing words

Illustrating that person and words are not incompatible: One believes a person who says words

That is: we believe the speaker and we believe the words of the speaker

Understanding what it means to believe a promise: Jesus promises everlasting life to believers

Passages that clearly have a personal object and a content object

John 4:21 and 14:11a Believe Me that...

Acts 27:25 I believe God that...

Passages with complex objects

Luke 1:20 You did not believe my words

Luke 24:24 slow to believe all the prophets have spoken

John 2:22 His disciples believed the _____ Scripture and what Jesus said

John 4:50 The man believed the word Jesus spoke [your son lives]

John 5:47 [cf. 5:46] If you don't believe Moses' writings, how will you believe My words?

John 12:38; Romans 10:16 Who has believed our report?

Acts 8:12 They believed Philip's preaching about the Kingdom and about Jesus

Romans 10:10a He is believed unto righteousness [People believe His promise]
i.e., people believe Him so they will be declared righteous

2 Thessalonians 1:10b Our testimony among you was believed

1 Timothy 1:16 Believe on Him for everlasting life [Believe on Him in order to have EL]

1 John 5:10c Believe in the testimony that God has testified of His Son

Passages with a second [implicit object]

Matt 27:42; Mk 15:32 Let Him come off the cross; we will believe on Him [that He is God's Son]

John 8:45-46 Believe Me [who speaks truth]

John 9:18 They didn't believe [the blind man] that he had been blind and received sight, until...

Jn 10:24-25 "Tell us if you are Christ." "I told you and you don't believe Me [that I am Christ]."

John 10:38c Believe the works [I do]

Acts 9:26 They didn't believe [Pau!] that he was a disciple

Acts 24:14 Believing all that is written in the Law and the Prophets [by their authors]

Acts 26:27a You believe the prophets [who wrote the books bearing their names]

1 Corinthians 11:18 I hear [people's] reports that you have divisions and I believe them

People believe a person and what the person says

What about believing in someone? Is that different than believing someone?

Conclusion