

Three Prominent Types of Believers

2 Thess. 2:11-17

Introduction:

- A. The need for religious faith is becoming generally recognized.
 - 1. Statesmen, physicians, philosophers, and theologians testify with one voice.
 - 2. Faith in general or “believing in something” is the main idea in most cases.
- B. The text speaks plainly about believing — not just believing, but believing truth (vv. 11-12)
- C. We want to discuss three types of believers among religious people.

Discussion:

I. Those Who Believe and Work Hard in Religion, but Believe the Wrong Things.

- A. The Jews (Rom. 10:1-3; Matt. 15:7-9).
- B. Saul of Tarsus (Acts 26:9-11).
- C. Many in last day. (Mt. 7:22,23).

II. Those Who Believe the Truth, but Do Nothing about It. (Cf. Jas. 2:19).

- A. Chief Rulers (John 12:42-43).
- B. Herod Agrippa (Acts 26:28).
- C. Felix (Acts 24:24-27).
- D. Many “church members” (2 Pet. 2:20-22).
 - 1. They say, “We have not lost our faith” — may have frozen it.
 - 2. They believe one should be faithful in attendance and public worship - do not. (Heb 10:25)
 - 3. They believe one should spread the gospel — do not. (Mk. 16:15)
 - 4. They believe one should help others spiritually and physically — do not. (Gal. 6:10)
 - 5. They believe one should correct his life by being restored — do not (Acts 8:22)

III. Those Who Believe the Truth and Obey It.

- A. Pentecostians (Acts 2:22-47).
- B. Eunuch (Acts 8:35-38).
- C. Jailor (Acts 16:30-34).
- D. The church at Philippi.
 - 1. Believed in supporting the gospel and did it (Phil 1:3-5; 4:15).
 - 2. Believed in a life of constant obedience and did it (Phil. 2:12-13).

Conclusion:

- A. What kind of believer are you?
- B. Are you an obedient believer or truth?