

Believe on the Name of the Son of God

By: Lenny Chapman

What a wonderful experience it was for Peter, James, and John to go with Jesus up the mountain and witness the transfiguration before their very eyes, (Mat. 17:1-6). Immediately Peter spoke out to the Lord saying, *“it is good for us to be here: if you wish, let us make here three tabernacles; one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”* However, before they could get involved in such a conversation there came a voice from heaven making clear that Jesus was the one to believe on. *“While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and suddenly a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; Hear him.”*

It should be evident to us that God made known to those disciples that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. It was to be through Him that mankind would be delivered, and it is only on the name of the Son of God that one can be saved. The apostles through inspiration made this the foundation of their teachings saying, *“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12). Sadly, today there are many who cannot see this truth, and still wait the coming of the Messiah, discounting Jesus to nothing more than a prophet or teacher. There are others that refuse to hear God, turning a deaf ear to his inspired word and the whole idea of the Messiah, and yet others that will openly confess Jesus but are led astray by false teachers, pushing human doctrines and ideas ignoring God’s scriptural way of salvation, baptism, worship, and a host of other important examples left behind by the apostles.

The Hebrew writer explains the authority that is given to Jesus in (Heb. 1:1-4) when he wrote the following words, *“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by his Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”* How can one dispute the Holy Scriptures? How can one turn a deaf ear to such an important issue as where we shall spend eternity?

In a world where there seems to be so much worry and cynicism would you not think that a spiritual relationship with Jesus would be just what is needed? This is the same thing that the disciples had to overcome in the first century. Life was not easy back then, but there were those who knew the importance of believing in God. Once taught about Jesus, those who would believe on the name of the Son of God would be persecuted and many times experienced a rougher life than if they had never believed in the first place. Was it worth it for them? This is what John wrote to them, *“These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to his will, He hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and he will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is sin not leading to death. We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. And we know*



that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.” (1 John 5:13-20).

The Son of God has come and for those who believe on His name and are baptized will be added to the kingdom. This is the true God, and eternal life!