

**DO YOU BELIEVE IT OR NOT?**



# John 12:37-50

God proved only one way for mankind to go to  
heaven: through Jesus Christ

According to a survey by the Barna Group, among  
those who claim to be born-again Christians  
46% believe in absolute moral truth

# 1. Unbelief is Dangerous (vv.37-41)

They did not believe in spite of the preponderance of the evidence

34 miraculous signs recorded in the four gospels demonstrate Jesus' power over death, disease, demons and nature

Miracles are the suspension of natural law and imposition of supernatural force

# 1. Unbelief is Dangerous (vv.37-41)

(Isaiah 53:1; Isaiah 6:9, 10)

God is not surprised by unbelief

# 1. Unbelief is Dangerous (vv.37-41)

Disbelief has two layers

1. Your own choice, will, decision, response
2. Those who persistently harden their hearts  
will have their hearts hardened

Unbelief is progressive: willful blindness will  
be punished by judicial blindness

## 2. Faith can be Dangerous (vv.42-43)

Among the rulers, many believed but didn't  
confess

If you confessed Jesus you would be  
excommunicated from the synagogue

# Martyrdom Exists Today

More Christians were martyred in the twentieth century than in any previous century

More Christians were martyred in the twentieth century than in previous centuries combined

# Martyrdom Exists Today

Over 100 million Christians are martyred

One of every 200 can expect to be martyred

The danger of Belief is that we can be tempted

to compromise our faith in order that those

around us will like us



3. Jesus shows the difference between  
belief and unbelief (vv.44-50)

(1). Faith honors God-Unbelief doesn't

We honor God when we receive Jesus

Hebrews 1:1-2

"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"

3. Jesus shows the difference between belief and unbelief (vv.44-50)

The church at Smyrna was the persecuted church

Thomas a Kempis

."It's preferable to have the whole world against you then to have Jesus offended with you."

(2.) Faith brightens your life-unbelief darkens it

3. Jesus shows the difference between belief and unbelief (vv.44-50)

“I have come as a light into the world that whoever believes in me should not abide in darkness”

"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12)

3. Jesus shows the difference between  
belief and unbelief (vv.44-50)

We can't be all God wants us to be until we  
walk in the light of Christ

Medical science can add years to life, but only  
Jesus adds life to years

3. Jesus shows the difference between  
belief and unbelief (vv.44-50)

(3.) Faith will open your door to the future

Unbelief will close the door permanently

Jesus gives the eternal consequences

Faith-eternal life

Unbelief-judgment

3. Jesus shows the difference between belief and unbelief (vv.44-50)

First coming Jesus came to save

Second coming Jesus will come as judge

To receive Jesus is to refuse judgment.

To refuse Jesus is to receive judgment

3. Jesus shows the difference between  
belief and unbelief (vv.44-50)

God commands everlasting life

And I know that His command  
is everlasting life"

v. 50

"Truly, these times of ignorance God  
overlooked, but now commands all men  
everywhere to repent," Acts 17:30