

# Amazing Unbelief

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**WHAT IS  
UNBELIEF?**

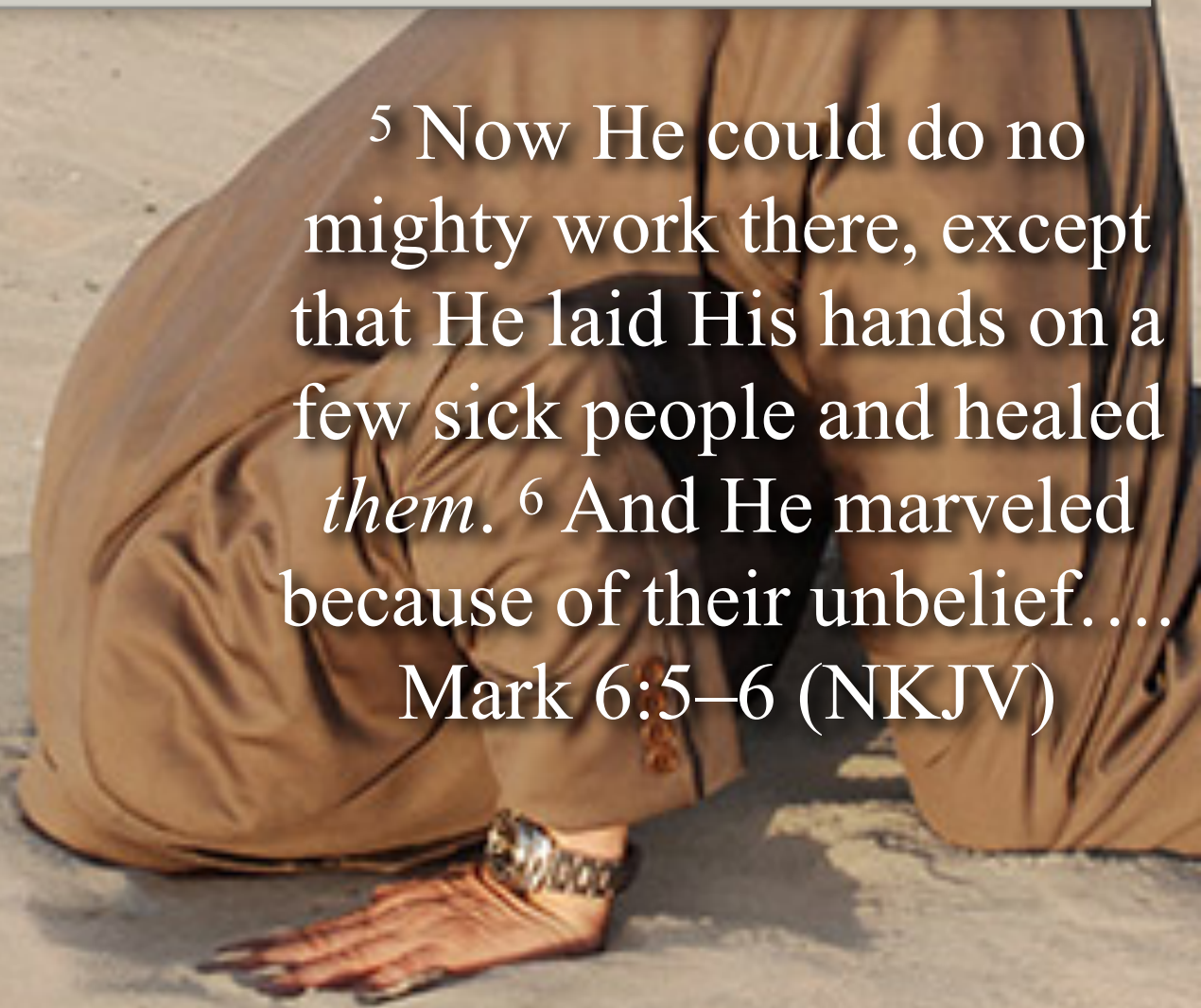
**THE WHY OF  
UNBELIEF?**

**THE RESULT  
OF UNBELIEF?**

**THE CURE FOR  
UNBELIEF?**

# Amazing Unbelief

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Mark 6:5–6 (NKJV)





## Mark 6:1–6 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. <sup>2</sup> And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing *Him* were astonished, saying, “Where *did* this Man *get* these things? And what wisdom *is* this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! <sup>3</sup> Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?” So they were offended at Him.

## Mark 6:1–6 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house.” <sup>5</sup> Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*. <sup>6</sup> And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.



# Amazing Unbelief

## Rejected By His Own



- “His own country,” - Hometown of Nazareth (familiarity can breed contempt) (Mk. 6:1; cf. 1:9,24)
- “And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue” - As was His custom (Mk. 6:2; cf. Lk 4:16-30)
- Many were amazed at His teaching, wisdom and power - but did not believe in Him - In fact they were “offended!” (Mk. 6:2,3)



# Amazing Unbelief

## Rejected By His Own



- Questioned His teaching, wisdom, and power to do miracles elsewhere (cf. 3:1-6, 22; 4:35-41; 5:1-43).
- ▶ Isn't this the carpenter? implied, "He is a common laborer like the rest of us."
- ▶ They knew His immediate family—mother, brothers, and sisters - they were ordinary people.
- ▶ Even the phrase "the Son of Mary" was derogatory



# Amazing Unbelief

## WHAT IS UNBELIEF?

■ Unbelief - *apistia* - ἀπιστία <G570>

- ▶ 1. “unfaithfulness, faithlessness” (*of persons betraying a trust*): Romans 3:3
- ▶ 2. “want of faith, unbelief”: shown in withholding belief in the divine power, Mk 16:14, or in the power and promises of God, Rom 4:20; Heb 3:19; in the divine mission of Jesus, Mat 13:58; Mk 6:6; by opposition to the gospel, 1 Tim 1:13; with the added notion of obstinacy, Rom 11:20, 23; Heb 3:12. contextually, “*weakness of faith*”: Mat 17:20

JOSEPH THAYER

Greek-English  
Lexicon *of the*  
New Testament

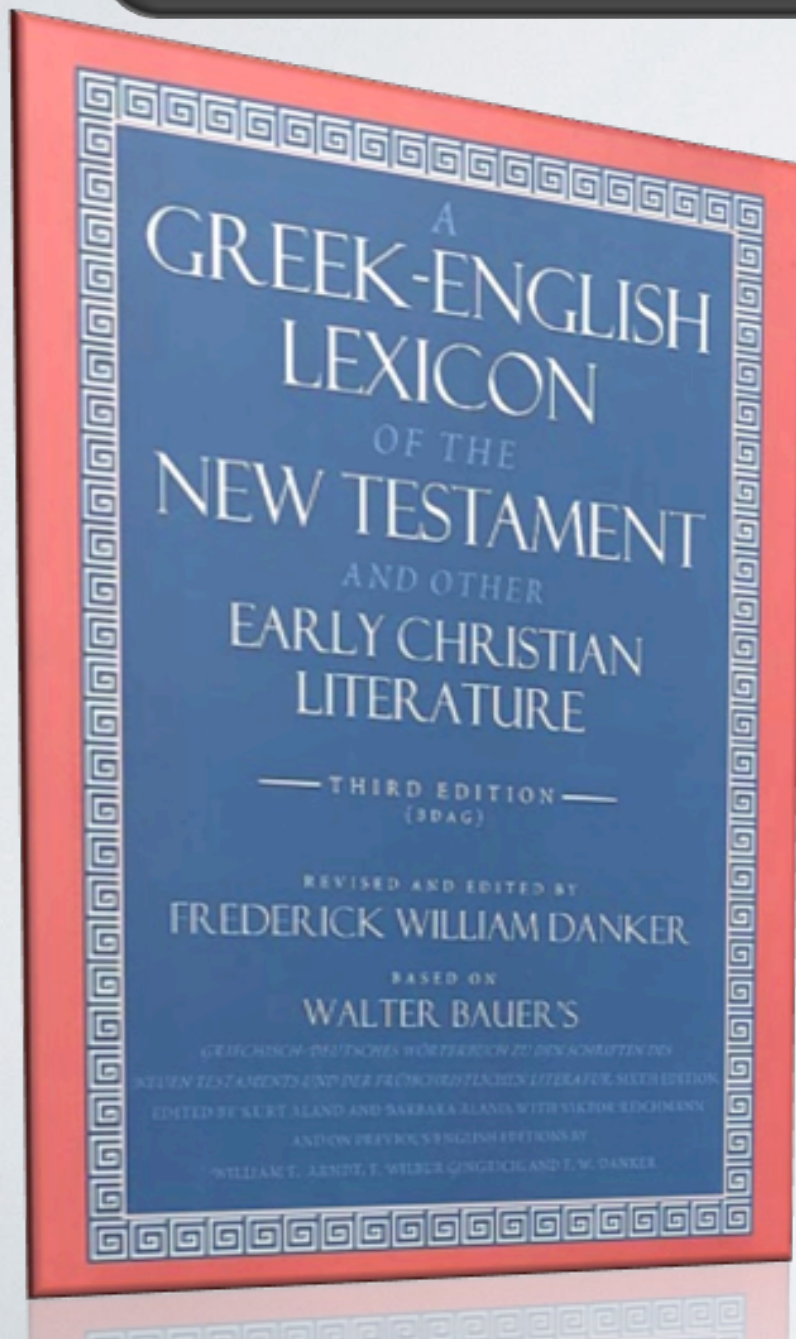


# Amazing Unbelief

## WHAT IS UNBELIEF?

■ Unbelief - *apistia* - ἀπιστία <G570>

► “Unwillingness to commit oneself to another or respond positively to the other's words or actions, lack of belief, unbelief” ... As response to Jesus by inhabitants of Nazareth **Mt 13:58; Mk 6:6**; - [BDAG - A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature]





# Amazing Unbelief

## WHAT IS UNBELIEF?



- It consists in not believing something God has said, (warnings; promises; Instructions; judgment; the truth about anything)
- In short - to refuse to admit the truth of God's revealed Word, and to live as if we did not think that Word was to be depended on.



# Amazing Unbelief

## WHAT IS UNBELIEF?



- Seen first in the garden of Eden - Gen 3
- Brought destruction to the world - Gen 6; 1 Pet 3:18-22
- Prevented Israel from entering the promised land - Num 13,14; Ps 78:22; 106:24; Heb 3:12,19
- Seen in Jews who rejected Jesus - John 5:45-47; 8:24; Rom 11:20; 1 Tim 1:13



# Amazing Unbelief

## THE CONSEQUENCES OF UNBELIEF?

Ephesians 4:17–19 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, <sup>18</sup> having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; <sup>19</sup> who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

- Vain thinking and living
- Understanding darkened
- Alienated from life in God
- Ignorance / blindness
- Conscience becomes hardened
- Ungodly living
- Negative influence for others
- CONDEMNED (5:6)



# Amazing Unbelief

## THE CONSEQUENCES OF UNBELIEF?



- “You will die in your sins” - John 8:24
- “Shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.” - John 3:36
- Will be condemned. - Mk 16:16; John 3:18; 2 Thes 2:12
- Cast into the lake of fire, experience the second death - Rev 21:8



# Amazing Unbelief

## THE WHY OF UNBELIEF?



- Not because of limited availability (Rom 1:19,20; 1 Cor. 2:12,13; Eph 3:3; 2 Tim 3:16,17; Col. 1:5,23; Mark 13:31; 1 Pet 1:22-25)
- Not because men have been individually predestined (1 Tim 2:3-6; 2 Pet 3:9; Acts 10:34,35; Rom. 6:16-18)
- Not because the truth is unknowable (Mark 16:15,16; Mat 28:18,19; Col. 1:23; John 6:44,45; Acts 2:38; Eph 3:3-5)



# Amazing Unbelief

## THE WHY OF UNBELIEF?

- **Will not receive a love for the truth** (2 Thes 2:10-12; Rom 1:18-20)
- **Pride / Self exaltation** (Rom 1:21,22; Prov 26:12; 1 Cor 1:19-21; 3:18,19)
- **Value natural over spiritual** (Mark 6:3; Rom 1:21-25; Mat. 6:19-34; 1 John 2:15-17)
- **Desire that which is contrary to the truth** (Mal 2:9; Mt 13:10-17; 15:1-9)
- **Because deeds are evil** (Rom 1:26-32; Jer 5:30,31; John 3:20; 2 Tim 3:1-9)





# Amazing Unbelief

## THE WHY OF UNBELIEF?


- **False teachers / division** (2 Pet 2:1-3, 18,19; John 17:20-23; Gal 1:6-9; 5:1-4)
- **The true Jesus is demanding - most do not want to yield** (Mat 7:13,14; Lk 13:24)
- **Genuine faith cost everything - most do not want to surrender everything** (Lk 9:23-26; 57-62; 14:26-33; Phili. 3:7-11)
- **Keeping faith demands strenuous effort** (2 Pet 1:5-10; Heb 3:12,14; James 2:14-26)
- **Hypocrisy & unfaithfulness of professed believers** (Rom 2:17-24; 14:1-15:1; Mat 5:13-16)





# Amazing Unbelief

## THE CURE FOR UNBELIEF?

- 
- **Overcoming the many obstacles is challenging but NOT impossible!** (Mat. 7:7-14; Eph 6:10-18)
    - ▶ Jesus is the light that can lead one out of darkness (John 8:12, 31,32; 6:44,45; 14:6; Mat 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16)
    - ▶ Demands Humility, Meekness & Hunger (Mat 5:3-6; James 1:21-25; 1 Pet 2:1,2; Prov 2:1-5)
    - ▶ Demands Honesty & Diligence (Mat. 13:23; Acts 17:11,12)



# Amazing Unbelief

## THE CURE FOR UNBELIEF?

### IS BELIEF IN JESUS!

A BELIEF THAT TRUSTS IN HIS WORK  
(John 3:16; 8:24; Acts 2:37)

A BELIEF THAT ACCEPTS ALL HIS WORDS  
(Mat. 17:5; 28:19,20; John 6:63,68; Acts 5:20)

A BELIEF THAT SUBMITS TO HIS AUTHORITY  
(Luke 6:46; Rom. 6:17; 2 Co. 10:5)

A BELIEF THAT RESTS IN HIS PROMISES  
(John 6:40; 1 Thess. 5:24; Heb. 10:23)





# Amazing Unbelief

## We Choose

We can choose to LISTEN (Mat. 7:24-26)

Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.





# Amazing Unbelief

## We Choose

We can choose to BELIEVE (John 20:27)

Acts 16:31 (NKJV)

<sup>31</sup> So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”





# Amazing Unbelief

## We Choose

We can choose to REPENT (Eze. 18:21-32)

Acts 17:30 (NKJV)

<sup>30</sup> Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,





# Amazing Unbelief

## We Choose

We can choose to CONFESS (Luke 12:8)

Romans 10:9–10 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.





# Amazing Unbelief

## We Choose

We can choose to SUBMIT (Luke 6:46)

Acts 22:16 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'





# Amazing Unbelief

## We Choose

We can choose FAITHFULNESS (Rev. 2:10)

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NKJV)

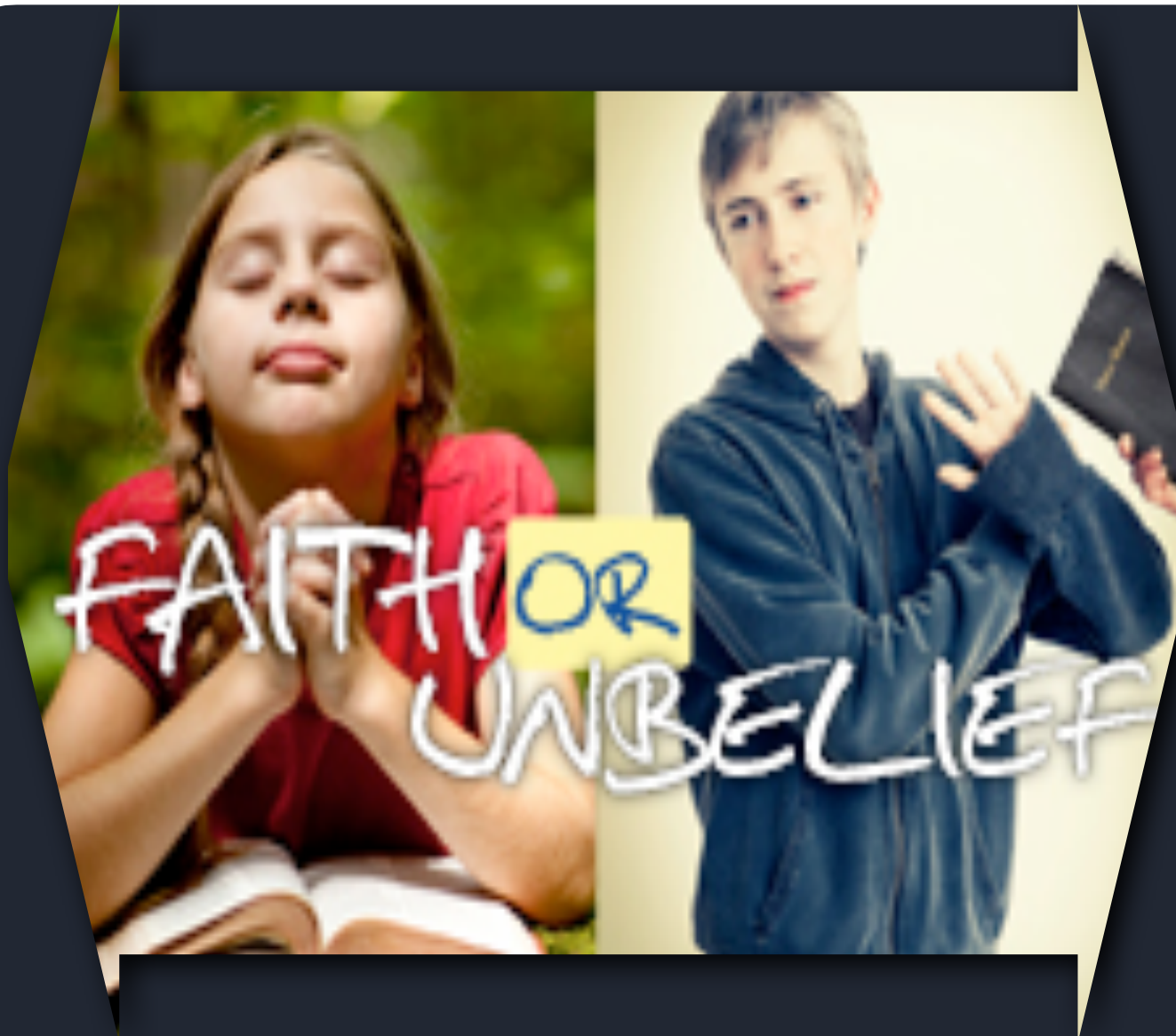
<sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brethren,  
be steadfast, immovable, always  
abounding in the work of the Lord,  
knowing that your labor is not in  
vain in the Lord.





# Amazing Unbelief

**WILL YOU BELIEVE?**



**The word of God  
CAN penetrate an  
unbelieving heart -**

Acts 2:36-41;

Rom 1:16; 10:17

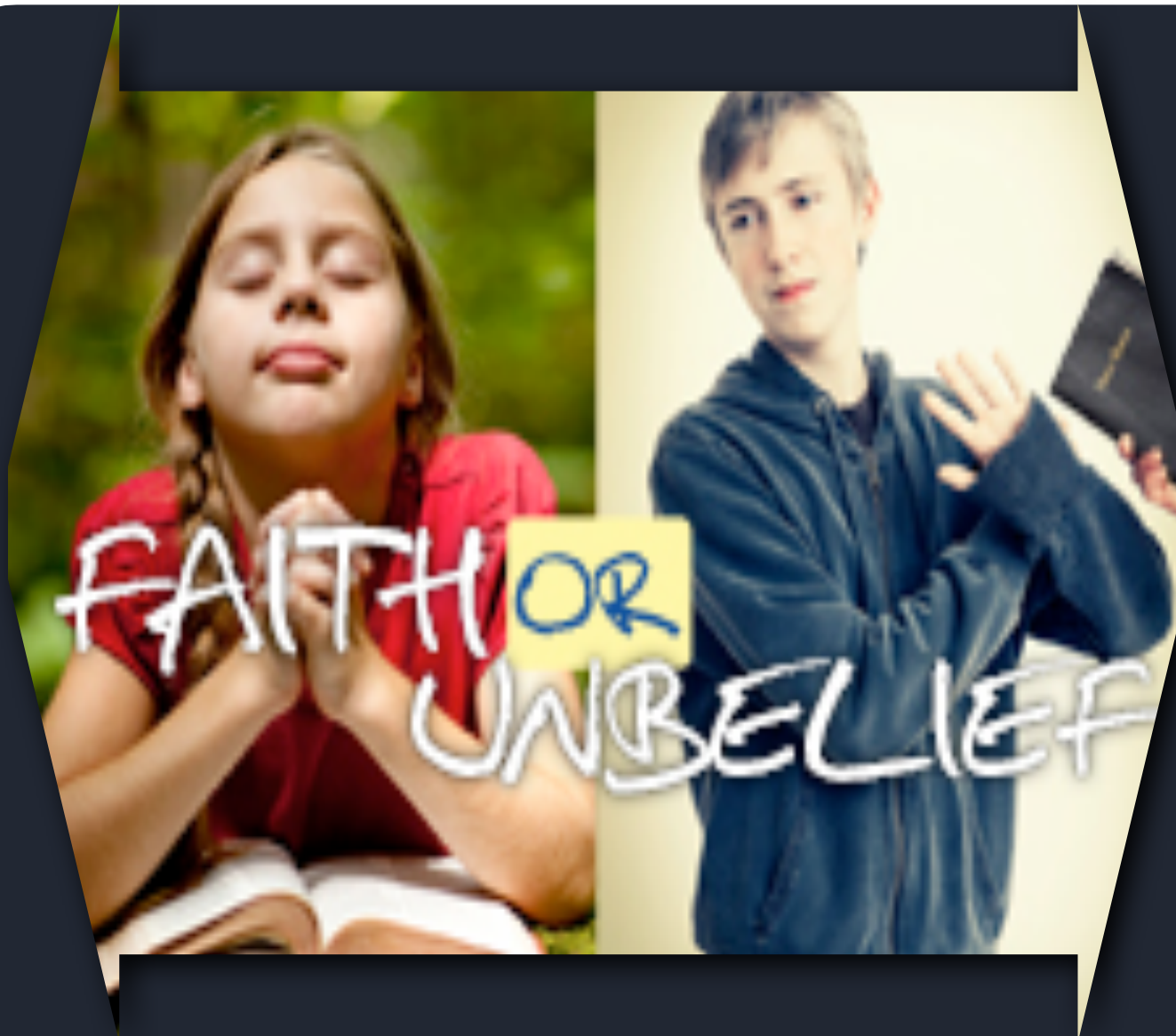
Heb 4:12;

James 1:21



# Amazing Unbelief

**WILL YOU BELIEVE?**



**Jesus marveled at  
their unbelief - but  
He also marveled at  
the great faith of the  
centurion (Mat 8:5-10)**

**Would he marvel at  
your faith - or would  
He marvel at your  
unbelief?**







# Amazing Unbelief

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## Hebrews 3:12–19 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; <sup>13</sup> but exhort one another daily, while it is called “*Today*,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. <sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, <sup>15</sup> while it is said: “*Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.*”



## Hebrews 3:12–19 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> For who, having heard, rebelled?  
Indeed, *was it* not all who came out of  
Egypt, *led* by Moses? <sup>17</sup> Now with whom  
was He angry forty years? *Was it* not  
with those who sinned, whose corpses  
fell in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup> And to whom  
did He swear that they would not enter  
His rest, but to those who did not obey?  
<sup>19</sup> So we see that they could not enter in  
because of unbelief.