



1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Does What We Believe

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In Our Daily Lives?

Does It Really Matter

WHAT WE BELIEVE?

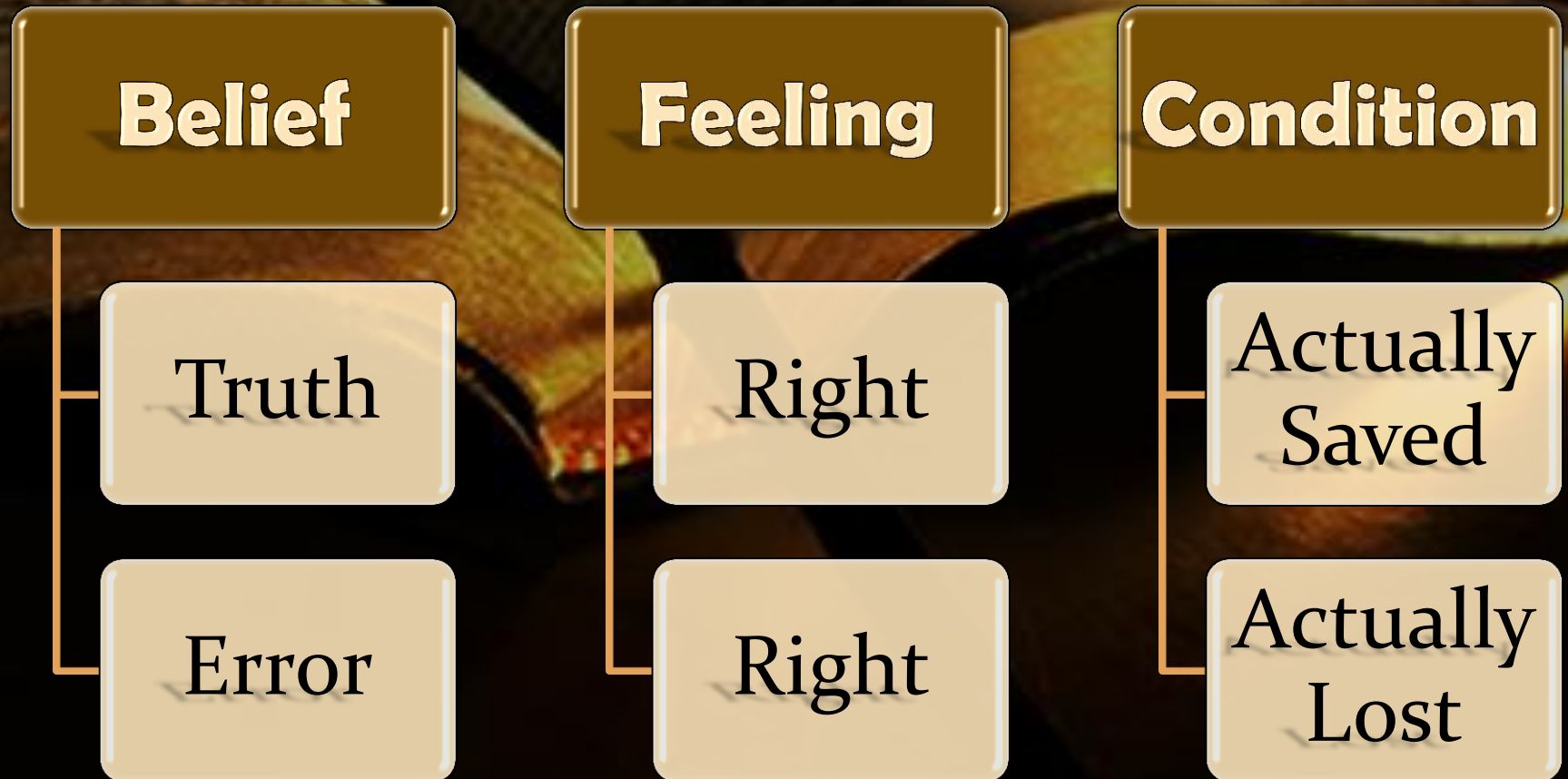
TRUTH: THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HEAVEN & HELL

TEXT	PRACTICE	RESULT	TEXT	PRACTICE	RESULT
John 8:32	"Know the truth"	"Set free"	2 Thess. 2:9-12	"Do not love truth"	"Perish"
1 Peter 1:22	"Obey The Truth"	"Purify Soul"	2 John 9	"Abide not in doctrine"	"Doesn't have God"
John 4:24	"Spirit & Truth"	"True worship"	Matthew 15:9	"Doctrines of men"	"Vain worship"
1 Timothy 4:16	"Watch life & doctrine"	"Save self and hearers"	Galatians 1:8-9	"Preach different gospel"	"Accursed"

Does It Really Matter

WHAT WE BELIEVE?

TRUTH: THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HEAVEN & HELL



Does It Really Matter

WHAT WE BELIEVE?

“The Objective Standard”

OUR BELIEF & PRACTICE AFFECTS OUR:

2 Corinthians 6:14
(NKJV)

14 . . . For what
fellowship has
righteousness with
lawlessness? And
what communion has
light with darkness?

- ♦ **Fellowship with God -**
(1 John 1:6)
- ♦ **Fellowship with one
another -** (1 John 1:7)
- ♦ **Our eternal destiny -**
(John 8:32; 2 Thes 2:10-12;
Mat. 7:21-23)

Does It Really Matter

WHAT WE BELIEVE?

**If It Doesn't Make
Any Difference**

- ✦ **Doesn't matter whether one believes or not.**
- ✦ **Doesn't make any difference whether one believes the Bible.**
- ✦ **What Bible says is not important!**
- ✦ **What God says is not important!**

**If It Does Make A
Difference**

- ✦ **I need to know the truth - (John 8:32).**
- ✦ **I need to study & examine what I am taught (Acts 17:11).**
- ✦ **I need to obey truth - (1 Pet. 1:22)**
- ✦ **I need to be careful in my practice - (Eph. 5:15)**

Does What We Believe

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1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (NKJV)

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ² We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, ³ remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,

Does What We Believe

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1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (NKJV)

⁴ knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. ⁵ For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

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⁸ For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. ⁹ For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Does What We Believe

MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

In Our Faith, Hope & Love

1 Thessalonians 1:3
(NKJV)

remembering
without ceasing your
work of faith, labor of
love, and patience of
hope in our Lord Jesus
Christ in the sight of
our God and Father,

♦ **Faith without works is dead**
- (James 2:14-26)

Work - “Act, deed, anything done
... wrought by faith, the course
of conduct which springs from
faith, 1 Thessalonians 1:3”
Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon

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♦ **Faith without works is dead**
- (James 2:14-26)

♦ **“Work” of faith** - work based
on the word of God – (Rom.
10:17; 2 Cor. 5:7)

♦ **Work motivated by faith** –
Respect - Trust & Obedience –
(Hebrews 11:6; 1 Thes 2:13)

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³ remembering
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Christ in the sight of
our God and Father,

♦ **Labor without love profits
nothing** - (1 Cor. 13:1-3)

Labor - b. “intense labor united
with trouble, toil”. . . the labor to
which love prompts, and which
voluntarily assumes and endures
trouble and pains for the salvation
of others, 1 Thes 1:3; Heb 6:10—
Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon

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- ♦ **Labor without love profits nothing** - (1 Cor. 13:1-3)
- ♦ **“labor” of love** - based on our love for God - (Jn 14:23,24; 2 Cor 5:14,15; Gal 5:6; Heb 6:10)
- ♦ **Labor motivated by love** - genuine concern for one's well being - (2 The 1:3; Gen 29:20; Gal. 5:13; 6:2; 1 Cor 13:4-7)

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**remembering
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Patience - “steadfastness, constancy, endurance” . . . the characteristic of a man who is unswerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings: Luke 8:15; 21:19; Rom 5:3f; 15:4f; 2 Cor 6:4; 12:12; Col 1:11; 2 Thes 1:4;—
Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon

Does What We Believe

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In Our Faith, Hope & Love

1 Thessalonians 1:3
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3 remembering
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- ♦ **Patience of hope** – esteeming the reward worthy of continuance and endurance - (Rom 2:7; Heb 11:13-16; 24,25)
- ♦ **Patience of hope based on scripture** - (Rom 15:4; Tit 1:2; Heb 6:18; 10:35,36)
- ♦ **Patience motivated by hope** – (Heb 12:1-3; 1 Pet 1:3-9)

Does What We Believe

MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

In Our Influence & Evangelism

1 Thessalonians 1:5-8
(NKJV)

7 . . . you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. 8 For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, . . .

♦ **We need to practice what we preach and preach what we practice** – (Rom 2:17-24; Acts 4:13,29-31; Acts 9:29-31; 19:8; 1 Thes 2:2)

♦ **We MUST be evangelistic!** – A part of our work of faith, labor of love and patience of hope - (Acts 8:4; Rom 10:14-18; 2 Thes 3:1;)

Does What We Believe

MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

In Our Service & Preparedness

**1 Thessalonians 1:9-10
(NKJV)**

**9 . . . and how you turned
to God from idols to serve
the living and true God,
10 and to wait for His Son
from heaven, whom He
raised from the dead, even
Jesus who delivers us from
the wrath to come.**

♦ **Their faith produced genuine repentance** – (compare those in Ephesus – Acts 19:17-20; cf. Ezekiel 18:20-32; Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38; 17:30)

Repent - “. . . to change one's mind for the better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins” —

Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon

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♦ **They served the Living God** – *we have the freedom to choose who our master will be – but we do not have the freedom to choose no master!* – (Jos 24:15)

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Jesus who delivers us from
the wrath to come.**

- ♦ **Their work of faith and labor of love was in service to God – (Col. 3:17)**
- ♦ **Their patience of hope prompted their “waiting” for the return of Jesus–
(1 Thes 4:16,17; Acts 1:11;
Phili 3:20; Titus 2:13;
2 Pet 3:10-14; Mat 25)**

An open book with a textured cover is shown from a high angle, slightly angled to the right. The pages are visible, and the text is overlaid on the image. The background is dark, making the book and text stand out.

Does What YOU Believe

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In Your Daily Life?

In Your Faith, Hope & Love

Work of Faith;

Labor of Love

Patience of Hope

In Your Influence & Evangelism

In Your Service & Preparedness

The background of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of an open book. The pages are a warm, golden-brown color, and the binding is visible in the center. The lighting is soft, creating a sense of depth and texture. The text is overlaid on this background.

What We Believe

MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Not Only Does It Matter
WHAT We Believe –

What We Believe Will
Make THE Difference In
Our Lives!

Does It Really Matter **WHAT WE BELIEVE?**

Charts by Don McClain

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West 65th Street church of Christ

P.O. Box 190062; Little Rock AR 72219

501-568-1062

Prepared using PPT 2010 –

Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

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