



## Unbiblical beliefs in church

There are many common beliefs that Christians and other people have that aren't grounded in the Word of God but rather fables and traditions of men which make the Word of God of none effect (Mark 7:13). For many people, when things don't work out, but go south or break, their view of God and how He views them changes.

Many tend to think like this:

- a) God is punishing me.
- b) God is taking this away because I don't deserve it.
- c) God is forever angry at me.
- d) God doesn't ever want me to be happy.
- e) God doesn't hear me.
- f) God doesn't care about me or my feelings.
- g) God isn't tapped into what I need right now.
- h) God's plans don't work well for people.
- i) God forgot about me. He has many more to worry about.

A. God helps those who help themselves.

- a) Most people believe this is in the Word of God. Although it has a concept of cooperation, self-initiative, and agency in it, many times God helps us without even helping ourselves. The Bible makes it clear that God is famous for helping those that cannot help themselves such as the fatherless and the widows.
  - i) Psalm 146:9 "The LORD preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down."

b) However self-sufficient we may think we are; we all need God's help. John 15:5 makes it clear that we need God's help. "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

i) When Jesus came and died for our sins, we could not help ourselves. We were completely helpless.

B. Money is the root of all evil.

This is a common misconception with an easy fix.

a) 1 Timothy 6:10 says, "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

i) Money is neither good nor bad and being wealthy is not a sin; If you believe that money is evil, and wealth is not good, **send it all to me and I will put it to good use. I will use it to preach the gospel.**

ii) It is possible to have money and wealth and still serve the Lord. **It is the LOVE of money that is the problem, not money itself.**

iii) Every single evil can be rooted and traced back to the love of money.

b) Job 1:1-3 "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east."

i) Job was a wealthy and rich man, yet he loved the Lord and shunned evil. If Job could, so can we.

C. We are all God's children.

- a) Although God has created everyone, **not everyone has a relationship with Him, and therefore His child.**
  - i) Only those who have made or accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are the true children of God (John 1:12) and possess the Holy Spirit of God inside of them can claim Him as their Father.
  - ii) Romans 8:15-16 "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:"
- b) When a person receives the Lord or places faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and savior, the spirit of God is sent into their hearts and He bears witness with him that he or she is a child of God.
- c) Those who are in Christ Jesus are the children of God through faith. Anyone who does not have a relationship with God is not a child of God. Anyone who has not made Jesus Christ the Lord of their life is not a child of God. **That person is a creation of God but not a child of God! Huge difference.**

D. God won't give you more than you can handle.

- a) This seems to come from a misunderstanding of this scripture, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."—1 Corinthians 10:13
- b) Another common cliché that people have, believe and talk about is that ***"The temptation was too strong. I couldn't resist it."***
- c) There is no reference to God causing or giving us any of these things people suggest. However, this verse teaches that God will not allow any situation to come and overwhelm us. He will make a way for us to escape should we be faced with a situation we can't deal with.
- d) 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;"
  - i) If you have not yet realized this, life is not a dress rehearsal. It's hard. It is a terminal experience.

- ii) You should not go through it without a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- iii) You need to surrender now before life makes you surrender. We live in a fallen world and God is not the one that gives us all these things.
- e) John 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."
- f) James 1:16-17 "Do not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

E. Bad things happen to good people

- a) Although bad things indeed happen to "good people," who defines who a good person is? Who sets that standard? The idea of a good person is very subjective to a lot of people.
- b) God is the only one that has the ultimate definition of a good person.
  - i) Romans 3:10 "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:"

F. When you die, God gains another angel or I'm so sorry for your loss. Heaven must have needed another angel.

- a) There is no scriptural basis for this statement. We do not become angels after we go into the presence of God.
  - i) Additionally, this statement is not comforting at all. It is trying to explain what happened.
  - ii) The worst thing to do to a person during grief is to try to answer why so and so died and where they went.
- b) To me, this lowers mankind because, in God's eyes, we are more precious than angels. God did not give up heaven to die for angels but people and it is only man who was

created in His image. We are much valued and honored than angels. Plain and simple. Humans are humans, and angels are angels.

- i) Hebrews 2:6-7 But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:
- ii) The word "angels" in Psalm 8:5 is translated from the Hebrew word "Elohim"
  - Elohim is the name of God. So, this is talking about God, not angels.
- iii) The word "Angels" here in Hebrews 2:7 is the Greek word "Angelos"
- iv) So, Man (Adam) was made a little lower than God Himself but fell a little lower than the Angels—"Angelos" when he sinned.
  - Jesus came and became man being **made a little lower than angels too (Hebrews 2:9)** so that He could restore man to his original position of a little lower than God—Elohim"
- v) After Jesus was made a little lower than the angels through His identification with man, he defeated the enemy and was crowned with glory and honor and given authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18)—over all the work of his hands.
- c) Many Christians are very gullible people because they do not know the Word. They believe these unbiblical statements which show ignorance of God's word and not continuing in it.
- d) Acts 17:10-11 "And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so."
  - i) After these people heard Paul preach, searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

## G. God works in mysterious ways

- a) Although, indeed, some things are only reserved for the Lord and we do not know them in this life, there are thousands of things that God has unveiled to us and are no longer mysteries.
  - i) Deuteronomy 29:29 "The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law."
- b) 1 Corinthians 13:9 says, *"For we know in part, and we prophesy in part."*
  - i) This passage of text makes it clear that we know in part. Somethings in this life might seem mysterious, but God doesn't work in mysterious ways. We are either carnal to understand spiritual things or we are not born again.
- c) For those of us who are born again, Matthew 13:11 says, "He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given." Luke 8:10 "And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand."
  - i) Because we are born again and therefore children of God, we can know the "mysterious ways and works of God."
  - ii) 1 Corinthians 13:2 "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing."
    - ☐ According to this verse, is it possible to know all mysteries?
- d) Matthew 11:25 "At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes."

- i) Things of God are not hidden FROM the Children of God but FOR them. They have been revealed

H. Things of God can't be understood. They are confusing. No one knows the Lord.

- a) When I was growing up, there was a popular "Christian song" on the radio in my local language (Luganda) that many people in my country loved that said, "The things of God are confusing." Nothing can be further from the truth.

- i) The Word of God is clear in 1 Corinthians 14:33 "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."

- b) 1 Corinthians 2:9-16 "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."

- i) Those who have the Spirit of God have the ability to understand the things of God. Because the Spirit of God who knows the things of God is in us, we can know the things of God.

- ii) The things of God are spiritual and are spiritually discerned. They are foolishness to the natural man.

- iii) Not understanding something doesn't make it confusing. It just means it is too high for you.

- iv) Although it is true that God's ways are higher than our and His thoughts higher than our thoughts (Isaiah 55:8-9), we under the New Covenant have the Spirit of God living on the inside of us that gives us understanding and revelation of the things of God.
- c) Matthew 13:11 "He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given."
  - i) Things of God are not hidden from the Children of God but for them. Those who do not know the Lord, it is not given for them to know the mysteries of God and the Kingdom of God.

#### I. The devil made me do it.

I wish I could blame the devil for everything. Oh, how I hate the devil, but the truth is that Satan needs our cooperation on many occasions to hurt us.

- a) 1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"
  - i) Contrary to what people think, the devil doesn't just devour us. He is seeking whom he may devour, meaning he doesn't automatically just devour anyone.
    - ☐ This also shows that he is in search of or in quest of someone to devour from place to place. You do not search or look for something that you already own.
- b) Romans 6:16 "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"
  - i) One of the ways we open doors to the devil is through living in sin. When we live a godly life or in sin, we open up the door of our lives and yield ourselves to either the author of sin and death (Satan) or the author of the righteousness (God).



c) James 4:7 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

i) God has given us authority and the power to resist the devil which would mean that the devil can't just make us do things.

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