

# Are You a True Believer in God?

Intro.

A. Are you a TRUE believer in God?

1. I emphasize the word “true” because, as we shall show from the Scriptures, one can be a **believer** yet not a **TRUE** believer.
2. It is the TRUE believer that has a relationship with God and who enjoys continued earthly blessings and **hope** of eternal life in Heaven.

B. “William James Durant was an American historian and philosopher, best known for his 11-volume work, *The Story of Civilization*, which contains and details the history of Eastern and Western civilizations.”

1. He wrote, “**The greatest question of our time is not communism vs. individualism, nor Europe vs. America, not even the East vs. the West; it is whether men can bear to live without God.**” (Wikipedia)
2. While it is possible to survive a few years **without God in your life**, a wise survivalist will seek more – he will endeavor to survive as long as possible. God offers eternal life.
  - a. I have written a book called **The Ultimate Survivalist He/She Could be You.**
  - b. If you are inclined to be a survivalist and wish to read this booklet, it is in hard copy and free to download from my website:  
[www.TotalHealth.bz](http://www.TotalHealth.bz).

C. What man or woman has not at least briefly thought about how **matter** and **life** began?

1. Shouldn't every person want to know if there is sufficient evidence that "*God created the heavens and the earth,*" as the first verse of the Bible says?
2. Is it even **possible** that **matter** created itself and that **life** came from **nonlife**?
3. As a believer in God and a Christian, **I proclaim to you** that the idea that **matter** created itself, or just happened, and that **life** came from lifeless matter, is **unscientific**.
  - a. No demonstration has ever been performed, nor will one ever be, that supports what atheists proclaim.
  - b. Thus, if you want **truth**, if you want **evidence to support your belief**, you must look to the only other alternative, which is that **God exists**, and He **created all things**.

## Body

I. **Do You Seek Answers to important questions like:**

A. **Where did I come from?**

Gen. 2:7 - *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*

B. **Why am I here?**

Eccl. 12:13-14- *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment,*

*with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.*

## **B. Where am I going?**

Heb. 9:27- *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:*

John 5:28-29 - *Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.*

## **C. Is the God who created the universe the God who gave us the Bible?**

1. The Bible declares it is so:

2 Pet. 1:21 *For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*

2. The Bible not only claims that it is of God but speaks of the instruction in it that all men need:

2 Tim. 3:16 *Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness. 17 that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work.*

D. Only the Bible provides answers to important questions like the ones we have observed:

1. These are just some of life's questions that the Bible answers.

2. Once you see enough evidence to know that God exists and that the Bible is His revelation,

you will be truly enlightened as you learn the answers to the questions you seek.

## II. Cause and Effect

- A. “Cause and effect” is defined as, “*The direct relationship between an action or event and its consequence of result.*” (Merriam Webster)

Hebrews 3:4 – “*For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.*”

This passage teaches cause and effect, i.e., where there is **design** there must be a **designer**; where there is a **building** there was a **builder**, where something has been **made** there was a **maker**, and if something was **created** there was a **creator**.

- B. This is common sense and is a real conundrum for men who seek to **disprove** God and promote some other explanation for the way things are.

## III. Where Are You at This Point?

- A. At this point in your life you may or may not have made a decision as to what to believe.
- B. Where do you stand?
1. Perhaps you are an **atheist** who believes there is no god.
  2. Or you might be an **agnostic** who believes there is not sufficient evidence to decide one way or another.
  3. Or maybe you are just **enjoying life** and are too caught up in having fun, or making money, to

consider how you got here and what happens after death.

4. On the other hand, maybe you have observed the heavens that *“declare the glory of God”* (Psalm 19:1), and the amazing **order of all creation**, and reasoned that *where there is creation there must be a creator* and have determined that it is far more logical to believe in God.
5. One other possibility, which is sad but often true, is that one can believe in God **but not strongly enough** to bring about the change in their life that God demands.

C. Regardless of where you are now, we shall endeavor to guide you to truths that will greatly benefit those who seek the faith to make such a change.

1. The apostle Pau wrote: *“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”* (Romans 10:17).
2. The Bible tells us that hearing the word of God is the way to obtain faith – but studying and learning of the evidences for the Christian faith also helps to build faith.

#### **IV. Is It Foolishness NOT to Believe in God?**

A. I’m not calling anyone a fool, but we find in scripture the statement *“The fool has said in his heart, There is no God”* (Psalm 53:1).

1. Even if you are not inclined to believe the Bible is the inspired word of God, you are still faced with the fact that someone long ago, before the

*Big Bang* theory, before the theory of evolution, etc., observed enough evidence to conclude that the idea that there is no god is foolishness.

2. Here is something to consider:

B. “Herbert Spencer (18<sup>th</sup> century) outlined five “**ultimate scientific ideas**”: **Time, Force, Action, Space, Matter.**

1. According to him these comprise everything that is susceptible to scientific examination.

2. This was hailed as a great announcement, but God had Moses write it **thousands of years earlier** in the first verse of the Bible.

a. Moses wrote:

IN THE BEGINNING - **Time**; GOD - **Force**;  
CREATED - **Action**; HEAVENS - **Space**; and  
the EARTH – **Matter.**

b. Thus, Moses put all five scientific fundamentals in the first verse of Genesis, and they are in the same order as announced by Spencer.”

1) How did Moses know this?

2) Well, it was not because he was a scientist – God told him what to write.

3. This is evidence that God exists and that Bible writers were inspired.

## V. Is the Bible God’s Revelation to Man?

A. Does it not make sense that if God exists and created man, that **He would provide a *manual*** for His creation, that would be **true** and something in which people would place great value?

1. The creators of the various types of vehicles always provide a manual for **proper use** and **maintenance**.
2. This is true of God's most special creation – YOU.
  - a. If you want to know how to obtain the **abundant life** – happiness, peace, security, and joy – as well as to learn about how to receive God's most precious gift, eternal life, it is to God's **manual** (the Bible) you must go.
  - b. There are **good reasons to believe the Bible** and the reasons are not just wishful thinking.
    - 1) There are several classes of evidence available to help us determine whether the Bible is true.
    - 2) These evidences fall into one of two main groups: **internal evidence** (within the Bible) and **external evidence** (outside the Bible).
    - 3) In addition, God proves His existence through “natural” revelation, by the things which He made.

B. There have always been men who were/are ignorant of God and His ways – even men who have worshipped false gods.

1. The Bible tells us that on one occasion, **Paul** and **Barnabas** were greatly disturbed by men speaking to them as if they were gods. These men were told,

***“Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach***

*unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:” (Acts 14:15-16).*

2. In Acts 17:24-29, we see that the apostle continued his effort to bring people to the true and only God:

*“God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; 25 Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; 26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. 29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man’s device.”*

- a. Did they listen and change?  
b. We can’t know – the Bible does not say.

- C. Many who have opted to look at the evidence to learn whether God exists and whether the Bible is His inspired teaching, have been **blown away** with what they found.



1. The fields where evidence of God and the inspiration of the Bible are found abundantly include **astronomy, geology, oceanography, meteorology, physics, biology, archaeology, prophecy, and history.**
2. After careful observation and study, people generally come away with **only one natural conclusion** and that is that **God does indeed exist**, without a doubt, and the Bible is His revelation to man.

## VI. A Powerful Source of Evidence

- A. While evidence supporting the biblical record may be found in many fields, as we have noted, perhaps the **most powerful source** is the prophecies recorded in the Bible.

*“For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (2 Pet. 1:21).*

1. These prophecies came to pass hundreds of years after they were written.
2. “What greater proof could be provided that there is a God, than for God to declare what He will do long before He does it; and that in written records? Then centuries after the world had copies of these declarations, He caused the specific events to happen precisely as He stated.”
3. In **Isaiah 41:21**, the prophet challenges idolators who did not believe in the God of Israel to do what God can do – foretell future events.
  - a. Only God could/can foretell events with sustained accuracy (never wrong) in making

predictions (fulfilled prophecy) and it is **solid proof** that the Bible is true.

b. Let's read the text together...

**Isaiah 41:21** *Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob. 22 Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come. 23 Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together.*

a. This passage affirms that **only God** can accurately foretell what will happen in the future and that **the efforts of anyone else** will result in being dismayed (disappointed) as they behold their failure.

b. Hundreds of prophecies relate to various acts, but the **Messianic prophecies** are undoubtedly the most striking.

B. "A study of the Messianic prophecies and their fulfillment clearly show Jesus to be the divine son of God.

1. There are over 300 detailed prophecies in the O.T. that clearly depict the **coming, birth, life,** and **death** of Jesus.
2. They are of such detail so as to **diminish** (destroy) the **possibility** of coincidental fulfillment.
3. A group of math students figured up the chances of these prophecies being fulfilled

coincidentally and found that there is one chance in 84 to the 97 power.”

(See link below about fulfilled prophecies of Jesus.)

C. Much can be learned about Jesus from these prophecies alone. **We learn:**

1. Who He is;
2. his purpose for coming to this earth;
3. that He was born of a virgin; and
4. the fact that He died for us and was raised the third day to ascend into heaven to rule over His kingdom, the church.
  - a. The point being made is that these prophecies PROVE beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Bible is not a man-made book.
  - b. They prove it is not **myths** and **folklore** but was **inspired** by God who was able to make it accurate and true.

## VII. Thoughts on Evidence

A. “The acceptance of evidence depends on 5 things:

- 1) weight of the evidence;
- 2) clarity of the evidence;
- 3) clarity of the presentation of evidence;
- 4) logical ability of the hearer to evaluate the evidence; and
- 5) the background prejudices of the hearer.”

(Home Hailey)

B. *“Evidence is defined as ‘ground for belief’; that which tends to prove or disprove something; data presented to a court or jury in proof of the facts in issue and which may include the testimony of witnesses, records, documents, or objects.”* (The Random House Dictionary)

Therefore, Christian Evidence would be that which is submitted to **prove the truth** of the Christian religion.

- C. Every individual needs to put himself 'on the jury', so to speak, and hear the evidence and make a judgment.
  - 1. One may **believe, disbelieve**, or profess **agnosticism**.
  - 2. One cannot believe unless he decides that, from the evidence he has seen, it is more rational to believe than not to believe.
  
- D. Some have argued that if there is a God then He would come to earth and personally speak to people.
  - a. Well, that is **exactly** what He did.
  - b. Prophecy detailed the conception, life, crucifixion, and death of Jesus.
    - 1) John the Baptist, a greatly respected man among the Israelites, introduced Jesus.
    - 2) Jesus preached to the Israelites from the time he was 12 years old until he was 33.
      - i. The Jews, who should have recognized him from prophecy and accepted Him, had a mock trial, and murdered Him.
      - ii. Even two beloved disciples sought proof that was already right before their eyes.

*“Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. 9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with*

*you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?"* (John 14:8).

iii. A man often referred to as "Doubting Thomas" sought more proof of Jesus resurrection than eyewitness accounts.

Jesus said to him, *"Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed"* (John 20:29).

E. The Father's persona and *will* were manifested in Jesus.

Furthermore, many of the things He did and said, *"were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope"* (Rom. 15:4).

*"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name"* (John 20:30-31).

## **VIII. Wonders That Are Abundant Around the World Declare the Existence, Power, and Glory of Our Creator.**

Romans 1:20 (GW) *From the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly observed in what he made. As a result, people have no excuse.*

A. Look with me at some of Albert Barnes' comments pertaining to people who have no excuse for their unbelief: (written in the 1830s)

**“So that they are without excuse** - God has given them so clear evidence of his existence and claims, that they have no excuse for their idolatry...”. It is implied here that in order that people should be responsible, they should have the means of knowledge; and that he does not judge them when their ignorance is involuntary, and the means of knowing the truth have not been communicated. But where people have these means within their reach, and will not avail themselves of them, all excuse is taken away. This was the case with the Gentile world. They had the means of knowing so much of God, as to show the folly of worshipping dumb idols; ...and they could not plead for their crimes and folly that they had no means of knowing him. If this was true of the pagan world then, how much more is it true of the world now?

“And especially how true and fearful is this, respecting that great multitude in Christian lands who have the Bible, and who never read it; who are... admonished by friends, and by the providences of God, and who regard it not; and who look upon the heavens, and even yet see no proof of the eternal power and Godhead of him who made them all! Nay, there are those who are apprised of the discoveries of modern astronomy, and who yet do not seem to reflect that all these glories are proof of the existence of an eternal God; ...For such there is no excuse, or shadow of excuse, to be offered in the day of doom. And there is no fact more

melancholy in our history, and no one thing that more proves the stupidity of people, than this sad forgetfulness of Him that made the heavens, even amid all the wonders and glories that have come fresh from the hand of God, and that everywhere speak his praise.”

B. What do you think makes the most sense?

1. "In the beginning MATTER created all things,"
2. "In the beginning ETERNAL NOTHING created all things," or
3. "In the beginning **God created the heavens and the earth**"?

C. As believers in God, here is our stand:

“There is an infinite, all-wise, all-powerful, all-loving God who has revealed Himself by means natural and supernatural in creation, in the nature of man, in the history of Israel and in the church, in the pages of the Holy Scriptures, in the incarnation of God in Christ, and in the heart of the believer by the gospel.”

(Bernard Raman, *Protestant Christian Evidences*, p. 33)

D. The Facebook group “**God Proves He Exists by Showing His Handiwork**” was created to bring to light many astonishing things in the world that point to a Creator who wants people to believe in Him.

## **IX. Are You Just a Believer in God or Are You a TRUE Believer in God?**

A. Maybe you are convinced that God exists, and that Jesus is the Son of God, and perhaps you

consider yourself a Christian – maybe even a **devout** and **faithful** Christian.

1. But are you aware that the Bible gives **two examples** of believing in Jesus that did not result in becoming a child of God?
    - a. The apostle James rebukes those who think mere faith is enough.  
*“Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?”* (James 2:19).
    - b. And then we find the apostle John’s statement, *“Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God”* (John 12:42).
  2. The devils believed and trembled and were not saved, and the point made was that *“faith without works is dead.”*
  3. The **“chief rulers”** believed, but tradition and *“the pride of life”* had a hold on them and they did not meet God’s requirements for discipleship (1 John 2:16, 17).
- B. We have looked at two examples of believing in Jesus that was to no avail – they were **believers** but not **TRUE** believers.
1. And so, it is imperative that all who seek God’s approval and blessings look at New Testament examples of people becoming a Christian to see



what they were instructed to do.

(See link to chart)

2. We find in Acts 2, an example of believers that became TRUE believers.
  - a. On the Day of Pentecost AD 33, in Jerusalem, many Israelites were gathered and heard the apostles of Christ tell the story of Jesus.
  - b. The record of the occasion starts at the beginning of Acts 2, but I want to present now the most relevant part that begins in verse 22:

*Acts 2:22-47* *Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it. 25 For David speaketh concerning him, (prophecy) I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: 26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: 27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. 28 Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. 29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. 30*

*Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; 31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell (hades), neither his flesh did see corruption. 32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. 34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool. 36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. 37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. 40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*

## Conclusion:

A. Once one gets past the foolish thought that God does not exist, he then needs to **beware of being deceived** into believing doctrines that are devastating to TRUE faith – faith that result in God’s promised blessings.

1. One must not only be diligent in search of truth but must also be careful to discern between truth and error.

a. Jesus warned, *“And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many”* (Mat 24:11).

b. John warned, *“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world”* (1Jn 4:1).

(See link below to “Your Salvation Depends on Your Learning the Truth.”)

2. Once we become a Christian (start the new life; Romans 6:3-4, 17-18), continued service and obedience is a **requirement** to have our sins continuously cleansed (1 John 1:7; Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:9).

3. Unfortunately, there is a doctrine referred to as *“once saved always saved,”* of which you need to beware because it is perhaps the greatest threat to truth and **your continued faith** in God.

B. In the beginning, we asked whether you are a true believer.

1. We showed from the Scriptures that one can be a believer, but not a “true believer” who shows his faith by his works, or response, to God’s

conditions for obtaining grace and continued salvation.

2. In a subtle way, Jesus dealt with the “**once saved always saved**” teaching of men when he said, *“If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love”* (John 15:10).
  - a. The word “**IF**” in the passage makes what follows it conditional – a **requirement** for abiding in His love.
  - b. This passage, and many others, teach the necessity to “**walk the walk**” not just “talk the talk.”

**C. Unfortunately, many today deny that obedience to God is required.**

1. What does the Bible say?
2. Look with me at some passages that refer to obeying the gospel or truth:

1 Pet. 4:17 *For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that **obey not the gospel** of God?*

Gal. 3:1 *O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not **obey the truth**, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?*

Gal. 5:7 *Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not **obey the truth**?*

Rom. 10:16 *But they have not all **obeyed the gospel**. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?*

2 Thes. 1:7 *And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that **obey not the gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.*

Rom. 6:3-4, *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

17-18 *But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, **but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine** which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.*

D. We close with comments about the last passage.

1. Perhaps the question “**What must I do to be saved?**” is on your heart, as it was on the hearts of the Jews on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2) who believed in Jesus and were sorrowful for their sins.
2. If you ask denominational preachers, virtually all of them will tell you that you need only to **accept in your heart Jesus as your personal savior.**

- a. Some might **include** or **add** that you must **pray** for forgiveness.
- 1) Neither of these answers is supported by scripture.
  - 2) Some might say you are saved by “**grace** only,” others that you are saved by “**faith** only,” yet others that you are saved by “**Jesus** only.”
  - 3) Strangely, some list all these in one sentence, which makes the word “only” meaningless.
  - 4) The only time we find the word “only” used in the Bible when it relates to salvation, it says, “*not by faith only*” (James 2:24).

(Below is a link to an article that lists 27 things involved in salvation.  
<https://www.totalhealth.bz/spiritual-health-27-things.htm>.)

- b. Jesus was referring to obeying the gospel when He said,  
*“Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven”* (Matt. 7:21).

- c. And the Hebrews writer wrote in Hebrews 5:8-9:

*“Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.”*

- d. If you are a true believer, then you have already obeyed the gospel.

- 1) You have **heard** it, **believed** it, **repented** of your sins (Luke 13:5; Acts 2:38), **confessed** your faith in Christ as the Son of God (Acts 8:36, 37), and were **baptized** “*for the remission of sins*” (Acts 2:38).

2) Hopefully, you are not where King Agrippa was in relationship to getting right with God – **believing** but not being willing to take the next step or continue faithful living.

i. After Agrippa heard the story of Jesus, Paul said unto him, *“King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest. 28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. 29 And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds”* (Acts 26:27-29).

E. If you are not a **true** believer, it is my prayer that you will be diligent in your study and make the right choice after considering the evidence.

Here is a link to an article that might be helpful to that end: <https://www.totalhealth.bz/right-choice.htm>.

F. A beginning place for the young and old is to realize that life is short, and death is certain.

G. And know that at the end of our lives we will stand before God and hear either,

*“Well done, thou good and faithful servant”* (Matt. 25:21) or

*“I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity”* (Matt. 7:21-23).

What will it be?

Sing song “Where Will you Spend Eternity?”

(See link below on *The Christian and Death*.)

## **Sources and Recommended Links for Further Study**

**I Believe Because**, a book by Batsell Barrett Baxter

**Evidence that Demands a Verdict**, a book by Josh McDowell and Shawn McDowell

**The Ultimate Survivalist He/She Could Be You**, a booklet by Robert Waters

[www.totalhealth.bz/UltimateSurvivalist.pdf](http://www.totalhealth.bz/UltimateSurvivalist.pdf)

**The Abundant Life**, series of lessons by Mark Copeland

[https://executableoutlines.com/topical\\_sermons/secrets-abundant-life.html](https://executableoutlines.com/topical_sermons/secrets-abundant-life.html)

**Prophecies about Jesus Fulfilled**

<https://www.learnreligions.com/prophecies-of-jesus-fulfilled-700159>

**Why We Believe the Bible**, book by George Dehoff

**Sermon “Increase our Faith”**

<https://www.totalhealth.bz/Increase-Our-Faith.pdf>

**Great Wealth Could Be Coming Your Way (No Scam and No Joke)**

<https://www.totalhealth.bz/spiritual-health-great-wealth.htm>

**Your Salvation Depends on Your Learning the Truth**

<https://www.totalhealth.bz/spiritual-health-learn-truth.htm>

**Correspondence Course**

<https://apologeticspress.org/home-study-courses/>

**Examples of Conversion**

<https://www.biblecharts.org/newtestament/biblicalexamplesofconversions.pdf>

**Don't trust your preacher to decide what is true. YOU are responsible.**

<https://www.totalhealth.bz/spiritual-health-trusting-others.htm>

**The Christian and Death**

<https://www.totalhealth.bz/christian-and-death.htm>

[www.Totalhealth.bz](http://www.Totalhealth.bz) is a website that has many sound and irrefutable articles on virtually every significant issue in the church, and much more.