

WHAT DO
I BELIEVE



WHAT DO I BELIEVE



1. Why Does it Matter What I Believe?



WHAT DO I BELIEVE



1 Peter 3:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

a) Our Beliefs Determine Our Actions



WHAT DO I BELIEVE



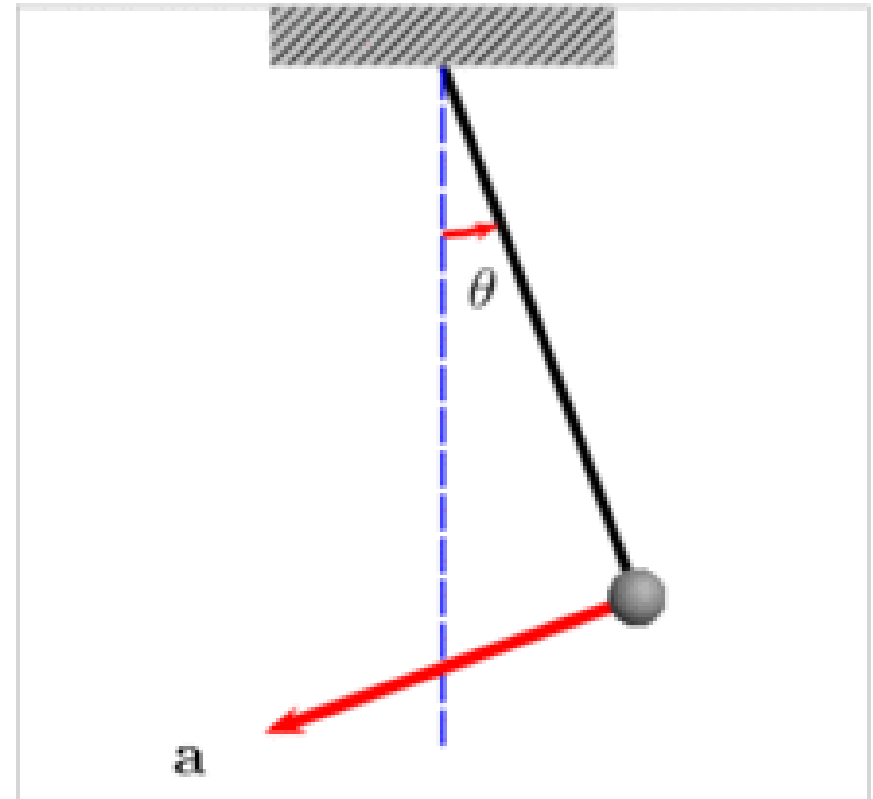
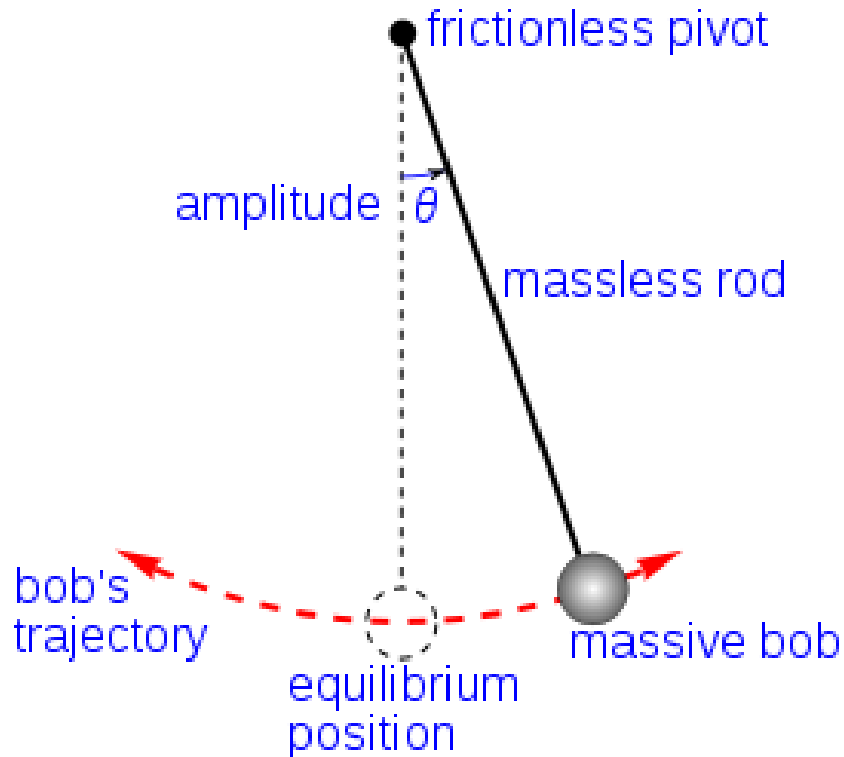
Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

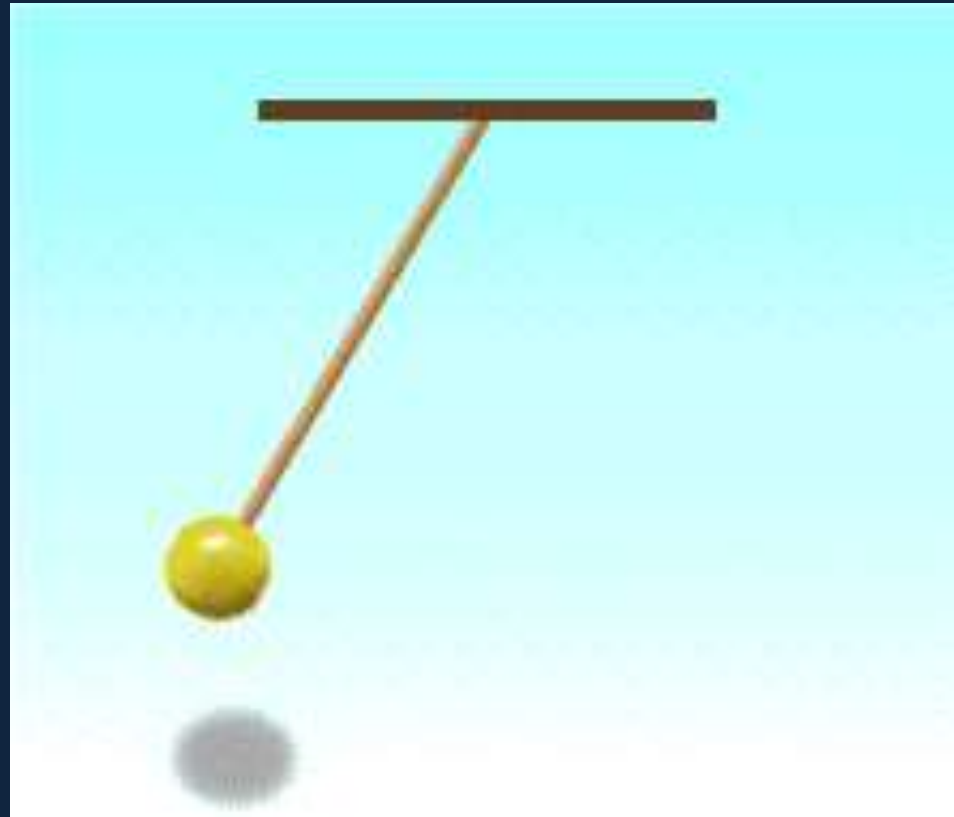
⁶But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.



**Our beliefs determine who
and what we trust**

The Law of the Pendulum





WHAT DO I BELIEVE



Matthew 7:16, 20 (NKJV)

¹⁶You will know them by their fruits.

Do men gather grapes from thornbushes
or figs from thistles?

²⁰Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

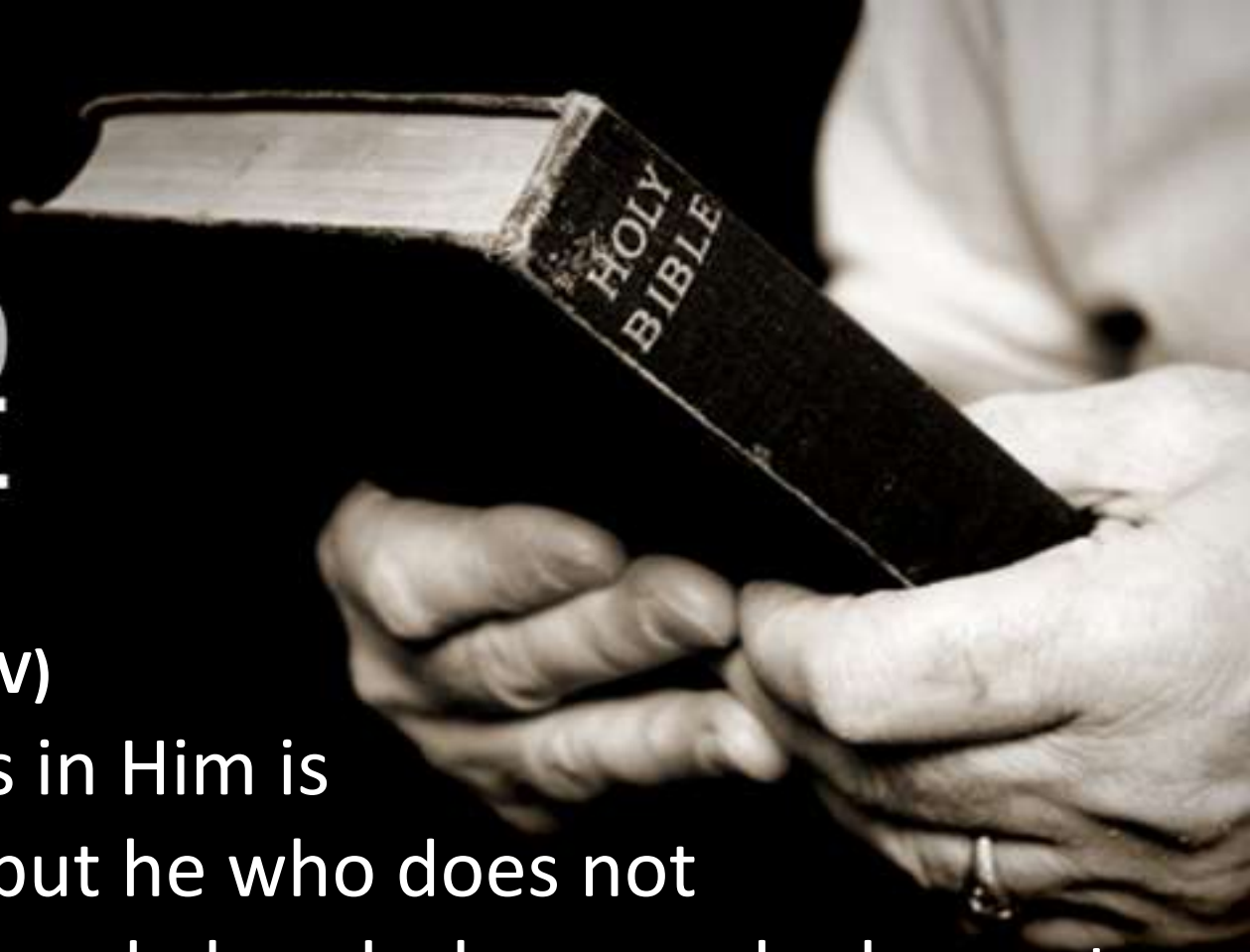


b) Our Beliefs Determine Our Destiny

WHAT DO I BELIEVE

John 3:18, 36 (NKJV)

¹⁸He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God... ³⁶He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."



CORNERSTONE BELIEFS



I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY
MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH
AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON,
OUR LORD; WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY
THE HOLY SPIRIT, BORN OF THE
VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER
PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DIED,
AND WAS BURIED; THE THIRD DAY
HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD;
HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN,
AND SITTETH AT THE RIGHT HAND
OF THE FATHER ALMIGHTY.
FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME AGAIN
TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD,
I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT,
THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH,
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS,
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS,
THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY,
AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN

2. How Do I Know If Have the Right Beliefs?

Jesus



my Savior - my King

**a) Are My Beliefs Rooted in
the Teachings of Jesus Christ?**

Jesus



my Savior - my King

John 14:6 (NKJV)

⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Jesus



my Savior - my King

John 10:38 (NKJV)

³⁸but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works,
that you may know and believe that the Father *is* in Me,

Star Spangled Banner

SONG & CHORUS



AND THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER IN TRIUMPH SHALL WAVE,
Over the land of the Free and the home of the Brave

BUFFALO

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THE HOLY TRINITY

Luke 10:21 (NKJV)

²¹ In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.

Luke 11:13 (NKJV)

¹³ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

John 14:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

John 15:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

Matthew 28:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

Luke 3:22 (NKJV)

²² And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."

THE OLD TESTAMENT

John 5:39 (NKJV)

³⁹ You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

John 5:46 (NKJV)

⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.

THE DEATH PENALTY

Matthew 5:21-23 (NKJV)

²¹ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, '*You shall not murder*, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' ²² But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire. ²³ Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

THE DEATH PENALTY

Matthew 26:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."

Mark 14:21 (NKJV)

²¹ The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had never been born."

John 15:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

People are Sinners

Matthew 9:13 (NKJV)

¹³ But go and learn what *this* means: '*I desire mercy and not sacrifice.*' For I did not come to call the righteous, but **sinners**, to repentance."

Luke 6:32-34 (NKJV)

³² But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even **sinners** love those who love them.

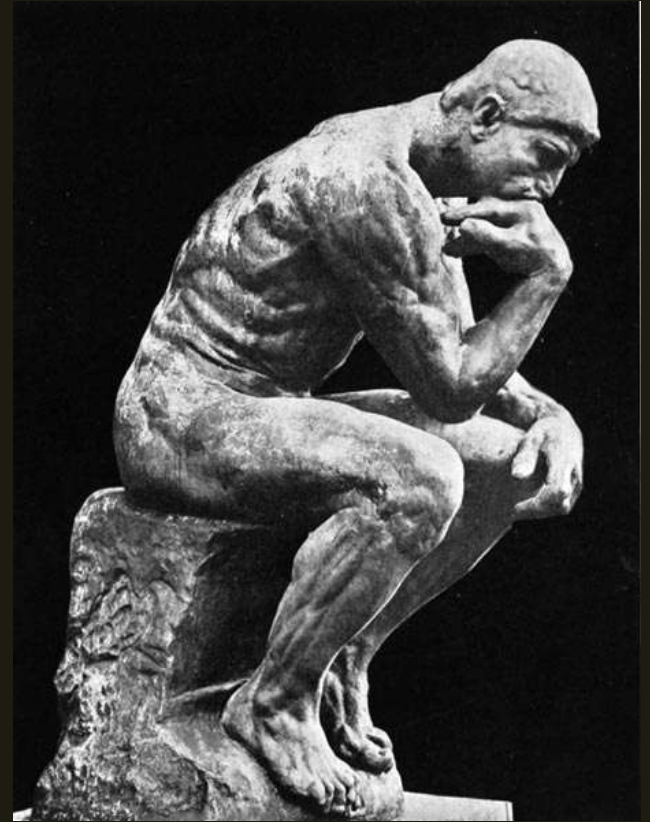
³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even **sinners** do the same.

³⁴ And if you lend *to those* from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even **sinners** lend to **sinners** to receive as much back.

People are Sinners

Luke 15:7 (NKJV)

⁷I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.



**b) They are not simply tied to Traditions
or Philosophy.**



c) They Really Matter



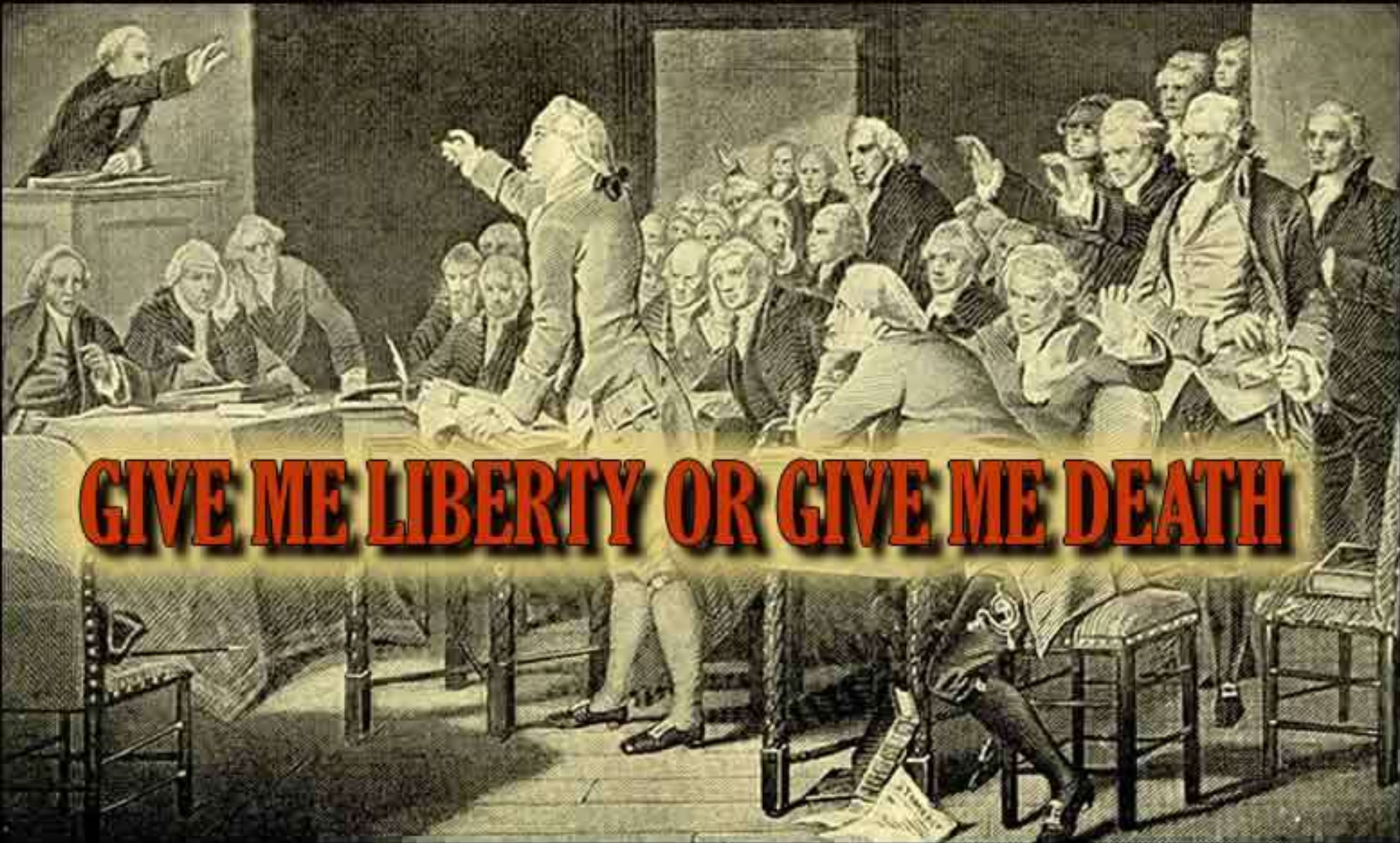
John 13:35 (NKJV)

³⁵By this all will know that you are My disciples,
if you have love for one another."



Mark 2:27 (NKJV)

²⁷And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.



Patrick Henry

May 29, 1736 – June 6, 1799

3. Developing a Belief Statement





**WHAT DO
I BELIEVE**

3. Developing a Belief Statement

Matthew 22:37-40 (NKJV)

³⁷Jesus said to him, "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.*" ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: *'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'* ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."



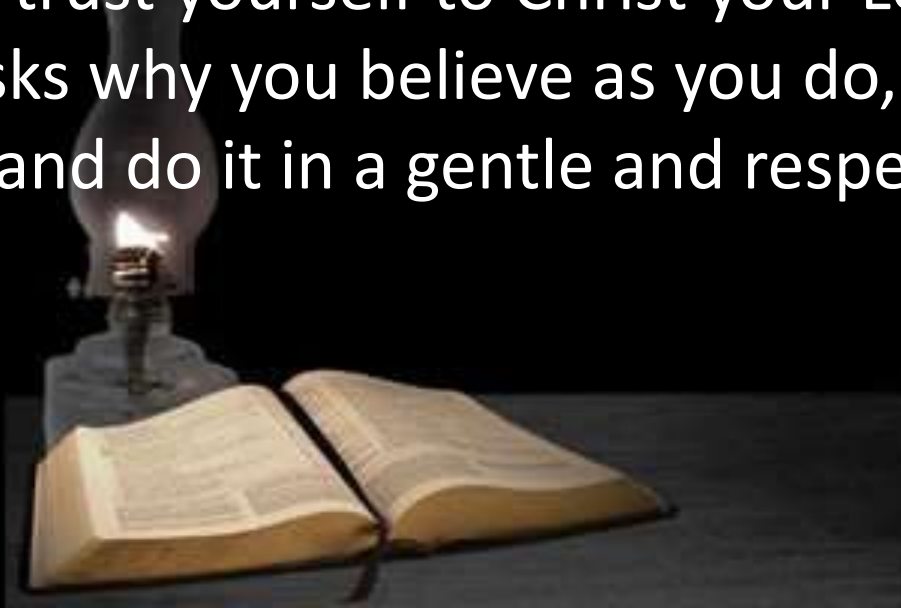
3. Developing a Belief Statement

1 Peter 3:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

1 Peter 3:15 (TLB)

¹⁵Quietly trust yourself to Christ your Lord, and if anybody asks why you believe as you do, be ready to tell him, and do it in a gentle and respectful way.



3. Developing a Belief Statement

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NKJV)

⁵Examine yourselves *as to whether you are in the faith*. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?-- unless indeed you are disqualified.



Three gray 3D crosses are arranged in a row against a background of orange and purple rays emanating from behind the central cross. The cross on the left has the word 'Relational' on its horizontal bar, the middle cross has 'Biblical', and the right cross has 'Missional'. All three words are underlined.

Relational

Biblical

Missional

**WHAT DO
I BELIEVE**



► I believe in God my Father and love Him with all my heart.

► I believe in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, who is the incarnate Word of God and through Him is the only way to know the one true God.

► I believe in the Holy Spirit and His indwelling presence and that He alone gives me the capacity to please God and carry out His will on earth as expressed in the Holy Bible.

MY PERSONAL BELIEF STATEMENT

✝ My God is one God manifest in three persons; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

✝ Jesus Christ is the physical manifestation of the invisible God, the Savior of all those who believe in Him through faith in His life, death, burial and resurrection and are born of His Spirit through genuine repentance.

✝ Salvation is a complete gift of Grace through faith. God is a rewarder of those who seek Him and I am called to share this good news with everyone.

✝ Baptism is an act of obedience and one means of demonstrating faith in Christ and obedience to His commands.

✝ The Holy Spirit empowers me and gifts me to serve Christ through His body on earth the Church. I am called to serve Christ and His purposes through the local body of Christ followers.

✝ I believe in Judgment Day, Heaven and Hell and Eternal Life in one or the other.

✝ I believe that the Bible is the word of God and my sole authority for faith and practice.

TRUTHS WE BELIEVE

Bible // Divinely inspired II Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 19

God the Father // Eternal, Love, Creator, Giver, Trinity Genesis 1:1, James 1:18, 1 John 4:8, 1 Peter 1:2

God the Son // Jesus Christ virgin-born, sinless, died on the cross for our sins, was raised from the dead and is coming again Matthew 1:18; Hebrews 4:15; I Corinthians 15:3-4; John 14:3

God the Spirit // The Holy Spirit, whom every believer receives, leads, guides, comforts, convicts, and gives spiritual gifts Ephesians 1:13-14, Ephesians 4:11

Sin // All people, by nature and by choice, sin Psalms 51:5, Romans 3:23

Salvation // Salvation is a free gift, purchased by Jesus, bestowed by God's grace and received by faith Ephesians 2:8-9, John 10:27-28, John 3:16, Romans 10:9

Baptism // Symbolic of Christ's death, burial and resurrection, Biblical Baptism is immersion in water of a professed believer Acts 8:36-39, Romans 6:1-4

Church // The church is the bride of Christ and the body of Christ. OCC is an independent, nondenominational church governed by godly elders. The purpose of the church on earth is to develop disciples who Love God, Love People, and Serve the World in order to fulfill the last command of Jesus Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 5:25-33, I Corinthians 12, Titus 1:5ff

Prayer // Conversation with God who is near, who hears and cares, the mark of a life that Loves God, and a priority of His Church



LOVE GOD // LOVE PEOPLE // SERVE THE WORLD //