

***This I Believe (1)***  
***The Bible is the Inspired, Complete Word of God***  
[www.aubeacon.com](http://www.aubeacon.com)

**Introduction:** One of the sure things is that men are constantly changing.

- A. God has given us a source of truth that will never change. **(Jude 3)**
  - 1. This body of truth call “the faith” was believed and obeyed by Christians both then and now. **(Acts 6:7; Gal 1:23, 3:23)**
  - 2. This concept of absolute truth is soundly rejected by the world.
- B. God knows how to build a living faith in us. **(2 Cor 4:13-14)**
  - 1. Here is where Satan has effectively attacked Christianity. He has substituted a different Jesus and a different gospel to many. **(2 Cor 11:3-4; 19-20)**
  - 2. This truth can be believed because sufficient evidence is found in the word of God for any man, anywhere and at any time can examine this evidence and believe it too. **(Rom 10:17; Acts 2:39)**
  - 3. Every lesson in this series contains truths from God’s word that are under attack by Christians who claim it is “traditional” and “like the Pharisees”.
  - 4. We should always remember how precious the light of God is.
    - a. It can seem as if darkness is overwhelming. **(Eph 6:11-12)**
    - b. Our God sent His Son Jesus Christ to bring light to a world of darkness. **(Lk 1:79, Jn 8:12)**
    - c. Let us let Jesus teach us where to find the light and our attitudes in it.

***I. Jesus and the Old Testament***

- A. Jesus taught that the Old Testament was the very words of God!
  - 1. He claimed the writers were moved by the Holy Spirit. **(Mark 12:36)**
  - 2. He claimed the word of God is without contradiction. **(John 10:34-35)**
- B. Jesus taught that God expected those under this covenant to fully apply everything God spoke in their lives. **(Matt 4:4, 7, 10)**
  - 1. Jesus did not hesitate to rebuke those who failed to apply the scriptures. **(Mk 12:24-27)**
  - 2. Jesus taught that all who will be right with God will have a respect for God’s word. **(John 8:47)**
  - 3. Jesus never taught that men were to ignore God’s word for that which is new or for what men considered as “felt needs”.

***II. Jesus and the New Testament***

- A. Jesus taught His Father would reveal a perfect light. **(John 16:12-13)**
  - 1. Jesus whole life was focused on “doing the will of the Father who sent Me.” **(Jn 5:19-21, 30)**
  - 2. There was not a single thing Jesus did without the fellowship and authority of the Father. **(Jn 8:28-29)**
- B. This very will was perfectly delivered to the apostles. **(Jn 14:26)**
  - 1. It was first spoken and then written. **(Eph 3:3-5; Jude 3)**
  - 2. The light will not help us unless we have the utmost respect for it. **(Jn 12:46-50)**

3. This fundamental reverence will impact every doctrine in the Bible. Do we have freedom to teach and act when God's word is silent? **(1 Pt 4:11)**
- C. Jesus expected His followers to follow everything that He delivered to the apostles through the Holy Spirit. **(Matt 16:18-19; 18:18; 28:18-20)**
  1. The apostles gave great emphasis to this as well. **(Acts 1:1-2; Jude 17-18; 2 Pt 3:2-3)**
  2. Jesus never warned against those who called men back to the Message (New Testament) delivered by the Apostles!
- D. Jesus did warn of false teachers who would cease to follow the whole council of God. **(Matt 7:15)**
  1. The apostles warned Christians as well. **(1 John 4:1, 6)**
  2. Who should we be concerned about, those who call for a "positive Christianity" and decry those who are "patternist" or those who call for a "book, chapter and verse" for all that we do?
  3. Why do some roll their eyes whenever someone warns of false teachers?

### ***III. Issues to Test by the Light!***

- A. It is not enough to confess faith in God's word. Each generation will face issues which test our profession to be genuine or so much talk.
- B. Do we need authority for all that we do? **(Col 3:17)**
  1. Some say that the Bible is a collection of "love letters" with no purpose towards "external things".
  2. What attitude did Jesus and the apostles teach?
- C. Does it matter concerning the "externals" of our worship? **(John 4:23-24)**
  1. Does it matter if we observe the Lord's supper or not? **(Acts 20:7)**
  2. Is the use of instrumental music in worship a sin? **(Rev 22:18-19)**
  3. Is the only limitation in our worship "that which the brethren will accept"?
- D. Should we limit the work of the church to that which the Lord has instructed?
  1. What does it mean for Jesus to be "head of the body"? **(Eph 1:22-23)**
  2. Did Jesus instruct local churches to take up money in the assembly for kitchens, plays and camps? **(1 Cor 16:1-2)**
- E. Should we have fellowship with churches and teachers who refuse to stand upon these things? **(2 John 9-11)**
  1. Should we be "open and tolerant" be actively supporting and attending churches where men who reject these things worship and teach? **(Jer 23:14, 17)**
  2. Does not the place we attend speak louder about what we believe than what we say? **(Jas 2:16)**

### ***Conclusion:*** What is your attitude towards the light of God? **(Jn 3:18-21)**

- A. There is only one way to build a living faith – we must fight to stay in the light.
- B. God does not want us to trust in names but to trust in Him! **(Matt 3:8-10)**
  1. Those who only want to find a church called "church of Christ" with no further investigation have missed what it means to be a Christian!

2. How blessed we are to have the written word of God!