

Staying Up Higher Ministry

Additional Teachings

Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled (John 14:1)

JESUS,

Experiencing His Fullness

Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled

JESUS

Experiencing His Fullness



Vell of Life Ministries

Altha Burts

Jesus said:

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me."

Outline

- 1) "Let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in Me" John 14:1.
 - a) Believe on Him
 - i) Rest upon Him
 - ii) Trust Him practically
 - iii) Draw upon and avail ourselves of all that is offered in Him
 - iv) Rely totally upon His resources
 - v) Transfer trust from ourselves upon Him
 - b) "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God" Romans 10:17.
- 2) Jesus, in His Power: Lord of Hosts
 - a) Lord over angelic hosts
 - b) Lord over feathered hosts
 - c) Lord over animal and human hosts
 - d) Lord over stellar hosts
 - e) Lord over hellish hosts
- 3) Jesus, in His Holiness: God Himself Encountered
 - a) Aspects of His Holiness
 - i) The Holy One is high and exalted, sovereign Lord of all.
 - ii) He is transcendently separate from all that He has created.
 - iii) He upholds all His creation by the Word of His power.
 - iv) He is transcendently pure.
 - b) Personal encounters with Him
 - i) Moses saw God in the burning bush as separate and distinct.
 - ii) Isaiah saw God as high and lifted up, transcendently pure.
 - iii) John saw God in His eternalness, His sovereignty guiding the affairs of history.
- 4) Experiencing the Fullness of Jesus
 - a) The Lord of Hosts, the Transcendent One is exactly the same Christ who lives in you.
 - i) "I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live; but Christ lives in me and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in the Son of God..." Galatians 2:20.
 - ii) "He is the same, yesterday, and forever" Hebrews 13:8.
 - b) Are you God conscious? "He who dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty" Psalm 91:1.
 - c) Are you more conscious of other things?
 - i) Family, children, friends, etc.
 - ii) Career, activities, own resources, etc.
 - d) Jesus Manifesting Himself to us
 - "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father and I will love him and manifest Myself in him" John 14:21.
 - "Manifest" in this context does not merely mean to disclose an undiscovered presence or make evident a hidden glory, but it means that the Lord Himself will take specialmeans to disclose His person and nature and goodness (Pulpit Commentary).
 - iii) •Always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body..." II Corinthians 4:10-12.
 - iv) "How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, and grieved Him in the desert! Yes, again and again they tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel." Psalm 78:40-41.
 - e) Vibrant Christianity: All of Him in all of you!

Good Morning

This morning's teaching is the last in a three part teaching entitled, "Let Not Your Heart be Troubled", which is taken from John 14:1.

Our Lord's teaching is centered around the time He spent with His disciples before He died.

His disciples were discouraged and frightened and Jesus said to them, "Let not your hearts be troubled; ye believe in God believe also in Me." And then He gave them promises – truth – in order to elicit faith from their hearts – promises to rely upon.

He said, "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2-3).

He comforts and strengthens His disciples by bringing them 'truth' and He does the same with us. He gave them promises and wanted them to believe on Him for their fulfillment, He asks the same of us.

He asks that we believe on Him for all things.

- To rest upon Him
- To trust Him practically
- To draw upon and avail ourselves of all that is offered to us in Him.

He wants us to rely totally upon His resources.

During our first time together we came to realize that to believe on Jesus means the absolute transference of trust in ourselves unto Him. A little deeper meaning than we thought initially.

But how do we come to such confidence, such expectation in Jesus. How do we come to 'this degree' of faith in Him?

"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." So we looked in the word, the source of our faith, during our first time together and beheld Him in His Omnipotence or as The Lord of Hosts.

We learned that this title, The Lord of Hosts, communicates to us His absolute rulership over the entire universe.

Not only that, but that He is ready at any moment to exercise His power and intervene for us. We must remember this in order for our faith to continue to be vibrant and alive.

Let's review what we've already looked at about Jesus:

Lord of Hosts Diagram

- He is the Lord over all angelic hosts II Kings 19:35; Isaiah 37:36
- He is the Lord over all feathered hosts I Kings 17:1-6
- He is the Lord over all animal and human hosts Daniel 6:22; Ephesians 1:1; James 4:13, 15; Proverbs 16:9
- He is the Lord over all stellar hosts Genesis 1
- He is also Lord over all the hellish hosts Job 1:6-12; 2:1-6; Matthew 8:29; Mark 1:27
- And all the heavenly bodies move at His bidding Psalm 19:1; Joshua 10:13

By seeing His absolute rulership over the universe as well as His desire to exercise His power on our behalf, we grew in our faith.

Last month we looked at the holiness of Jesus.

Remember we looked at three Biblical images of God's holiness in scripture: one in Exodus, one in Isaiah, and one in Revelation.

We came to see that the foundational significance of holiness is understood as God Himself is encountered.

The first encounter with God we saw was Moses at the burning bush. Let me read once again to you from the Exodus passage:

And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then God said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."

So you see, God's first move in revealing Himself to Moses is to declare His holiness, His separateness, His distinctness.

We looked at Isaiah's encounter with God in the temple.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: "Holy, Holy, Holy is the LORD of Hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

In Isaiah's vision, God is high and lifted up – great and exalted. Seated on a throne. Set apart from all that He has made.

The only truly self-sufficient Being, He is Holy. His glory fills all the earth but His presence also fills Isaiah with a sense of incredible guilt and an intense need for forgiveness – moral purity.

Jesus is transcendently holy.

Finally, we looked at John's vision on the Island of Patmos in Revelation 4 where we found his encounter with God. We again saw the heavenly court in unceasing worship and God's transcendence:

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

In these accounts of seeing and meeting God, the central aspects of His holiness stand out clearly.

- The Holy One is high and exalted, sovereign Lord of all.
- He is transcendently separate from all that He has created.
- He upholds all His creation by the Word of His power.
- He is transcendently pure.

So we see that

- Moses saw God in the burning bush as separate and distinct.
- Isaiah saw God as high and lifted up, transcendently pure.
- And John saw God in His eternalness, His sovereignty guiding the affairs of history.

All three experienced the holiness of God. And their lives were changed – never the same after 'seeing' God 'this way.'

In today's teaching, "Experiencing the Fullness of Jesus" we look at another truth communicated to us through the prophet Isaiah which carries much in the New Testament. A truth once realized, once revealed to us will help us out of our slothfulness and renew us in strength. We will never be the same.

And the word of One shall go forth, cast up, cast up, prepare the way! Take up the stumbling block out of the way [of the spiritual return] of My people. For thus says the high and lofty One – He Who inhabits eternity, Whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, but with him **also** who has a contrite and humble spirit.

Isaiah 57:14-15

Now if you have become excited about the Christ who we have beheld these last few months, the Transcendent One:

- Who created the universe and calls each star by its name,
- Who created the angelic hosts and who presently carry out His will at His mere beckoning,
- Who is Lord over all human hosts and who holds the king's heart in His hand and turns it wherever He wishes,
- Who is sovereign over all hellish hosts, whose mouths are shut at His voice and their powers are rendered inoperative,
- Who sustains all stellar hosts; the sun, moon and stars moving at His will, keeping all things in perpetual order,
- Who tells the wind what to do and it obeys at the mere thought of His will.

Then you will equally be excited about the Christ who lives within you, because He is **exactly** the same Christ.

In the New Testament we find the Apostle Paul giving us the secret of his vibrant life in Christ.

I have been crucified with Christ [in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live; but Christ [the Messiah] lives in me; and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in [by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in] the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me. Galatians 2:20

Our God and Savior Jesus Christ who we have been beholding these last three months in His Omnipotence, Holiness, Transcendence, Majesty, and Almightiness has not changed!

He is the same "yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

And He indwells each of us by the fullness of His Spirit. Christ in us the hope of glory.

But perhaps you are saying, "Altha, I know, I have been a Christian for a long time. I know what the Bible says."

But do we really 'know' this? Are we as conscious of God as we are of the many other things in our lives?

- Our family
- Our children
- Our careers
- Our friends
- Our church body
- Our activities
- Our own resources:
 - Capacity
 - Capability
 - Training
 - Education
 - Finances
 - Family background

If we were more conscious of God, we would move more quickly toward 'Him" in time of need or better yet we would "be stayed on Him," consistently acknowledge Him in every turn in life – all day long. We would never leave our abiding position in Him.

If we were more God-conscious, we would be consistently mindful that we have a divine companion, eager and capable of meeting our needs at every juncture. We would trust Him to be to us all that He is.

He who dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty (will remain stable and fixed under the shadow, 'power' of the Almighty). Psalm 91:1

But now we must be honest and admit that in our thoughts and behaviors we demonstrate that God is oftentimes peripheral and not central in our lives. We know this to be true. We need to acknowledge this weakness, confess where we are, and ask the Lord to bring us higher, to move us more in the direction that our hearts really want to go but our flesh is weak.

So the question before us presently is how do we become more God-conscious? What direction does the Lord give us in order to move us toward such intimacy? Such awareness of His presence?

Turn with me to John 14:21. Jesus says:

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father and I will love him and manifest Myself in him.

Now the word 'manifest' in the original language is rich in meaning. Listen to what the Pulpit Commentary says, and I quote:

"Manifest in this context does not merely mean to "disclose an undiscovered presence" or make evident a hidden glory, but it means that the Lord Himself will take special means to disclose His person and nature and goodness."

Christ will Himself do this for those who keep His commandments of self-forgetting love and consecration.

This remarkable word in the Greek implies that the scene and place of the higher manifestation will be "in the consciousness of the spirit, the soul."

So you can see the power of receiving this revelation depends upon loving obedience to the light He has given us. As Mary says, "Whatever He says to you, do it" (John 2:5).

This makes our walk with God so simple, our fellowship with God so dynamic.

This is the victory that overcometh, even our faith. I John 5:4

Andrew Murray says in his book, Abide In Christ:

It is the faith that continually closes its eyes to the weakness of the creature and finds its joy in the sufficiency of an Almighty Savior, that makes the soul strong and vibrant.

So experiencing the fullness of Christ is realizing that the One Who is high and lifted up and inhabits eternity is also the One Who indwells you and me. This 'realization' is the manifestation Jesus promises.

Overhead: Experiencing the Fullness of Christ

And so we see a tapestry of truth has been woven during our three times together:

Overhead: Tapestry of Truth

The question we must ask ourselves is this ...

Does my Christianity depend upon the living, indwelling Person of the Risen Christ for:

- Strength
- Wisdom
- Counsel
- Guidance
- Direction
- Discernment
- Understanding my children?

Or, does my Christianity depend upon:

- A set or rules
- A code of ethics
- Denominational pattern
- Rigid adherence to an organized structure?

Or, is my Christianity a demonstration of the reality of His Presence?

Again, in Galatians 2:20 Paul says,

I (all of my own way of thinking and doing things) have been crucified with Christ (in Him I have shared His crucifixion); it is no longer I who live; but Christ (the Messiah) lives in me; and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in (by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Paul experienced the fullness of Christ by first experiencing the crucifixion of his selflife. He died daily for the life of Christ to manifest (II Corinthians 4:10-12). He did not limit the Holy One of Israel (Psalm 78:40-41). He experienced the fullness of Christ.

So what is vibrant Christianity? It is nothing less than all of Him in all of you! Believed upon, drawn upon, and counted on.

In this way we can move toward trouble free hearts. "Ye believe in God, believe also on Me."

Again, as God says through the prophet Isaiah,

And the word of One shall go forth, cast up, cast up, prepare the way! Take up the stumbling block out of the way [of the spiritual return] of My people. For thus says the high and lofty One – He Who inhabits eternity, Whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, but with him **also** who is of a thoroughly penitent and humble spirit to revive the heart of the contrite one.

Isaiah 57:14-15

The question before us is what stumbling blocks are in the way of us experiencing the fullness of Christ?

Let's pray and open up for discussion.

JESUS The Lord of Hosts is the Lamb of God

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

WE FOREVERING

John 3:16-17



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"For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, but with him also who is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isaiah 57,15

BORN AGAIN-New LIFE IN CHRIST II Corinthians 5:17

JESUS, IN HIS ASCENSION

me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid, I am the First and the Last." John saw Him in His glory and it changed his "I turned to see the voice that spoke with He had in His righ me, and having turned, I saw One like the golden band. His head and hair were whit like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes lik a flame of fire. His feet were like fine brass countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. And when I saw Him, I fell at His as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as th Son of Man, clothed with a garment down the feet and girded about the chest with hand seven stars, out of His mouth went eet as dead But He laid His right hand sharp two-edged sword, and sound of many waters.

Jesus says, "I am He Who lives and was dead, and behold I am alive forevermore (no merely I live, but I have life and am the source of life to My people) I have the keys of the unseen realm" (Revelation 1.12-18)

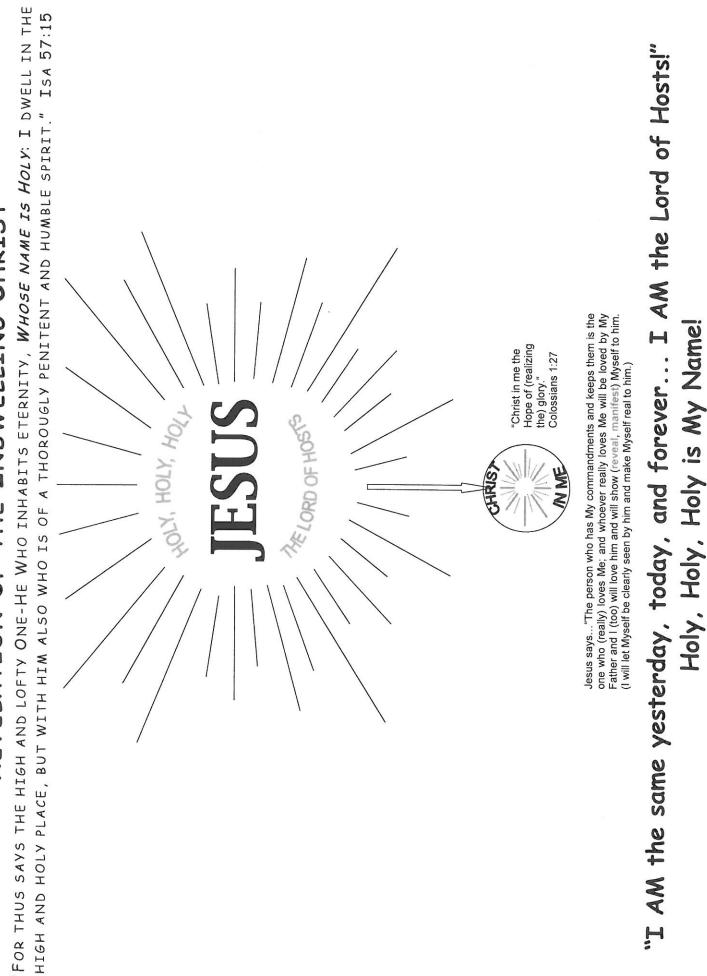
RELY UPON HIM

Rely on Him as The Lord of Hosts and as The Lamb of God. Rely on His resources; "out of His fullness we have all received" (John 1:16):

- His Forgiveness of sins Eph 1:7
 - His Power Colossians 1:29
 - His Peace John 16:33
 - His Joy John 15:11
- His Wisdom James 1:5
- His Guidance Proverbs 3:6
- His Healing Isa 53:4-5, II Peter 2:24
 - His Authority Luke 10:19

"Surely He has borne our sicknesses and carried our pains; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was bruised for our "iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:4-5, II Peter 2:24

'Christ now lives in me; and the life I now live (His life, its fullness and power) I live by (continuous) faith in (by adherence to and eliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me" Galatians 2:20 Amplified Bible. TRUST ME TO BE TO YOU ALL THAT I AM

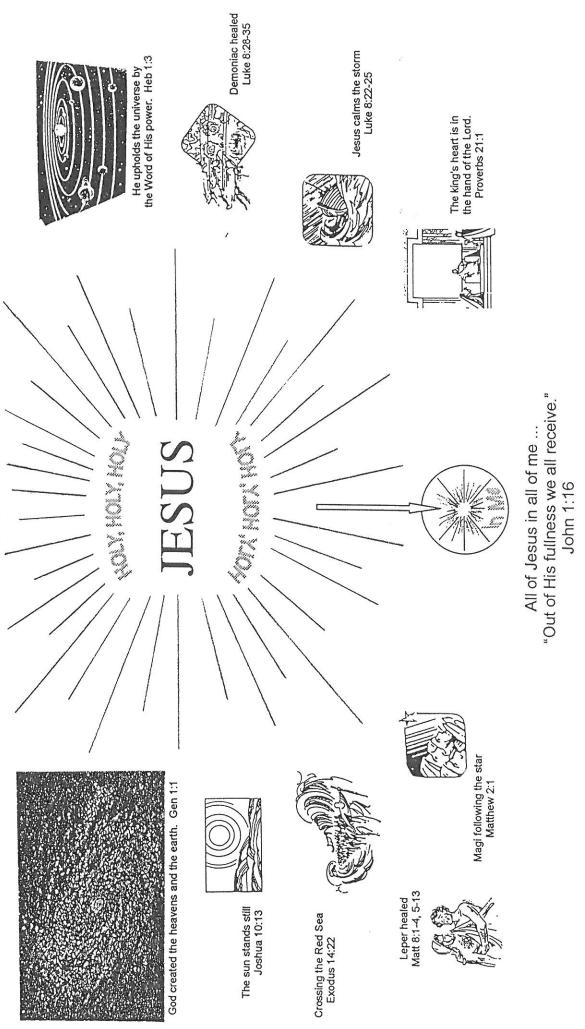


REVELATION OF THE INDWELLING CHRIST

"For thus says the high and lofty One-He Who inhabits eternity, *Whose name is Holy*: I dwell in the



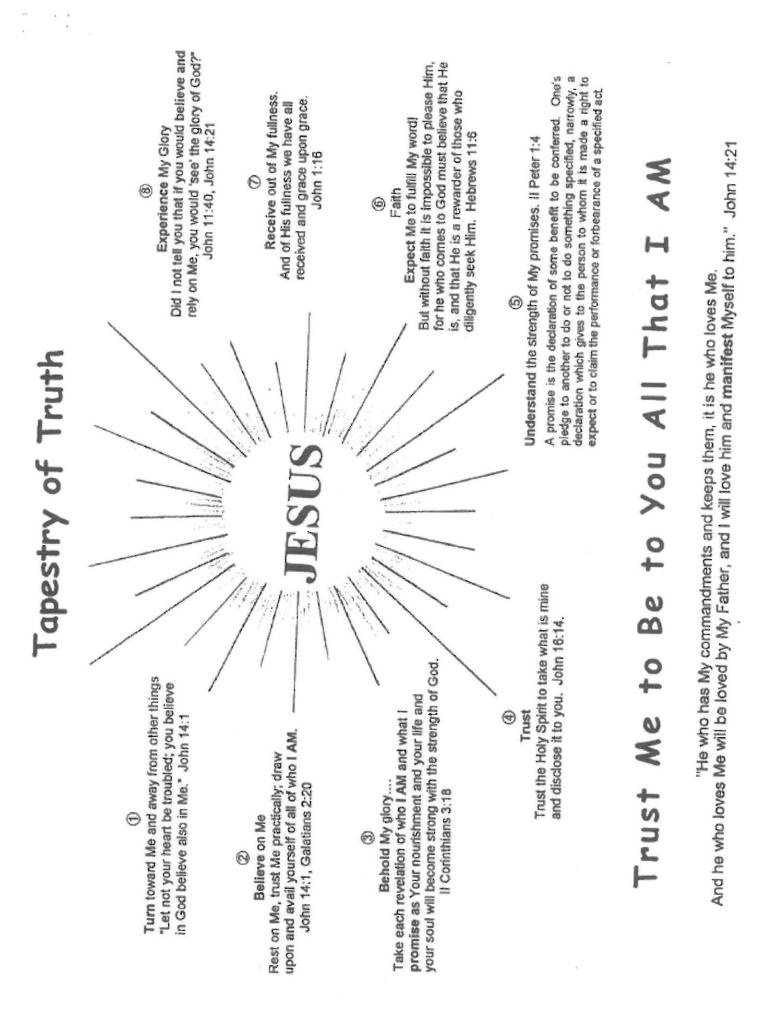
FOR THUS SAYS THE HIGH AND LOFTY ONE-HE WHO INHABITS ETERNITY, WHOSE NAME IS HOLY: I DWELL IN THE HIGH AND HOLY PLACE, BUT WITH HIM ALSO WHO IS OF A THOROUGLY PENITENT AND HUMBLE SPIRIT.



AW

"I AM the same yesterday, today, and forever." Hebrews 8:13

TRUST ME TO BE TO YOU ALL THAT I



Believe

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me." John 14:1 KJV

(1)

were completely The disciples bewildered and discouraged. Jesus had said He was going (7:34; 8:21; 12:8, 35; away 13:33), that He would die (12:23-33), that one of the Twelve was a traitor (13:21), that Peter would disown Him three times (13:38), that Satan was at work against all of them (Luke 22:31-32), and that all the disciples would fall away (Matthew 26:31). The cumulative weight of these revelations must have greatly depressed them.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary by Walvoord & Zuck

(2)

Do not let your hearts be troubled: the form of the imperative *me tarassetho* implied that they should "stop being troubled". "Set your mind at ease" would be a good translation.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary by F. Gaebelein

(3)

Our Responsibility:

One's heart is the center of his personality. Each believer is responsible for the condition of his heart (cf Prov 3:1, 3, 5; 20:9)

Proverbs 4:23: Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary by Walvoord & Zuck

(4)

Believe

To believe in, or on, is more that mere acceptance of a statement. It is so to accept a statement or a person as to rest upon them, to trust them practically; to draw upon and avail one's self of all that is offered to him in them.

Vincent Word Studies of the N.T.

"Believing is the absolute transference of trust from one's self to another."

Cannon Westscott

JESUS SAYS: Trust ME, to be to you all that I AM...