

“If”

The Conditional Christian & The Unbelief in the Believer

Conjunctions are some of the shortest words in the English language, but they do some of the heaviest lifting. Conditional conjunctions are an interesting bunch, however. They're found in sentences where one clause describes something that happened or will happen - if the condition of the other clause is satisfied. Conditional conjunctions can be a single word like if or several words like as long as. When placed at the beginning of the clause, these conjunctions describe the condition that needs to be met for something to happen -yourdictionary.com

John 1:10

He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

1Corinthians 2:7-8

7But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: 8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

He came into the world and the world knew Him not; sadly many of the world do not know Him for if they did they would follow His ways and instructions. Even worse many in the church do not know Him; for if they did they would honor the worship He requires and not the worldly worship so popularly offered in the cultural church today. Worship should be what God requires and not what man desires. Obedience to the LORD Jesus and the worship He requires is the only worship that the LORD Jesus will accept; everything else is inadequate worship and strange fire.

Those that worship of their own heart and desire cannot truly believe that the LORD Jesus is who He says He is; for **if** they did they would worship Him according to what He requires of worship.

1 Samuel 15:22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams.

John 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him . 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

1 Corinthians 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

Sadly you will not find this kind of worship in many church's today. Today many in the world want to place conditions on God. The lost and doubting seeking a sign in order to believe; they will accept many things on faith except the Living God. From where did this doubt come from? The answer is simple really; it came from Lucifer the enemy of God and the world. Lucifer has implanted doubt in the consciousness of man and it has blinded the gospel to the world and sadly many churches as well. It began with the very first words spoken by Lucifer "Yea, hath God said," (*Gen. 3:1*) and "Ye shall not surely die." (*Gen 3:4*). It is the language of Lucifer and man speaks it well.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Many today consciously or sub-consciously doubt God; for **"if"** they weren't they would not dare bring before Him false worship full of heresy and blasphemy; doctrinally weak without power to convict of sin, call for repentance and bring salvation. The world as well doubt the existence of God and live as **"if"** there is no God, no judgment coming; living their lives barefooted and chasing butterflies with a lost and dying world full of spiritual warfare raging around them; with an eternity in Heaven or Hell waiting before them according to the choice they will make. They cry out **"if"** God will do this I will believe, I will get my life right, I will be faithful, I will worship according to God's requirements; a worship that elevates Him and not glorify man, **"if** only **"if"**. Many ask today **"if"** thou be' we will do this or do that; **"if"** that were not the case every church would worship God rightly and the world would come running to salvation; a Heaven to gain and a Hell to shun; only **"if"**

Psalms 14:1 The fool hath said in his heart, *There is* no God.....

“If Thou Be”

“The devil can cite scripture for his purpose”- Shakespeare

As Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness he must not have known fully the plan of God and the fullness of the deity ship of Jesus while clothed in flesh. Satan\Lucifer asks “**if thou be**” as if he doubted Jesus as the Son of God; today many in the same spirit whether they know it or not are doing the same thing. For if people fully understood God they would not dare tempt Him; **if** they fully accepted Him as God and His coming judgment.

Matthew 4:3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, **If thou be the Son of God**, command that these stones be made bread.

Matthew 4:6 And saith unto him, **If thou be the Son of God**, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. (*Ref. Psalms 91:11-12*)

Today many are tempting the mercy and grace of God doubting the LORD; for if they truly believed He is who He says He is they would out of love and reverential fear do the things that He requires as the children of the Living God; He would be the priority in their lives and in the church. He would be the priority in their worship; but I fear many are playing a game and are asking “If thou be” maybe not with tongue but with heart; because there is doubt and their actions show it.

As those that passed by the cross doubted the Son of God and mocking Him; today He is mocked by the end times world and church which is becoming more inseparable from the world; who wagging their heads and calling unto themselves a fleshly carnal worship temp Him; possibly without enough discernment to even know it “**if thou be**” the Son of God we will worship you.. your way.

Sadly many churches are becoming inseparable from the world; in defiance of God. How can one truly believe in the LORD Jesus Christ and defy Him? Because they ask ‘**if**’ and so little a word does great damage because it is spoken by the heart and is the language of Lucifer\Satan.

2 Corinthians 6:16

And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,

The seed of the devil still works today in questioning the LORD Jesus; for all who question are of the devil and speak his language ‘If thou be,’

Matthew 26:63 But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.

Matthew 27:40 And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest *it* in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.

Luke 23:36 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, 37 And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.

Luke 23:39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

“If thou be” is still being screamed from the spirit of man in rebellion who insists on doing things his way instead of Gods way. Man says we will worship you as we desire; we will decide what is truth and what is not; we will decide what is good and what is evil; woe unto you evil man that tempts the living God thinking and saying “If thou be”! Though it may be unspoken from the lips it is cried out from the heart and shown by the actions of the world and in many churches.

John 10:24-27 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly 25 Jesus answered them, **I told you, and ye believed not: the**

works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.²⁶ But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

The “If” has been Answered Long Ago”

Romans 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

The very creation speaks to God and His existence; many do not see it because they refuse to see it! They had rather ask “**if**” so they can continue to rationalize their behavior. Evidence of God is in the stars, the trees, the oceans, and the air we breathe. You want evidence of God; look in the mirror because your existence is a testimony of the Living God because you and I were created in His image; though marred as it is by sin; we are still His creation and need look no further than our own reflection in the mirror. Our reflection is at the same time evidence of how mighty and good God is and how bad we are.

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.²⁷ So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

God’s Word Is Accurate

The Bible is under attack for its accuracy leading many to question its authority to rule in the lives of men. The claim is often that the Bible is just a translation and can’t be one-hundred percent without error. Arguments often go “well that’s your interpretation”, “the Bible is just a copy of a copy” or “it’s no different than any other ancient literature”. This doubt is what leads to the “**if**” that is rooted in the consciousness of many. Sadly today we have CONDITIONAL CHRISTIANITY. “**If** God will do this I will do?” I will come to God on my terms. I will worship God my way. At the heart of this thought is the language of Lucifer and his conditional conjunction “**if**”. Consider the following concerning God’s Word.

1. The Quantity of Manuscripts. In the case of the Old Testament, there is a small number of Hebrew manuscripts, because Jewish scribes ceremonially buried imperfect and worn manuscripts. Many ancient manuscripts were lost or destroyed during Israel’s turbulent history. Also, the Old Testament text was standardized by the Masoretic Jews by the sixth century A.D., and all manuscripts that deviated from the Masoretic Text were eliminated. -http://www.cslewisinstitute.org/webfm_send/410

2. The Quality of Manuscripts. Because of the great reverence the Jewish scribes held toward the Scriptures, they exercised extreme care in making new copies of the Hebrew Bible. The entire scribal process was specified in meticulous detail to minimize the possibility of even the slightest error. The letters, words, and lines were counted, and the middle letters of the Pentateuch and the Old Testament were determined. If a single mistake was discovered, the entire manuscript was destroyed. As a result of this extreme care, the quality of the manuscripts of the Hebrew Bible surpasses all other ancient manuscripts. The 1947 discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls provided a significant check, because these Hebrew scrolls antedate the earliest Masoretic Old Testament manuscripts by about 1,000 years. But in spite of this time span, the number of variant readings between the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Masoretic Text is quite small, and most of these are variations in spelling and style. -http://www.cslewisinstitute.org/webfm_send/410

3. The quantity of New Testament manuscripts is unparalleled in ancient literature. There are over 5,000 Greek manuscripts, 8,000 Latin manuscripts, and another 1,000 manuscripts in other languages (Syriac, Coptic, etc.). In addition to this extraordinary number, there are tens of thousands of citations of New Testament passages by the early church fathers. In contrast, the typical number of existing manuscript copies for any of the works of the Greek and Latin authors, such as Plato, Aristotle, Caesar, or Tacitus, ranges from one to 20. - http://www.cslewisinstitute.org/webfm_send/410

Not If; For He IS!

Matthew 28:16-17 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. 17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

Friend’s three things lead to “**if thou be**”

1. Unbelief – The unbelief of the lost and the unbelief in the believer; the conditional Christian.

Psalms 78:22-32 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:²³ Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,²⁴ And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.²⁵ Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full. ²⁶ He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind. ²⁷ He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea ²⁸ And he let *it* fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations. ²⁹ So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire; ³⁰ They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat *was* yet in their mouths,³¹ The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen *men* of Israel.³² For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works.

2. Lack of the Holy Spirit (discernment) - **1Corinthians 2:14** 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.

The natural man and conditional Christian cry “**if thou be**” the spiritual man cries **HE IS!**

3. Rebellion - **Luke 6:46** And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

Dear reader please understand that the words of Lucifer\Satan lies in the heart of the lost and conditional Christian; both which live in rebellion; for when you don't live as God requires; you live in rebellion and you speak the language of the devil “If thou be” if not in words then with the actions of your heart.

Many cry “If thou be”! When they should wake up! And see the Glory of the LORD for it should not be “If thou be” that is upon the heart; but rather the words of the centurion and the apostle John should be shouted “Truly this was the Son of God!” and “this is the Son of God!”

Matthew 27:54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

John 1:34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

JESUS SAVES- To God be the Glory

R.E.G.

SINNERS IN THE HANDS OF AN ANGRY GOD – Jonathan Edwards.

The bow of God's wrath is bent, and the arrow made ready on the string, and justice bends the arrow at your heart, and strains the bow, and it is nothing but the mere pleasure of God, and that of an angry God, without any promise or obligation at all, that keeps the arrow one moment from being made drunk with your blood. Thus all you that never passed under a great change of heart, by the mighty power of the Spirit of God upon your souls; all you that were never born again, and made new creatures, and raised from being dead in sin, to a state of new, and before altogether unexperienced light and life, are in the hands of an angry God. However you may have reformed your life in many things, and may have had religious affections, and may keep up a form of religion in your families and closets, and in the house of God, it is nothing but his mere pleasure that keeps you from being this moment swallowed up in everlasting

destruction. However unconvinced you may now be of the truth of what you hear, by and by you will be fully convinced of it. Those that are gone from being in the like circumstances with you, see that it was so with them; for destruction came suddenly upon most of them; when they expected nothing of it, and while they were saying, Peace and safety: now they see, that those things on which they depended for peace and safety, were nothing but thin air and empty shadows.