

SOP: Dealing with Doubt

Definition of doubt:

Greek: Diakrino—to distinguish between—to judge; to separate thoroughly; to distinguish or decide. To discern one thing from another; hesitate or waver. (to hesitate between two opinions—James 1)

Dictionary: a feeling of uncertainty or lack of conviction. Hesitate to believe; mistrust. To have no confidence in; to be in fear of.

It is believing what the evil one is sowing into our thoughts—gaining a place in the mind. It is to turn aside from the conceived Word of God. It ultimately undermines our faith (undermine—to weaken secretly; to undermine by degree).

When we think of deception—tend to think about what words come out of our mouths... must first look at what thoughts are being conceived in our minds.

Apart from the Truth—we are vulnerable to drawing conclusions from our feelings, experiences, the opinions of others, the mindset (overmind) of the spirit of the age.

Difference Between Doubt and Unbelief

Doubt is a matter of the mind (dealing with a persistent thought/evidence of believing a lie)

Unbelief is a matter of the heart (it is a resistant heart)

"Doubt is when we cannot understand what God is doing and why He is doing it. Unbelief is when we refuse to believe God's Word and do what He tells us to do."

---Greg Laurie

What Doubt Leads To:

- James 1:1-8—instability/double-minded/wavering/lack of assurance
- Genesis 3:1-6—separation and the way that leads to death
- John 20:24-29 —joy that faith brings
- Acts 5:1-11—Ananias and Sapphira—false conclusions and loss of life

When we don't trust God's Word—we are believing something else—which is always a lie.

Must learn to be people of the Truth:

- Truth is a Person— with an identity/nature/character (If Jesus wouldn't say it, do it, or initiate it—it might not be the Truth (II Thessalonians 2))
- Must know the difference between the voice of the Lord and the voice of the evil one.
- John 8:31-47—Did the Liar get to your heart/mind first? Confess. Holy Spirit will cleanse from all unrighteousness.
- Truth + Mixture= a lie
 - I Peter 2:1—long for the pure milk of the Word
 - II Timothy 3:14
 - Matt 13—warning about mixture