



THE GOSPEL OF
LUKE



CALVIN

Surely, while we teach that faith ought to be certain and assured, we cannot imagine any certainty that is not tinged with doubt, or any assurance that is not assailed by some anxiety



LEWIS

A Christian with reasonable faith still experiences times when “his emotions rise up and carry out a sort of blitz on his belief.



LEWIS

– I think the trouble with me is lack of faith... often when I pray I wonder if I am not posting letters to a non-existent address.



SPURGEON

It was just when I wanted Christ, and panted after Him, that, on a sudden, the thought crossed my mind – which I abhorred but could not conquer – that there was no God, no Christ, no Heaven, no hell, that all my prayers were but a farce, and that I might as well have whistled to the winds...



SPURGEON

...or spoken to the howling waves. Ah! I remember how my ship drifted along through that sea of fire, loosened from the anchor of my faith which I had received from my fathers. I no longer moored myself hard by the coasts of Revelation; I said to reason, “Be thou my captain;” ...



SPURGEON

... I said to my own brain, “Be thou my rudder;” and I started on my mad voyage.



CARD

**But when you have to listen
To the voices of the mob
Who were reeling in the throes
Of all the happiness they've got
When they tell you all their troubles
Have been nailed up to that cross
But what about the times
When even the followers get lost?
Cause we all get lost sometimes**



DOUBT

**A state of mind in suspension
between faith and unbelief.**

(Os Guinness)



DRUMMOND

Doubt is "can't believe"; unbelief is "won't believe." Doubt is honesty; unbelief is obstinacy. Doubt is looking for light; unbelief is content with darkness.



CAUSES of Doubt...

1. Suffering
2. Disappointment/Disillusionment
3. Unanswered Questions
4. Theological Challenges
5. Temptation to Live in Sin
6. Apparent Injustice



LUKE 7:18-19

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"



LUKE 3:2-3

during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.



LUKE 3:15

"I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire



LUKE 3:19-20

But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.



LUKE 7:19

Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"



Genesis 3:15

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."



Psalm 118:26

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the LORD! We bless you from the house
of the LORD.**



Jeremiah 23:5

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.



Micah 5:2

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.



LUKE 3:9

Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."



LUKE 3:17

His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."



Matthew 14:29

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"



Spurgeon

Sure I am that all true Christians have their times of anxious questioning. The heart that hath never doubted has not yet learned to believe.



Elizabeth Elliott

**Faith does not eliminate questions. But
faith knows where to take them.**



LUKE 7:20-23

And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight...



LUKE 7:20-23

...And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."



Isaiah 35:3-6

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."...

Isaiah 35:3-6

... Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;



Isaiah 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;...



Isaiah 61:1-2

...to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn



Mark 9:22

And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."



Mark 9:23

And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes."



Mark 9:24

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"



YANCEY

– For me, doubt works in an inward-curving spiral, much like self-pity. I begin with a complaint against the church, or confusion about some doctrine, and end up in a ‘Slough of Despond.’ I see only the contradictions, the negatives, the darkness...



YANCEY

...At such times I need a Doubt Companion, a compassionate listener who does not judge but will walk beside me in strength. 8. Ideally, the church should supply these companions, yet local churches often react to doubters with suspicion and judgment...



YANCEY

... More commonly, a trusted small group, or even a single friend can provide what we desperately need: someone unthreatened by doubt who rewards rather than punishes honesty, and who can gently bring light into darkness.

LUKE

