

## BELIEVE #1

There are a number of statements made by Jesus and others in the New Testament revealing certain things that a person had to do in order to be saved. By considering these requirements in relationship to one another, we begin to see that becoming a Christian was a process involving several steps. Even though no one particular passage specifies all these requirements, or when each one should be accomplished, we find their order and necessity clearly indicated in God's word.

Since the gospel was God's power for salvation, when people heard it the first thing they were expected to do was believe it. Christ warned his audience of the danger of not doing so in John 8:24 where this is recorded, "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."

Undoubtedly those listening to Jesus would have understood that if they died in their sins they would be forever lost. Therefore, He was telling them that if they wanted to have eternal life, they had to believe that He was who He said He was, the Messiah, the Son of God in human flesh. Today if we want to be Christians and be saved by Christ's perfect life and sacrificial death, we also must believe with an active and obedient faith, that He is now and was then everything He claimed to be.