

DOUBTING OUR DOUBTS

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INTRODUCTION:

- A. There are several types of doubt....
- B. The pressures of life cause us to doubt our faith.

We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. – 2 Corinthians 4:7

But when you ask Him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. – James 1:6

We are pressed on every side by trouble but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We are knocked down, but we are not destroyed. – 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

I. WHAT CAUSES US TO DOUBT GOD?

- A. First, there are critics.

They scoff and speak only evil; in their pride they seek to crush others. They boast against the very heavens, and their words strut throughout the earth. And so people are dismayed and confused, drinking in their words. "What does God know? Does the Most High even know what's happening?" – Psalm 73:8-11

- B. Secondly, our conscience causes us to doubt.

Cling to your faith in Christ and keep your conscience clear. – I Timothy 1:19a
For some people have deliberately violated their consciences; as a result, their faith has been shipwrecked. – I Timothy 1:19b

- C. Thirdly, difficult circumstances cause us to doubt God.

...a fierce storm came up...Jesus was asleep in the back [of the boat]...The disciples woke Him up shouting "Teacher don't you care that we're going to drown?"... "Silence be still!" [he said]... "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" – Mark 4:35-41

II. THE GIFT OF DOUBT

- A. Admit our doubts.

"If faith never encounters doubt, if truth never struggles with error, if good never battles with evil, how can faith know its own power?" – Gary Parker

Thomas: "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in His hands, put my finger into them and place my hand into the wound in His side." – John 20:25

- B. Doubt our doubts.

- Often the opposite is true "we doubt our beliefs and believe our doubts."

- C. Begin with the faith we already have.

- A little growing faith is all that is required.

"I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed... nothing would be impossible." – Matthew 17:20

CONCLUSION: