

God Can Handle Your Doubts
The Benefit Of Doubt – Part 2
May 18, 2025

Matthew 14:28-31 (NIV) *“‘Lord, if it’s You,’ Peter replied, ‘tell me to come to You on the water.’²⁹ ‘Come,’ He said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out His hand and caught him. ‘You of little faith,’ He said, ‘why did you doubt?’”*

**Jesus reached out His hand and
caught Peter in his doubt.**

**Jesus didn't reject Peter FOR his doubt.
He rescued Peter FROM his doubt.**

Peter doubted, and Jesus rescued him. (Matthew 14:31)

Thomas doubted, and Jesus gave him proof. (John 20:27)

The Disciples doubted, and Jesus sent them on mission anyway. (Matthew 28:17-19)

John the Baptist doubted, and Jesus reassured him. (Matthew 11:4-5)

Martha doubted, and Jesus reminded her of His power. (John 11:21-25)

The father of a demon-possessed boy doubted, and Jesus strengthened his faith. (Mark 9:24-25)

Jesus gave grace!

**Doubt is not the enemy of faith.
Doubt is often a pathway to a deeper,
and more meaningful faith.**

Why do you doubt?

What if this question isn't an accusation but an invitation?

**What is healthy deconstruction?
Healthy deconstruction is a sincere
examination of your beliefs.
Letting go of what's untrue to build on what is true.**

**lex talionis: law of retaliation or
the principle of retribution**

Matthew 5:38-39 (NIV) *"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' ³⁹ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also."*

Matthew 5:43-44 (NIV) *"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."*

Matthew 16:21-22 (NIV) *"From that time on Jesus began to explain to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that He must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."*

²² *Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!'"*

Matthew 16:23 (NIV) *"You are a stumbling block to Me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."*

**What do you build your belief system on?
The B-I-B-L-E**

Everyone reads the Bible with a bias.

- **Everything you believe about God may not be true.**
- **When you discover something that you believe isn't true, you unbelieve what isn't true, and you pursue what is true.**

Matthew 22:37-40 (NIV) *"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'*

³⁸ *This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

Read everything in God's Word through love.

1 Peter 2:25 NIV *"For 'you were like sheep going astray,' but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls."*

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