

A Steady Heart

I believe God that it will be exactly as I have been told. Acts 27.25

You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. Matthew 16.16

Even for us today, what does it _____ to say, *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God?*

Christ is the _____ of the invisible God! Really? Yes! If you want to know what God looks like, take a picture of Jesus! That's what this text does, presents us with a picture of Jesus Whom all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell!

"The permanence of the universe rests...on _____ far more than on gravity. It is a Christ-centric universe." A. T. Robertson

Did Peter _____ all this when he confessed Jesus to be the Christ? Not a chance!

You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God! What a profound confession of faith; it can only have come through _____. Peter didn't understand it when he first said it. How could he? How could we?

Peter's _____ is my story, your story! ...*you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things...* Peter had his mind set on human things (remember, he was expecting Jesus to overturn Roman rule and reestablish the Kingdom of Israel), and like Peter, we, too, confess that *Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God* while our minds are still set on the things of this world.

This brings us to our text in Acts and the story of the Apostle Paul who, like Peter, was also confronted by a raging storm while on the sea, but unlike Peter, he proved _____, like Jesus, in the face of adversity.... He confessed before the crew and passengers on board the doomed ship, *I believe God that it will be exactly as I have been told. Acts 27.25*

How do we _____ from merely confessing faith to believing faith with a steady heart like Paul's?

Moving from merely **confessing** faith to **believing** faith requires _____ participation. We must be intentional disciples of Jesus. We must set our minds on God's Word, *divine things* as Jesus taught, or *things of the Spirit* as Paul taught.

To confess *Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God*, only comes by revelation. To confess *I believe God*, only comes by our intentionally setting our _____ on *divine things* or *things of the Spirit*, that is the Word of God.

God grant by the _____ of the Holy Spirit that we remember, *Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God*, and all that that means, as we move into our separate futures, and also confess with a steady heart firmly grounded in God's Word, *I believe God*. For

whether we are facing life or death, all of life and even death rests in these three words, *I believe God!* Only a steady heart can say without pause, *I believe God!*