

# **Doubt**

Text: Matthew 11:1-6

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Elkin, NC

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Doubt is a state of uncertainty, especially about whether something is true or whether someone is sincere or trustworthy.

Doubt plagues so many people. We find in Scripture people who doubted. For example:

Abraham doubted the inheritance of Canaan (*Genesis 15:8*)

Gideon, as to the victory over Midian (*Judges 6:17*)

Thomas, as to the resurrection of Jesus (*John 20:25*)

Finally, John the Baptist, as the Messiahship of Jesus (*Matthew 11:1-11*)

## **I. THE CAUSE OF DOUBT**

- A. John – Perplexity
- B. Eve – Satan (*Genesis 3:4*)
- C. Zechariah – Unbelief (*Luke 1:18-20*)
- D. Sin – breaks fellowship with God (*1 John 1:5-10*)

## **II. THE COURSE OF DOUBT (Where does it lead?)**

- A. Doubt leads one to ask for signs (Gideon – *Judges 6:17*)
- B. Doubt cancels out one's faith, which leads to unanswered prayer (*James 1:5-8*)
- C. Doubt keeps one from experiencing God's power (Peter walking on water – *Matthew 14:31*)
- D. Doubt leads to fear (*Mark 4:40*)
- E. Doubt displeases God (*Hebrews 11:6*)

## **III. THE CURE FOR DOUBT**

- A. A daily diet of Scripture – one must read, meditate, and receive the Word with a ready mind
- B. Believe God's Word – accept the Word of God as true (*1 Thessalonians 2:13*)
- C. Live a pure life
- D. Have a consistent prayer life