



International Bible Lesson

International Bible Study Commentary
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Reasons to Believe Jesus is God John 14:8-14

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works
(John 14:10—KJV).

Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works
(John 14:10—NASB).

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works
(John 14:10—NRSV).

In words that we cannot completely understand about God, any more than we can completely understand ourselves, Jesus told His disciples that He and the Father were totally united in thoughts, words, and works. Whatever Jesus said, God the Father said also. Whatever Jesus did the Father did also. If we want to know what God is like, if we want to know the God the Father, Jesus said that we only need to consider everything He said and did. Jesus said that if you do not believe in Him, then believe in His works. No one had done or has done the perfectly loving and powerful works of Jesus that He did speaking only a few words. If you do not believe Jesus' works, then look at those who say they believe in Jesus. Like Jesus, believers in Jesus do works of love and use the gifts Jesus gives them to help others physically, mentally, and spiritually. Because the Spirit of Jesus indwells believers, they can do greater works than Jesus did when He walked on earth.

Consider one example, believers in Jesus travel around the world to feed and clothe the poor, heal the sick, and tell people about Jesus and His love for them. They tell the hopeless in “this world” that when they believe in Jesus, they receive His gift of everlasting life. Believers in Jesus glorify and honor the Father like Jesus did; therefore, the Father and the Son answer their prayers to help others.

Thinking Further

1. What did Philip say would satisfy him?
2. What did Jesus expect Philip should know and why?
3. What kind of words did Jesus speak and what kind of works did Jesus do?
4. Why should we believe in Jesus? What kind of works can believers do?
5. How does Jesus teaching on prayer in these verses encourage you?

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