

**UNBELIEF**

**The "Great Disorder"  
of the Heart**

*The Lie of Unbelief:  
"God is not doing enough for me;  
God Himself is not enough for me.  
I need something more."*



**DISCONTENT**

**A "lust for more" is the basis  
for every temptation in the heart.**

*"If only I had what I need."  
"I should be/have..."  
"I don't like ..."*



**ANXIETY**

**The emotion of uncertainty**

*"What if I don't get what I need?"*

**ANGER**

**The emotion of displeasure.**

*"I'm upset because I don't  
have what I need."*



**DESPAIR**

**The emotion of hopelessness.**

*"I'll never get what I need."*

---

*When they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful;  
but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.  
Romans 1:21*

## A. Unbelief—"The Great Disorder" of the Heart

1. Unbelief is a "dis-order" because it accepts the reasonings of fallen man (*"vain imaginations"*) over the revelation of God.
2. As we shall see, most of the psychiatric "disorders" of our day are rooted in "The Great Disorder". These passages are merely representative of the many that show this relationship in the Scriptures. In each of these passages an obvious sin shows up, but God's rebuke is for unbelief.
  - a. At the root of anger is unbelief (Numbers 20:1-13).
  - b. At the root of anxiety and fear is unbelief (Mark 4:40).
  - c. At the root of despair is unbelief (Hebrews 12:2-3).
3. The lie - the fantasy - of "The Great Disorder" is that "God is not doing enough for me; God Himself is not enough for me. I need something more."  
We have interpreted what we know about God from our experience instead of interpreting our experiences in light of what is true about God from Scriptures.
4. If we reject what God says is true, all we can do is live in a fantasy world of imagination because the world as we are choosing to believe it does not exist.
  - a. A world where God does not love us does not exist.
  - b. A world where God is not in control of all things for our good and His glory does not exist.
  - c. A world where God is not with me or does not hear my cry does not exist.
  - d. A world where God is heavy-handed and mean-spirited does not exist.
5. To live in a fantasy world is to hasten our own disintegration.
6. Philippians 4:19 describes the real world: *"But my God shall supply all you need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."*

## B. Discontent

1. Discontent is the dissatisfaction of not having what we have decided we need.
2. The whining of our discontented heart is familiar.
  - a. "If only I had what I need."
  - b. "I should be/have..."
  - c. "I don't like..."
3. These statements are dangerous because a "lust for more" is the basis for every temptation in the heart. James 1:14—"Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed."
4. Begin a list of your own "if onlys," "I shoulds," and "I don't likes."
5. Legitimate concerns should be turned into prayer while surrendering the results to God.

---

**Conclusion:** Learn to look for the roots of unbelief and discontent when you see the fruit of guilt, anxiety, anger, and despair.