

EASTER

AN INVITATION TO BELIEVE

**Are you aware of the crazy
advances that are occurring
in Artificial Intelligence?**



A.I. Generates Biblical Selfies of Last Supper, Moses, & More



















The cross stands tall, a symbol of love,
A sacrifice made for us from above.
The tomb is empty, the stone rolled away,
Jesus has risen, He's alive today.
We gather together to sing and to pray,
To celebrate Easter in our own way.
We thank God for His mercy and grace,
For sending His Son to take our place.
May this Easter bring you joy and peace,
May your faith in God continue to increase.
May you feel His presence in all that you do,
And know that He loves and cares for you.

Happy Easter!

Artificial Intelligence



Creepy!



**Wait,
What?**

Can computers think?

Showing results for *can computers think*
Search instead for *can computerds think*

So, can computers think? The philosophical questions about what constitutes thought, sentience, and consciousness are best left to philosophers. Even so, we can very confidently say: the answer is

no. May 12, 2022

**Can computers
think?**

**Can computers
believe?**

Can computers believe?

To "Believe" is a verb.

It means to have confidence in the truth.

"Belief" is a noun.

It means to be certain that something
is true.

to be
certain that something
is true

John 20

John 20

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After He said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

John 20

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

I will not believe.

**:certain that something
is true**

★ I love that this is in the Bible

- It's real

- It's honest

John 20

²⁶A week later His disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

John 20

²⁸ Thomas said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

But these are written that you may...

**1. Believe that Jesus is the
Messiah, the Son of God.**

**2. By believing—
experience life in His name.**

This call to believe, however,
isn't just something that we
see here in the upper room.

It shows up over
& over again.

John 3

¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness,
¹⁵ so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone
who believes may have eternal life in Him. ¹⁶ For God
so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have
eternal life... ¹⁸ Whoever believes in Him is not
condemned, but whoever does not believe stands
condemned already because they have not believed
in the name of God's one and only Son.

Acts 16:27-31

²⁷The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped.

²⁸But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" ²⁹The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

Scripture makes it impossible
to miss the importance
of believing.

But how many of us
struggle with this?

Mark 9:17-24

A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not."

Jesus replied: "Bring the boy to me."

Mark 9:17-24

Jesus asked the boy's father,

"How long has he been like this?"

"From childhood," he answered. "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

"If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

**“I do believe;
help me overcome
my unbelief!”**

***“I understand the need to believe,
I’m just not very good at it!”***

If you're anything like me,
you feel this way all the time.

*Jesus: "Don't worry about tomorrow,
tomorrow will take care of itself..."*

Me: "There's no way not to worry..."

If you're anything like me,
you feel this way all the time.

*Jesus: "Trust me, I will take care
of you."*

Me: "I know, but..."

If you're anything like me,
you feel this way all the time.

*Jesus: "You don't have to feel ashamed
or unworthy."*

*Me: "But Lord, I've messed up so
many times..."*

It is so not easy to trust God.

I can 20% trust God,
but most of the time
I'm like 80% short.

***“I do believe; help me
overcome my unbelief!”***

This is a legit prayer!

“God, I don’t know what to do, but my eyes are on you!”

This is a legit prayer!



**Which
brings us
back to
Thomas.**

**Caravaggio
1601**



John 20:29

Then Jesus told him,
“Because you have seen me,
you have believed; blessed are
those who have not seen
and yet have believed.”

I've entitled today's message:

"An invitation to believe"

What is on your heart
right now—that you
need to trust God for?

What are you worried about?

What are you afraid of?

What are you ashamed of?

What can you not get off your mind?

God is faithful. You can trust Him.

And it is when we believe
that we experience
life in His name!

**But there's
one more invitation
that we see in
John 20:30**

John 20:30

“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.”

**The invitation to
believe that Jesus
is the Messiah
the Son of God.**

Romans 10:9-10

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved."

- 1. Repent of your sins**
- 2. State your belief in the existence of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit**
- 3. Acknowledge that Jesus died for your sins, & was resurrected**
- 4. Accept Jesus as your Savior**
- 5. Confirm your belief that the Bible is the true and perfect Word of God**

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