

FAITH IS—Part-1

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1-BEFORE FAITH

Gal 3:23-27-BUT BEFORE FAITH CAME, WE WERE KEPT UNDER THE LAW, SHUT UP UNTO THE FAITH WHICH SHOULD AFTERWARDS BE REVEALED. WHEREFORE THE LAW WAS OUR SCHOOLMASTER TO BRING US UNTO CHRIST, THAT WE MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. BUT AFTER THAT FAITH IS COME, WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER A SCHOOLMASTER (or the Law). FOR YE ARE ALL THE CHILDREN OF GOD BY FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS. FOR AS MANY OF YOU AS HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST HAVE PUT ON CHRIST.

The Law was until John. With the coming of John the Baptist and the revealing of Jesus Christ (the Messiah), Who came in the flesh, came faith. Jesus is the Messiah, Who came to this earth in human form. A person that came to faith in Jesus Christ was no longer under the Law. It is written, Mt 11:13-FOR ALL THE PROPHETS AND THE LAW PROPHESED UNTIL JOHN.

Lk 16:16-THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS WERE UNTIL JOHN: SINCE THAT TIME THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS PREACHED, AND EVERY MAN PRESSETH INTO IT. The mystery and revealing of faith in Jesus Christ is now evident from the time of John. The mystery (the revelation of Jesus Christ) was kept secret since the world began; Ro 16:26-BUT NOW IS MADE MANIFEST (or revealed)...BY THE SCRIPTURES OF THE PROPHETS, ACCORDING TO (or by) THE COMMANDMENT OF THE EVERLASTING GOD, MADE KNOWN TO ALL NATIONS FOR THE OBEEDIENCE OF FAITH (or that all nations might believe and obey-NIV). Ro 3:31-DO WE THEN MAKE VOID THE LAW THROUGH FAITH? GOD FORBID: YEA, WE ESTABLISH THE LAW.

Though faith is come, yet some still try to be saved by the Law. They perish. Those that seek to be made righteous will not attain it, if they seek it through the Law.

Ro 9:32-WHEREFORE? BECAUSE THEY SOUGHT IT NOT BY FAITH, BUT AS IT WERE BY THE WORKS OF THE LAW. FOR THEY STUMBLER AT THAT STUMBLINGSTONE. The stumbling stone is Jesus.

From the time that Adam sinned, the coming of the Messiah had been promised-ref Gen 3:15. Enoch, who lived before the flood, ALSO, THE SEVENTH FROM ADAM, PROPHESED OF THESE, SAYING, BEHOLD, THE LORD COMETH WITH TEN THOUSANDS OF HIS SAINTS-Jude 14.

Up to the time of John and the revealing of Jesus Christ, the "just" lived by faith-ref Hab 2:4. They looked forward to the coming of the promised One, the Messiah.

Since the Messiah has come, has died, has risen from the dead, and now sits at the right hand of God the Father; the just also now SHALL LIVE BY FAITH-Heb 10:38. A person now looks back and knows that Jesus came. He receives Jesus Christ by faith as his only hope of salvation. The person now also looks forward, knowing that this same Jesus shall return.

2-STATISTICS

In the Old Testament, the word "faith" only appears two times. In Deut 32:20, it relates to prophecy during the Tribulation period; as it is written, THEY ARE A VERY FROWARD GENERATION, CHILDREN IN WHOM IS NO FAITH.

The other verse is in Hab 2:4-**BUT THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY HIS FAITH.**

The word "faith" appears in the New Testament approximately 243 times.

3-THE WEIGHTIER MATTERS OF THE LAW

Faith is called a "weightier matter of the Law."

Mt 23:23-WOE UNTO YOU, SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES! FOR YE PAY TITHE OF MINT AND ANISE AND CUMMIN, AND HAVE **OMITTED THE WEIGHTIER MATTERS OF THE LAW**, JUDGMENT, MERCY, AND **FAITH**: THESE OUGHT YE TO HAVE DONE.

4-INTRODUCTION

God's Word tells us in Eph 2:8,9-FOR BY GRACE ARE YE **SAVED THROUGH FAITH**; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD: NOT OF WORKS, LEST ANY MAN SHOULD BOAST. The subject of this message is "Faith." Note God's Word, BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED; then we are told by what means this comes about, THROUGH FAITH. We need to examine what faith is, and what grace is.

We read in 1 Jn 5:4-FOR **WHATSOEVER IS BORN OF GOD OVERCOMETH THE WORLD** (then we are told in the same verse how we overcome): AND THIS IS **THE VICTORY THAT OVERCOMETH THE WORLD, EVEN OUR FAITH.**

Heb 10:38-tells us, NOW **THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.**

Ro 1:17-AS IT IS WRITTEN, **THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.**

Gal 3:11-FOR, **THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.**

2 Cor 5:7-(FOR **WE WALK BY FAITH**, NOT BY SIGHT.)

Ro 14:23-**WHATSOEVER IS NOT OF FAITH IS SIN.**

5-WHAT IS FAITH?

The words **THE LAW OF FAITH**, are used in Ro 3:27. Thus, faith is an absolute. **It is a law**, not a theory.

Thus we ask the question: What is faith?

What is this that gives us the victory?

What is this that enables us to overcome the world?

What is this that through it, or as a result of it, we are saved by grace?

What is this in which we are to live by?

What is this that we are to walk by?

What is this that whatsoever is not of faith is sin?

6-DEFINITION

Faith can be termed as trust.

Faith can be termed as reliance.

Faith can be termed as being fully persuaded.

Faith can be termed as being fully confident.

Faith can be termed as believing so deeply that it causes or forces a person to do something. True faith will have evidence.

Faith can be termed as being fully persuaded, relying, and trusting in God without hesitation even to the death of the cross.

Faith can be termed as a total, unwavering trust in Jesus, in the truth of all the Bible and its promises; even when every possible circumstance and evidence appears to be contrary to what is written in God's Word or even when brutally tortured.

Faith can be termed as a comforting hope even when there appears to be no hope, but only darkness or death.

Faith can be termed as being fully persuaded that God works right now.

Faith can be termed as fully believing God's Word as it is written.

Faith is that which can say with total confidence, "I forsake everything for Jesus."

A person can have a wealth of money and friends, yet be miserable. A person can have faith in Jesus with few friends and possessions, yet have joy. On his death bed, the man with everything but Jesus can expect to be afraid within himself; no matter how many may try to comfort him. The man with total confidence in Jesus as his only hope can be on his bed dying, yet have joy. Faith in Jesus Christ is our anchor that sustains us no matter how great the storm—if we keep our eyes on Jesus and if we hold on to our faith without wavering.

We are told in Heb 11:1-NOW **FAITH** (or trusting) **IS THE SUBSTANCE** (or assurance, or being confident, or being sure) **OF THINGS HOPED FOR, THE EVIDENCE** (or the conviction, or being certain, or convinced) **OF THINGS NOT SEEN.**

Faith is **SUBSTANCE**. God's Word tells us, all things are possible to them that believe-ref Mk 9:23. The Bible shows us that mountains can be moved by faith-ref Mt 17:20. The next words tell us, **FAITH...THE SUBSTANCE** - of what? - **OF THINGS HOPED FOR**. And then the verse continues to tell us that, **FAITH IS...THE EVIDENCE OF THINGS NOT SEEN**. Faith is substance and evidence. Faith is a shield. You have a shield as the result of faith. Faith and love is a breastplate. You have a breastplate as a result of faith and love.

Eph 6:16-**THE SHIELD OF FAITH**, WHEREWITH YE SHALL BE ABLE TO QUENCH ALL THE FIERY DARTS OF THE WICKED.

1 Thes 5:8 tells us, **BUT LET US, WHO ARE OF THE DAY, BE SOBER, PUTTING ON THE BREASTPLATE OF FAITH AND LOVE.**

7-DEGREES OF FAITH

The Scriptures show that people have various types of faith, which include: no faith, little faith, and great faith. There is also faith that is false.

8-NO FAITH, DEAD FAITH, OR VAIN FAITH

Some have no faith. It is written, 2 Thes 3:2-FOR **ALL MEN HAVE NOT FAITH.**

Others deny the faith by what they do or not do. It is written, 1 Tim 5:8-**BUT IF ANY PROVIDE NOT FOR HIS OWN, AND SPECIALLY FOR THOSE OF HIS OWN HOUSE, HE HATH DENIED THE FAITH, AND IS WORSE THAN AN INFIDEL.**

Some are reprobate concerning the faith. It is written, 2 Tim 3:8-NOW AS **JANNES AND JAMBRES WITHSTOOD MOSES, SO DO THESE ALSO RESIST THE TRUTH**: MEN OF CORRUPT MINDS, **REPROBATE CONCERNING THE FAITH.**

1 Cor 15:14-AND IF CHRIST BE NOT RISEN, THEN IS OUR PREACHING VAIN, AND **YOUR FAITH IS ALSO VAIN** (or useless).

Regarding the incident in Mt 8:23-27, where the boat that the disciples were in was about to sink, it is written, Mk 4:40-AND HE (Jesus) SAID UNTO THEM, WHY ARE YE SO **FEARFUL**? HOW IS IT THAT YE HAVE **NO FAITH**? Here "no faith" can be termed as having so much fearfulness that it overwhelms the faith that a person has. It may be said that a person has one measure of faith, but also one measure of fear. One minus one, equals "zero" faith.

Deut 32:20-FOR THEY ARE A VERY FROWARD GENERATION, CHILDREN IN WHOM IS **NO FAITH**.

Ja 2:20,26-BUT WILT THOU KNOW, O VAIN MAN, THAT **FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD**? Note the wording, in that it asks the question, WILT THOU KNOW? It asks the question, "Are you willing to recognize?"-NASB. The question is asked of the "vain man." It is asked of the "foolish fellow" in the NAS. Is the vain or foolish man able or willing to recognize that faith without works is dead?

FOR AS THE BODY WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS DEAD, SO **FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD ALSO**. These words are addressed to believers.

Many people claim they have faith, but there is neither any evidence, fruit or works to demonstrate the existence of faith. Their faith is dead, as it is not accompanied **by works**.

It is written, Ja 2:14-26-**WHAT DOTHT IT PROFIT, MY BRETHREN**, THOUGH A MAN SAY HE HATH FAITH, AND HAVE NOT WORKS? **CAN FAITH SAVE HIM?**

IF A BROTHER OR SISTER BE NAKED, AND DESTITUTE OF DAILY FOOD, AND ONE OF YOU SAY UNTO THEM, DEPART IN PEACE, BE YE WARMED AND FILLED; NOTWITHSTANDING YE GIVE THEM NOT THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE NEEDFUL TO THE BODY; WHAT DOTHT IT PROFIT?

EVEN SO **FAITH, IF IT HATH NOT WORKS, IS DEAD, BEING ALONE**.

YEA, A MAN MAY SAY, THOU HAST FAITH, AND I HAVE WORKS: SHEW ME THY FAITH WITHOUT THY WORKS, AND **I WILL SHEW THEE MY FAITH BY MY WORKS** (or by what I do).

THOU BELIEVEST THAT THERE IS ONE GOD; THOU DOEST WELL: **THE DEVILS ALSO BELIEVE, AND TREMBLE**.

BUT **WILT THOU KNOW**, O VAIN MAN, THAT **FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD**?

WAS NOT ABRAHAM OUR FATHER **JUSTIFIED BY WORKS**, WHEN HE HAD OFFERED ISAAC HIS SON UPON THE ALTAR?

SEEST THOU HOW **FAITH WROUGHT WITH HIS WORKS, AND BY WORKS WAS FAITH MADE PERFECT**?

AND THE SCRIPTURE WAS FULFILLED WHICH SAITH, ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS IMPUTED UNTO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS: AND HE WAS CALLED THE FRIEND OF GOD.

YE SEE THEN HOW THAT **BY WORKS A MAN IS JUSTIFIED, AND NOT BY FAITH ONLY**.

LIKEWISE ALSO WAS NOT RAHAB THE HARLOT **JUSTIFIED BY WORKS**, WHEN SHE HAD RECEIVED THE MESSENGERS, AND HAD SENT THEM OUT ANOTHER WAY?

FOR AS *THE BODY WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS DEAD*, SO **FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD ALSO**.

Thus, there are people that have no faith, and there are people that have dead faith.

The message is clear. It is written, Heb 11:6-BUT **WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM**: FOR HE THAT COMETH TO GOD **MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS**, AND **THAT HE IS A REWARDER OF THEM THAT DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM**.

The Scriptures show us many ways that we can please God; however, every single one of them must be built upon one single word. That word is "faith." That faith must be in the Jesus of the Bible, revealed from Genesis to the Revelation.

LITTLE FAITH OR WEAK FAITH

9-TAKE NO THOUGHT

Regarding little faith, it is written, Mt 6:30-WHEREFORE, IF GOD SO CLOTHE THE GRASS OF THE FIELD, WHICH TO DAY IS, AND TO MORROW IS CAST INTO THE OVEN, SHALL HE NOT MUCH MORE CLOTHE YOU, O YE OF **LITTLE FAITH**? Here "little faith" is portrayed in relation to doubting, worrying, or wondering if God will provide those things which are needful, such as food, drink, and clothing.

God's answer for this is, Mt 6:31-34-THEREFORE **TAKE NO THOUGHT, SAYING, WHAT SHALL WE EAT?** OR, WHAT SHALL WE DRINK? OR, WHEREWITHAL SHALL WE BE CLOTHED?

(FOR AFTER ALL THESE THINGS DO THE GENTILES SEEK:) FOR YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER KNOWETH THAT YE HAVE NEED OF ALL THESE THINGS.

BUT **SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD**, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS; AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.

TAKE **THEREFORE NO THOUGHT FOR THE MORROW**: FOR THE MORROW SHALL TAKE THOUGHT FOR THE THINGS OF ITSELF. SUFFICIENT UNTO THE DAY IS THE EVIL THEREOF.

Lk 12:32-**FEAR NOT**, LITTLE FLOCK; FOR IT IS YOUR FATHER'S GOOD PLEASURE TO GIVE YOU THE KINGDOM. (Ref Lk 12:22-32.)

God's remedy is clear.

1. First seek the kingdom of God.
2. Trust completely in God to provide.
3. Do not even think about the situation of food, drink, and clothing.
4. Take no thought for tomorrow.
5. Get rid of fear.

Various situations will come upon the Christian to test or prove their faith, to see if it is genuine.

10-THE SHIP THAT SEEMED LIKE IT WOULD SINK

Regarding "little faith," it is also written:

Mt 8:23-27-AND WHEN HE (Jesus) WAS ENTERED INTO A SHIP, HIS DISCIPLES FOLLOWED HIM.

AND, BEHOLD, THERE AROSE A GREAT TEMPEST IN THE SEA, INSOMUCH THAT THE SHIP WAS COVERED WITH THE WAVES: BUT HE WAS ASLEEP.

AND HIS DISCIPLES CAME TO HIM, AND AWOKE HIM, SAYING, LORD, **SAVE US: WE PERISH.**

AND HE SAITH UNTO THEM, WHY ARE YE **FEARFUL**, O YE OF **LITTLE FAITH**? THEN HE AROSE, AND REBUKED THE WINDS AND THE SEA; AND THERE WAS A GREAT CALM.

BUT THE MEN MARVELLED, SAYING, WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS THIS, **THAT EVEN THE WINDS AND THE SEA OBEY HIM!**

Lk 8:25-AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, **WHERE IS YOUR FAITH?** AND **THEY BEING AFRAID** WONDERED, SAYING ONE TO ANOTHER, WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS THIS! FOR HE COMMANDETH EVEN THE WINDS AND WATER, AND THEY OBEY HIM.

The disciples were afraid that their ship would sink because of the wind and waves. This is symbolic of the many things that the Christian goes through or that come against the Christian. Sometimes these seem to cover the Christian, and it seems as if there is no hope. Here "little faith" is shown to be the same as doubting, because of fearfulness.

Jesus was in control all along. *Their faith was being tested to see how they would react.* No matter what difficulty or problem comes against a Christian, Jesus is in control and can rebuke the most difficult situations or problems, or provide a way to escape-ref 1 Cor 10:13. Sometimes it may be the Lord's will that we go through a very difficult experience, but He promises to be with us in trouble-ref Ps 66:11,12; Ps 91:15; Isa 43:2.

Some in the boat appear to have had "little faith" while others may have had "no faith"-ref Mk 4:40.

11-WALKING ON THE WATER

Regarding "little faith," it is also written:

Mt 14:29-32-AND HE (Jesus) SAID, COME. AND WHEN PETER WAS COME DOWN OUT OF THE SHIP, HE WALKED ON THE WATER, TO GO TO JESUS.

BUT WHEN HE SAW THE WIND BOISTEROUS, **HE WAS AFRAID**; AND **BEGINNING TO SINK**, HE CRIED, SAYING, **LORD, SAVE ME.**

AND IMMEDIATELY JESUS STRETCHED FORTH HIS HAND, AND CAUGHT HIM, AND SAID UNTO HIM, O THOU OF **LITTLE FAITH**, WHEREFORE DIDST **THOU DOUBT?**

AND WHEN THEY WERE COME INTO THE SHIP, THE WIND CEASED.

Peter trusted in Jesus. He walked on the water. But then he got his eyes off Jesus and began to look at the wind, or we may say, he began to look at his circumstances rather than at Jesus. Because he got his eyes off Jesus, fear set in. He began to be afraid. He began to doubt.

Because he began to be afraid, and doubt, and got his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink. Nevertheless, he called out to Jesus, and Jesus saved him. Jesus told him, "O thou of little faith."

When a Christian has his eyes fixed on Jesus, he walks in faith. But when he begins to look at the difficult situations and gets his eyes off Jesus, fear and doubt can set in. His faith can begin to be like a wave. Because of the fear and doubt, his faith can be called "little." But when he again fixed his eyes back on Jesus alone as his only hope, Jesus saved him from drowning. When a person calls on Jesus in faith, Jesus can be expected to help no matter what the problem.

12-THE WITHERED FIG TREE

Mt 21:18-21-NOW IN THE MORNING AS HE RETURNED INTO THE CITY, HE HUNGERED.

AND WHEN HE SAW A FIG TREE IN THE WAY, HE CAME TO IT, AND FOUND NOTHING THEREON, BUT LEAVES ONLY, AND SAID UNTO IT, LET NO FRUIT GROW ON THEE HENCEFORWARD FOR EVER. AND PRESENTLY THE FIG TREE WITHERED AWAY.

AND WHEN THE DISCIPLES SAW IT, THEY MARVELLED, SAYING, HOW SOON IS THE FIG TREE WITHERED AWAY!

JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THEM, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, IF **YE HAVE FAITH, AND DOUBT NOT**, YE SHALL NOT ONLY DO THIS WHICH IS DONE TO THE FIG TREE, BUT ALSO IF YE SHALL SAY UNTO THIS MOUNTAIN, BE THOU REMOVED, AND BE THOU CAST INTO THE SEA; IT SHALL BE DONE.

Again, doubt is related to having weak or little faith. Therefore, doubt may be said to be the enemy of strong faith, and strong faith may be said to be faith without any doubt.

13-THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES

Regarding "little faith," it is also written:

Mt 16:6-12-THEN JESUS SAID UNTO THEM, TAKE HEED AND BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES AND OF THE SADDUCEES.

AND *THEY REASONED* AMONG THEMSELVES, SAYING, IT IS BECAUSE WE HAVE TAKEN NO BREAD.

WHICH WHEN JESUS PERCEIVED, HE SAID UNTO THEM, **O YE OF LITTLE FAITH**, WHY REASON YE AMONG YOURSELVES, BECAUSE YE HAVE BROUGHT NO BREAD?

DO YE NOT YET UNDERSTAND, NEITHER REMEMBER THE FIVE LOAVES OF THE FIVE THOUSAND, AND HOW MANY BASKETS YE TOOK UP?

NEITHER THE SEVEN LOAVES OF THE FOUR THOUSAND, AND HOW MANY BASKETS YE TOOK UP?

HOW IS IT THAT *YE DO NOT UNDERSTAND* THAT I SPAKE IT NOT TO YOU CONCERNING BREAD, THAT YE SHOULD BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES AND OF THE SADDUCEES?

THEN UNDERSTOOD THEY HOW THAT HE BADE THEM NOT BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN OF BREAD, BUT OF THE DOCTRINE OF THE PHARISEES AND OF THE SADDUCEES.

Little faith here is related to several things.

1. They did not understand. They had a lack of understanding.

2. They had wrong thoughts.
3. They were reasoning among themselves as a result.
4. They forgot certain things.

They did not understand that Jesus did not speak to them concerning the bread, but that the bread was used to convey another message. That other message was that they should be on their guard against the spread of the false teachings of the Pharisees and Sadducees, which can spread like leaven or yeast.

Thus we may say, little understanding equals little faith.

The words "weak in faith" are used in the following verses:

Ro 14:1-HIM THAT IS **WEAK IN THE FAITH** RECEIVE YE, BUT NOT TO DOUBTFUL DISPUTATIONS.

Ro 4:19-AND **BEING NOT WEAK IN FAITH**, HE CONSIDERED NOT HIS OWN BODY NOW DEAD, WHEN HE WAS ABOUT AN HUNDRED YEARS OLD, NEITHER YET THE DEADNESS OF SARAH'S WOMB.

14-FAITH IS NOT TO BE A WAVE OR DOUBLE-MINDED

Some people have faith that is like a wave. It goes in and out. One moment they are fully persuaded; and the next moment they doubt. One moment they are committed to obeying God; and the next moment they are unsure. One moment they have enough faith in Jesus to go overseas to become a missionary. Then the next moment, they do not have enough faith to witness to their neighbor. One moment they have faith enough in Jesus to serve God fulltime; but then the problems set in, and their faith becomes like a wave. Their faith fails. They shrink back.

Their faith is like a wave that is driven with the wind. One moment they believe this way, but then they change their mind and do not believe. As the rains descend, and the floods come, and the winds blow against them, they fall-ref Mt 7:26,27. Their faith fails as problems, persecutions, false doctrines, deceptions, unbiblical desires, cares of this world, the pleasures of this world, the lusts of other things, the deception of riches and other things come against them.

God wants us to be a person that is Heb 10:23-WITHOUT WAVERING; and Ja 1:6-NOTHING WAVERING.

Ja 1:6-8-FOR HE THAT WAVERETH IS LIKE A WAVE OF THE SEA **DRIVEN WITH THE WIND AND TOSSED**. FOR LET NOT THAT MAN THINK THAT HE SHALL RECEIVE ANY THING OF THE LORD. **A DOUBLE MINDED MAN IS UNSTABLE IN ALL HIS WAYS**.

The message is clear. A person with faith like a wave is not pleasing to God.

Heb 10:23-LET US **HOLD FAST THE PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH WITHOUT WAVERING**; (FOR HE IS FAITHFUL THAT PROMISED;).

GREAT FAITH, FULL OF FAITH, SOUND IN FAITH, AND OTHERS

15-THE WOMAN OF CANAAN

Mt 15:22-28-AND, BEHOLD, A WOMAN OF CANAAN CAME OUT OF THE SAME COASTS, AND **CRIED** UNTO HIM, **SAYING, HAVE MERCY ON ME**, O LORD, THOU SON OF DAVID; MY DAUGHTER IS GRIEVOUSLY VEXED WITH A DEVIL. BUT *HE ANSWERED HER NOT A WORD*. AND HIS DISCIPLES CAME AND BESOUGHT HIM, SAYING, *SEND HER AWAY*; FOR SHE CRIETH AFTER US. BUT HE ANSWERED AND SAID, *I AM NOT SENT BUT UNTO THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL*. THEN CAME **SHE AND WORSHIPPED HIM**, SAYING, **LORD, HELP ME**. BUT HE ANSWERED AND SAID, *IT IS NOT MEET TO TAKE THE CHILDREN'S BREAD, AND TO CAST IT TO DOGS*. AND **SHE SAID, TRUTH, LORD: YET THE DOGS EAT OF THE CRUMBS WHICH FALL FROM THEIR MASTERS' TABLE**. THEN JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HER, O WOMAN, **GREAT IS THY FAITH**: BE IT UNTO THEE EVEN AS THOU WILT. AND HER DAUGHTER WAS MADE WHOLE FROM THAT VERY HOUR.

A woman of Canaan came to Jesus asking for mercy and help for her daughter. She acknowledged that He is the Christ, by saying, "Thou son of David." At first, Jesus ignored her. The disciples told Jesus to send her away. Jesus told her that He was sent unto the lost sheep of Israel. What did she do? Did she leave, being discouraged and bitter? Did she get angry? No. She did not give up. She worshipped Him and again asked for help. Her faith was being tested. Jesus then told her that it was not right to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs. In essence, Jesus was calling her a dog. What did she do? Did she leave, being discouraged and bitter? Did she get angry? No. She did not give up. She replied back to Jesus that what He said was true. She admitted she was a dog. Then she replied that even the dogs eat of the crumbs that fall from their master's table. Her faith had been proven to be strong and sincere. She had a right attitude. Jesus then replied to her, "O WOMAN, **GREAT IS THY FAITH**." He then told her that her request is granted. It may be noted that "great faith" is credited to her as she did not become easily offended, bitter, or discouraged at what other people said or with what Jesus said. She was persistent in believing that Jesus would grant her what she requested.

16-THE CENTURION

Regarding "the greatest faith," it is written:

Lk 7:2-10-AND A CERTAIN CENTURION'S SERVANT, WHO WAS DEAR UNTO HIM, WAS SICK, AND READY TO DIE. AND WHEN HE HEARD OF JESUS, HE SENT UNTO HIM THE ELDERS OF THE JEWS, BESEECHING HIM THAT HE WOULD COME AND HEAL HIS SERVANT.

AND WHEN THEY CAME TO JESUS, THEY BESOUGHT HIM INSTANTLY, SAYING, **THAT HE WAS WORTHY FOR WHOM HE SHOULD DO THIS**:

FOR **HE LOVETH OUR NATION, AND HE HATH BUILT US A SYNAGOGUE**.

THEN JESUS WENT WITH THEM. AND WHEN HE WAS NOW NOT FAR FROM THE HOUSE, THE CENTURION SENT FRIENDS TO HIM, SAYING UNTO HIM, LORD, TROUBLE NOT THYSELF: **FOR I AM NOT WORTHY THAT THOU SHOULDEST ENTER UNDER MY ROOF**:

WHEREFORE **NEITHER THOUGHT I MYSELF WORTHY TO COME UNTO THEE: BUT SAY IN A WORD, AND MY SERVANT SHALL BE HEALED**.

FOR **I ALSO AM A MAN SET UNDER AUTHORITY**, HAVING UNDER ME SOLDIERS, AND I SAY UNTO ONE, GO, AND HE GOETH; AND TO ANOTHER, COME, AND HE COMETH; AND TO MY SERVANT, DO THIS, AND HE DOETH IT.

WHEN JESUS HEARD THESE THINGS, HE MARVELLED AT HIM, AND TURNED HIM ABOUT, AND SAID UNTO THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOWED HIM, I SAY UNTO YOU, I HAVE NOT FOUND SO **GREAT FAITH**, NO, NOT IN ISRAEL. AND THEY THAT WERE SENT, RETURNING TO THE HOUSE, FOUND THE SERVANT WHOLE THAT HAD BEEN SICK. (Also ref Mt 8:5-10.)

This "greatest" faith is related to this centurion. Certain things are evident here in relation to this "greatest" faith.

1. He had shown that he loved Israel beforehand by what he did.
2. He was humble. He did not consider himself worthy.
3. He totally trusted that Jesus would heal his servant.
4. He totally trusted and was fully persuaded that Jesus could do it simply by speaking it.
5. He understood the subject of authority and recognized the authority that Jesus had and was under. (Note: this subject is not understood by many people.)

It was this man that had the "greatest faith."

Mt 21:21 tells us, IF YE HAVE FAITH, AND DOUBT NOT, the result is, you have:

Mt 8:10-**GREAT FAITH**.

Now, faith without doubt is Acts 11:24-**FULL OF...FAITH**.

Acts 6:5,8 tells us of Stephen, a man **FULL OF FAITH**. (Also ref Acts 11:24.)

Faith that does not go back and forth as a wave, is being Ro 4:20-**STRONG IN FAITH**.

God wants you to be Titus 1:13-**SOUND IN THE FAITH**, and Titus 2:2-**SOUND IN FAITH**.

Heb 10:22, speaks of the **FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH**.

Ja 2:5, speaks of God choosing the poor of the world being **RICH IN FAITH**, AND HEIRS OF THE KINGDOM WHICH HE HATH PROMISED TO THEM THAT LOVE HIM?

Col 2:5-THE **STEDFASTNESS OF YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST**.

2 Pe 1:1-TO THEM THAT HAVE OBTAINED LIKE **PRECIOUS FAITH WITH US**.

1 Tim 1:5-AND OF A GOOD CONSCIENCE, AND OF **FAITH UNFEIGNED** (or **sincere faith**).

2 Tim 1:5-WHEN I CALL TO REMEMBRANCE THE **UNFEIGNED FAITH** (or **sincere trust**) THAT IS IN THEE.

Jude 20-BUT YE, BELOVED, BUILDING UP YOURSELVES ON YOUR MOST **HOLY FAITH**.

17-ABRAHAM

Abraham was "not weak in faith." It is written:

Ro 4:19-AND BEING **NOT WEAK IN FAITH**, HE CONSIDERED NOT HIS OWN BODY NOW DEAD, WHEN HE WAS ABOUT AN HUNDRED YEARS OLD, NEITHER YET THE DEADNESS OF SARAH'S WOMB.

And Ro 4:21-Abraham, BEING **FULLY PERSUADED THAT, WHAT HE (God) HAD PROMISED, HE WAS ABLE ALSO TO PERFORM**.

Is your faith strong enough to motivate you to serve God? Are you fully persuaded as Abraham was? It was said of Abraham in Ro 4:20-**HE STAGGERED NOT AT THE PROMISE OF GOD THROUGH UNBELIEF; BUT WAS STRONG IN FAITH, GIVING GLORY TO GOD**.

18-GREAT FAITH IS

All of these combined give us a good definition of "**great faith**."

- A person acknowledges that Jesus is the Christ.
- Jesus appears to ignore this person, but she does not become discouraged.
- Other followers of Jesus try to discourage this person, but she does not become discouraged.
- It seems as if Jesus will not help this person, but she does not become discouraged, angry, bitter, or give up.
- No matter how hopeless the situation looks, this person keeps asking.
- Jesus calls this person a dog, and she admits it is true.
- Jesus calls this person a dog, but she does not give up, or become angry, or bitter.
- No matter how hopeless it seems, this person keeps a right attitude; an attitude that reflects the fruit of the Spirit.
- A person loves Israel.
- This person has a humble and meek attitude.
- This person considers himself unworthy.
- This person totally trusts in the Jesus of the Bible.
- This person is fully persuaded regarding Jesus.
- This person is positive that all the Bible is the Word of God and believes all the Bible as it is written.
- This person understands the subject of authority, the chain of command, from God the Father and down.
- A person does not have any doubt.
- A person's faith is not like a wave.
- A person has the full assurance of faith.
- No matter how hopeless the situation is, the person's fear does not cause him to diminish in trusting God in any way.
- A person has a good understanding of the whole counsel of God.
- A person obeys the Gospel.
- A person casts down wrong thoughts.
- A person does not forget the works of God, both in what the Word says and by what God does for that person.
- A person keeps their eyes on Jesus no matter what comes against them.
- A person's faith is centered in Jesus and Jesus alone.

- The person first seeks the kingdom of God.
 - The person trusts completely in God to provide.
 - The person does not worry about not having food, drink, and clothing.
 - The person takes no thought for tomorrow.
 - The person gets rid of fear.
 - The person's faith is accompanied with the works of God.
 - The person does not stagger regarding the promises of God.
- GREAT FAITH-Mt 8:10
 - FULL OF...FAITH-Acts 11:24
 - STRONG IN FAITH-Ro 4:20
 - SOUND IN...FAITH-Titus 1:13; 2:2
 - FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH-Heb 10:22
 - RICH IN FAITH-Ja 2:5
 - STEDFAST OF...FAITH-Col 2:5
 - PRECIOUS FAITH-2 Pe 1:1
 - UNFEIGNED FAITH-2 Tim 1:5; ref 1 Tim 1:5
 - SINCERE FAITH-1 Tim 1:5; 2 Tim 1:5 NIV
 - HOLY FAITH-Jude 20

19-FAITH IS TO BE IN WHOM? ALSO FALSE FAITH

There is much confusion regarding faith in this latter day generation. Some regard faith as a tool or a formula one follows to get whatever they want from God. Some think using faith will get them a thirty, sixty or hundred fold return. Some think that they can speak whatever they will, and it will come to pass because of faith. They base this on Mk 11:23. Some think they can control God and persuade Him to do "their" will by applying the principle of faith. Some put their faith in what they say, or in a preacher or denomination, or in themselves, or their government, or their doctor, or other things. The list could go on and on. The power, the confidence, and the blessing that comes from "faith" is not in the faith itself, as some would have you to believe. Rather, it is in the divine object of our faith. There is only one faith. We read, in Eph 4:5, that there is ONE FAITH. Faith that is centered on anything or anyone other than Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone is false faith. We are to Gal 2:20-LIVE BY THE FAITH. One might therefore ask, "What faith are we to live by?" Please note the list of study verses below:

20-WHAT FAITH?

Rev 14:12-THE FAITH OF JESUS
 Acts 3:16-FAITH IN HIS NAME
 Acts 20:21-FAITH TOWARD OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
 Acts 24:24-FAITH IN CHRIST
 Eph 1:15-FAITH IN THE LORD
 Eph 3:12-FAITH OF HIM
 Gal 2:16-FAITH OF CHRIST
 Gal 2:16-FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST
 Gal 2:20-FAITH OF THE SON OF GOD
 Gal 3:22-FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST
 Heb 6:1-FAITH TOWARD GOD
 Ja 2:1-THE FAITH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
 Mk 11:22-FAITH IN GOD
 Ro 3:3-FAITH OF GOD
 Phili 1:27 THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL
 Phili 3:9-FAITH OF CHRIST
 Rev 14:12-THE FAITH OF JESUS
 1 Tim 3:13-FAITH WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS

A person's faith is to be centered in the person of Jesus Christ. It is not to be centered in our own words, in the words of others, or in so many other things that are preached. In Jesus alone is where our total faith is to be centered. Beware of anyone that tries to make up new, unscriptural doctrines that would in any way be contrary to this teaching. Many have taken one or two verses of Scripture and created entire, unbiblical doctrines that sound good, if many other verses are ignored. God forbid, these mislead multitudes. The whole counsel of God needs to be considered, not just one or two verses taken out of context.

This is the "only" faith. Any faith in any other is false faith. Some put their faith in the Catholic Church or some other denomination. Some put their faith in unbiblical teachings. Some put their faith in "so-called" prophets or apostles of this generation. Some put their faith in people that do miracles or healings. Some put their faith in people that say, "God spoke to me or gave me a dream." Some put their faith in people that give them items or money. The list seems almost endless.

Again, there is only one place to put your faith. That is in the Person of Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son.

Jesus said, Jn 14:6-I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE: NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER, BUT BY ME.

21-WHERE DOES FAITH COME FROM?

Where does this faith come from? The answer is in Ro 10:17-SO THEN FAITH COMETH BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD. In other words, faith comes by hearing God's Word, the Bible. Let this be said again. *FAITH COMES ONLY FROM GOD'S WORD, THE BIBLE.*

While stories may sound nice, **it is God's Word that builds faith.** It is God's Word that we build our hope upon. It is written, 2 Tim 3:15-**THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, WHICH ARE ABLE TO MAKE THEE WISE UNTO SALVATION.** We read in:

Gal 3:2-**THE HEARING OF FAITH**

Gal 3:5-**THE HEARING OF FAITH**

Ro 10:8-**THE WORD OF FAITH** (or the Word about trust)

1 Tim 4:6-**WORDS OF FAITH**

Heb 12:2-**JESUS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH**

Col 2:12-**BURIED WITH HIM (with Jesus) IN BAPTISM, WHEREIN ALSO YE ARE RISEN WITH HIM THROUGH THE FAITH OF THE OPERATION OF GOD, WHO HATH RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD.**

Faith comes by hearing and from reading and studying God's Word.

Faith also comes from understanding and understanding from faith-ref Mt 13:19; Lk 8:10; Isa 6:10; Mk 4:12.

1 Tim 4:13-**GIVE ATTENDANCE TO READING.** To put it plainly, "Read your Bible."

A PERSON'S FAITH CANNOT EXCEED THE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING HE HAS OF GOD'S WORD.

FAITH IS BUILT UPON GOD'S WORD. IT IS BUILT UPON THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF GOD'S WORD HE HAS HEARD OR READ, COMBINED WITH THE CORRECT UNDERSTANDING HE HAS OF THAT WORD.

Often-times, a preacher will give "his" understanding of certain passages in the Bible, and they are incorrect. When this happens, other people can be deceived.

- THE WORD GOES INTO THE HEART.
- THE WORD CAN BE TAKEN OUT OF THE HEART.
- THE WORD CAN BE MISUNDERSTOOD BY THE HEART BECAUSE OF MANY FACTORS.
- THE AMOUNT OF CORRECT UNDERSTANDING THAT REMAINS CAN BE TRANSLATED INTO FAITH.
- THE AMOUNT OF INCORRECT UNDERSTANDING THAT EXISTS CAN BE TRANSLATED INTO FALSE FAITH OR DECEIVED FAITH.

22-DOES HEARING AND STUDYING GOD'S WORD ALWAYS PRODUCE FAITH?

Does hearing and studying God's Word always produce faith? The answer is, no. Faith must come forth from God's Word; however, in many cases, the person has a wayside heart. When God's Word comes forth, the type of heart the person has will affect how he reacts to the Bible.

It is written, Mk 4:15-**AND THESE ARE THEY BY THE WAY SIDE, WHERE THE WORD IS SOWN; BUT WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD, SATAN COMETH IMMEDIATELY, AND TAKETH AWAY THE WORD THAT WAS SOWN IN THEIR HEARTS.** In this situation, Satan can take the Word out of a person's heart as fast as it goes in. Thus, no faith is produced. The person does not believe in his heart. Note, there are also other kinds of hearts.

Does hearing and studying God's Word always profit a person? The answer is, no. The Word needs to be mixed with faith in order to be profitable.

It is written, Heb 4:2-**FOR UNTO US WAS THE GOSPEL PREACHED, AS WELL AS UNTO THEM: BUT THE WORD PREACHED DID NOT PROFIT THEM, NOT BEING MIXED WITH FAITH IN THEM THAT HEARD IT.**

When a person hears or studies God's Word, does he always understand it? The answer is, no.

It is written, Lk 10:21-**IN THAT HOUR JESUS REJOICED IN SPIRIT, AND SAID, I THANK THEE, O FATHER, LORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, THAT THOU HAST HID THESE THINGS FROM THE WISE AND PRUDENT, AND HAST REVEALED THEM UNTO BABES: EVEN SO, FATHER; FOR SO IT SEEMED GOOD IN THY SIGHT.** (Also ref Mt 11:25,26.)

Regarding God's children, understanding comes forth according to many factors. A person that studies diligently should gain much more understanding from God than a person that does not.

Many factors can hinder a person's understanding. Pride; greed; covetousness; unrepentant sin; a person's emotions; personal desires; lusts; a person's heart; wrong traditions of the people, the church, and nations; and many other things can hamper a person's understanding.

In addition, faith could be present, but the person may be so full of hate, bitterness, and unforgiveness that no love comes forth. Thus, his faith means nothing.

It is written, Gal 5:6-**FOR IN JESUS CHRIST NEITHER CIRCUMCISION AVAILETH ANY THING, NOR UNCIRCUMCISION; BUT FAITH WHICH WORKETH BY LOVE.** Faith and love need to go hand in hand. If a person does not have love, they are nothing.

It is written, 1 Cor 13:2-**AND THOUGH I HAVE ALL FAITH...AND HAVE NOT CHARITY (or love), I AM NOTHING.**

23-THE TEACHINGS IN TODAY'S CHURCHES

Some people call themselves "faith preachers." Such a term is not used in the Bible. It can be very misleading.

Many preachers in today's generation are superb storytellers. They tell stories about their families, what happened to themselves, their relatives, their friends, their possessions, and other stories that they have heard. It is very common in this generation for a person to know far more about their preacher than they know about God. This is because the preacher spends more time telling stories in the pulpit, as well as a lack of personal Bible study on the part of the people.

The Scriptures tell us to, 2 Tim 4:2-**PREACH THE WORD; BE INSTANT IN SEASON, OUT OF SEASON.**

Stories can be very entertaining and can attract the carnally-minded person; however, a person's faith cannot stand on such things. **A person's faith can only stand on God's pure Word.**

The entire Bible should be preached. How many churches can say they have taught every single verse from the entire Bible over the last 15 years?

How many churches can say they teach 50 to 150 verses of Scripture in each service?

God forbid, today's churches are filled with stories that the preacher gives. He may justify this as the right thing to do, because he feels it relates to this or that Scripture.

In addition, many the churches of this generation tell jokes. They get the people laughing. They do all sorts of foolishness to attract

attention. Some of the world's best comedians are in the pulpits of the churches; yet, it is written, Pv 24:9-THE THOUGHT OF FOOLISHNESS IS SIN.

Many of these churches claim to be "Spirit led." To be led of the Spirit of God is to OBEY THE GOSPEL.

24- PREACH THE WORD THE WORD THE WORD

By not teaching God's Word as they ought, they do great harm to the people of the congregation. A PERSON'S FAITH CANNOT EXCEED HIS UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD. Most people throughout the world are biblically illiterate, even though they may go to church two or three times a week. Consider the following. The "MILK OF THE WORD" is basic doctrines. It is not stories. It is not jokes. It is not political affairs. It is the actual words of the Bible, and only the words of the Bible. Consider, a newborn baby requires milk. What if a mother took one part of milk and mixed with it one part of water; and then fed the baby this diet day after day? Soon the baby would begin to get sick. Let us say, that the mother took one part of milk and mixed it with five parts of water. Day after day she fed this to her baby. Soon the baby would get sick and begin to die. A baby needs good, pure milk. It cannot survive long on a diet of a small amount of milk mixed with a lot of water.

So it is with Christians. They **need** the pure milk of **God's Word**. Yet what are many churches teaching? They are teaching community affairs, political affairs, all sorts of stories, and also teach from other books. God forbid!

Some will take two or three or five verses of Scripture and read them. Then they will put the Bible down and begin telling stories about themselves that may or may not relate to the verses. Thus, they give one part of milk and perhaps five or ten parts of water. The new Christians begin to die, because they are not receiving good nourishment from God's Word.

Unfortunately, many people's faith stands in the "wisdom of this world which men teach." It is written, 1 Cor 2:5-**THAT YOUR FAITH SHOULD NOT STAND IN THE WISDOM OF MEN, BUT IN THE POWER OF GOD.**

Why is this done? Why do preachers seem to preach about everything imaginable, except God's Word? Why do they water-down God's Word so much? Why do some preach only certain books of the Bible and leave out others? Why do some churches sing and sing, but teach very little of God's Word? Why are so many people in the churches biblically illiterate, yet the preacher walks away and, in a manner of speaking, wipes his mouth, saying, "I've done no wrong?" Why are so many preachers biblically illiterate when it comes to Bible prophecy? Why do some people pray and pray, but spend very little time studying God's Word? The answer is, of course, that Satan deceives people, and they are not aware they are deceived.

The problem of deception starts with many Bible schools. This is the way the Bible schools often train people. It is unbiblical, yet it still goes on.

Should a preacher wish to convey a story dealing with a certain subject, the story should be the *actual verses* of a story from God's Word; not some watered-down paraphrasing about a Bible story. It is written, 1 Cor 2:13-**WHICH THINGS ALSO WE SPEAK, NOT IN THE WORDS WHICH MAN'S WISDOM TEACHETH, BUT WHICH THE HOLY GHOST TEACHETH; COMPARING SPIRITUAL THINGS WITH SPIRITUAL.** We teach comparing or combining the WORD with the WORD.

Neither should a person listen to a minister that goes on and on with fables. Neither is a preacher to teach these things. It is written, 1 Tim 1:4-**NEITHER GIVE HEED TO FABLES.**

Faith can only be built on God's pure Word. This is one of the reasons people's faith in this generation is lacking or nonexistent. This is the reason Satan does everything possible to deceive the preacher into teaching a compromising message. He does everything possible to put the emphasis on things other than lots of Scripture. This is one reason some churches sing and sing, but are very ignorant of what God's Word says.

Another reason preacher's teach stories with only a small amount of the actual Word, is because it is easier. To teach God's pure Word is going to require much time and study. As it is written, 2 Tim 2:15-**STUDY TO SHEW THYSELF APPROVED UNTO GOD, A WORKMAN THAT NEEDETH NOT TO BE ASHAMED, RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH.**

1 Tim 5:17-**LET THE ELDERS THAT RULE WELL BE COUNTED WORTHY OF DOUBLE HONOUR, ESPECIALLY THEY WHO LABOUR IN THE WORD AND DOCTRINE.** Preachers are not willing to spend hours and hours daily to learn as God would have them do. Many have allowed their "pastoral duties" to take priority over their personal Bible study time.

Another reason preachers teach lots of stories, but very little of God's Word, is that many people prefer and want deception rather than truth. People of this generation do not want sound doctrine. People do not like to hear about sin, repentance, eternal damnation in the lake of fire, that the Rapture is coming very soon, followed by the Tribulation, and that Jesus will return. People want to do "their own will" and think that they will inherit eternal life. Most preachers will gladly preach what the worldly people want to hear so that they might get more people. God forbid. For many preachers, this is their idea of a successful church. Their main concern is toward finances and how to boost their attendance, rather than truth and righteousness before a holy God.

Certainly, most preachers do not want to drive church members away by preaching a lot of God's Word, which would make them feel uncomfortable. Very few preachers have an overwhelming desire to bring forth God's complete Word with the authority, power, and conviction that Jesus did. Heb 4:12-**FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS QUICK, AND POWERFUL, AND SHARPER THAN ANY TWOEDGED SWORD, PIERCING EVEN TO THE DIVIDING ASUNDER OF SOUL AND SPIRIT, AND OF THE JOINTS AND MARROW, AND IS A DISCERNER OF THE THOUGHTS AND INTENTS OF THE HEART.**

25-SATAN IS SUCCEEDING FOR THE MOMENT

Thus, because the actual Word of God is not coming forth from most churches as it ought, God's people are dying spiritually. They are falling. They are biblically illiterate. They are **LUKEWARM**. They are **WRETCHED, AND MISERABLE, AND POOR, AND BLIND, AND NAKED**; yet they do not know their condition-Rev 3:16-17. What will happen to these people? God's Word tells us, **I WILL SPUE THEE OUT OF MY MOUTH**-Rev 3:16.

God's Word tells this church age, **I COUNSEL THEE TO BUY OF ME GOLD TRIED IN THE FIRE, THAT THOU MAYEST BE RICH; AND WHITE RAIMENT, THAT THOU MAYEST BE CLOTHED, AND THAT THE SHAME OF THY NAKEDNESS DO NOT APPEAR; AND ANOINT THINE EYES WITH EYESALVE, THAT THOU MAYEST SEE**-Rev 3:18.

Satan has deceived the church of this generation, and they are so blind that they do not realize it. These Scriptures had to be fulfilled, or we would not be looking for the soon return of Jesus.

Thus, by Satan successfully keeping the people from hearing good, sound doctrine from God's pure Word, he has been successful in deceiving and destroying many. In addition, this is the generation of which it is written:

2 Tim 4:3,4 NIV-FOR THE TIME WILL COME (which is now) WHEN MEN WILL NOT PUT UP WITH SOUND DOCTRINE. INSTEAD, TO SUIT THEIR OWN DESIRES, THEY WILL GATHER AROUND THEM A GREAT NUMBER OF TEACHERS TO SAY WHAT THEIR ITCHING EARS WANT TO HEAR.

THEY WILL TURN THEIR EARS AWAY FROM THE TRUTH AND TURN ASIDE TO MYTHS.

For the few people that can rightly divide God's Word, the Scriptures are crystal clear. This is a fact that the Bible clearly teaches. When the Rapture of the church comes, only a very few people that are claiming they are born-again will be taken. Most will be left behind.

26-SATAN TRIES TO KEEP YOU FROM GROWING IN FAITH

Now we know from the Bible that faith comes from hearing and reading the Word of God. By faith ye stand firm. Thus, Satan will do everything possible to separate you from your faith. Now how can he do this?

Satan accomplishes this by stopping you from reading your Bible and stopping you from going to a church that correctly teaches a lot of Scripture. Satan uses cares of this world. A person may say, "Oh, we've got to do something else." Satan uses deceitfulness of riches, telling us we have to work so much to make a living. He also uses pleasures of this life. A person may say, "Oh, I want to go to the beach or to the mountains. Church? we can do that another time. We can read our Bible another time. Let's have fun and enjoy the pleasures of this life." Satan uses the lusts of other things. Perhaps you want to go on a date with a girl, or you lust after certain things. These draw you away from the Word of God. Satan also uses persecutions. Satan often works through other people to accomplish what he has set out to do. The Scriptures tell us that Satan GOES ABOUT AS A ROARING LION, SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR-1 Pe 5:8.

27-AN EXAMPLE OF FAITH

We have examined the Scriptures for the answers to what faith is. Let us conclude with this account of the apostle Paul.

The year is around 68 A.D. There is a cell in the city of Rome. Upon entering it, we realize there is another cell beneath the one that we are in, and only a small hole in the floor allows one to enter. It is dark and foreboding. This is where Paul spent the last two years of his life, yet he was possibly the greatest example of Christ ever produced by Christianity. He was brilliant, yet he called himself a slave of Jesus. From here, Paul wrote 1st & 2nd Timothy.

A guard lowers a rope through the hole. Paul is told to tie it around himself. Someone says he is about 68 years old. He is called "Paul the aged." His hair is white. His back is bowed and bent. His life has been hard, all for preaching the Gospel.

Paul is thin and emaciated. He is pulled up easily. As he comes out of the hole, his eyes squint in the sunlight. His clothes are rags. The Holy Spirit did not tell us many of these last moments, but it is not difficult to picture in our minds. There was no splendor, riches, or glory. Oh, there were riches and glory, but inwardly. We can almost hear him say, as they walk out into the courtyard, "I AM NOW READY TO BE OFFERED... I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH"-2 Tim 4:6,7. A few minutes later, he is told to drop to his knees. The frail body is stretched over the chopping block. The ax flashes; and his head rolls in the dust. That sir, is faith.

(Please note: this excellent article about Paul was written mostly by Jimmy Swaggart.)

DOCTRINES

FAITH—EXAMINE SELF Part-2

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(Miscellaneous Items On Faith)

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(What Happens As A Result Of Faith?)

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(When Jesus Returns, Shall He Find Faith?)

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3-SHALL THEIR UNBELIEF MAKE GOD'S WORD OF NO EFFECT?

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24-AS A RESULT OF FAITH, THESE PEOPLE DID CERTAIN THINGS

25-THESE DIED IN FAITH

26-WHEN JESUS RETURNS, SHALL HE FIND FAITH?

1-EXAMINE YOURSELVES

The Scriptures tell each person to examine themselves. Test themselves to see if they are really in the faith.

It is written, 2 Cor 13:5-EXAMINE YOURSELVES, WHETHER YE BE IN THE FAITH; PROVE YOUR OWN SELVES. KNOW YE NOT YOUR OWN SELVES, HOW THAT JESUS CHRIST IS IN YOU, EXCEPT YE BE REPROBATES?

2-THEY SOUGHT SALVATION BY WORKS, BUT NOT BY FAITH

Because they sought salvation but not through faith, they perish. There is only one way. It is through faith in Jesus Christ.

Ro 9:32-BECAUSE **THEY SOUGHT IT NOT BY FAITH**...THEY STUMBLER AT THAT STUMBLING-STONE (which is Jesus).

3-SHALL THEIR UNBELIEF MAKE GOD'S WORD OF NO EFFECT?

Many people do not believe the Bible. They do not believe in the Jesus of the Bible.

It is written, Ro 3:3-FOR WHAT IF SOME DID NOT BELIEVE? SHALL THEIR UNBELIEF MAKE THE FAITH OF GOD WITHOUT EFFECT?

4-FAITH IS PRECIOUS AND HOLY

In 2 Pet 1:1, we see the words-PRECIOUS FAITH; and in Jude 20-MOST HOLY FAITH. As God's Word tells us, our faith is to be centered on Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son. True faith is very precious and most holy.

5-THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH

The born-again Christian is to live and walk by faith. As a person's faith grows, their understanding and reliance on Jesus should grow. More and more and ever increasing, the new Christian should live and walk by faith.

2 Cor 5:7-FOR **WE WALK BY FAITH**, NOT BY SIGHT.

Gal 3:11-**THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH**.

Heb 10:38-tells us, **NOW THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH**.

Ro 1:17-AS IT IS WRITTEN, **THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH**.

6-WHATSOEVER IS NOT OF FAITH IS SIN

It is not possible to please God without faith. In addition, whatsoever we do that is not of faith is sin.

It is written, Heb 11:6-BUT WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM.

Ro 14:23-FOR WHATSOEVER IS NOT OF FAITH IS SIN.

7-FAITH PROMPTS US TO SERVE GOD

All of God's people are called to serve Him. We are told in Eph 2:10-FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, Christ's workmanship, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS UNTO GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD HATH BEFORE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM.

So what prompts us to work for Jesus? It is our faith. If a person will not serve Jesus, it is good evidence they have little or no faith. If they are fully committed to serving Jesus and are able to endure much hardships, it can be an indication of much faith.

As Phil 2:17 tells us-the SERVICE OF YOUR FAITH; and 1 Thes 1:3-**YOUR WORK OF FAITH**, or (NIV) **WORK PRODUCED BY FAITH**, YOUR LABOR PROMPTED BY LOVE, AND YOUR ENDURANCE INSPIRED BY HOPE IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

2 Thes 1:11-**THE WORK OF FAITH** (or act **prompted by your faith**-NIV).

2 Cor 4:13-WE HAVING THE SAME SPIRIT OF FAITH, ACCORDING AS IT IS WRITTEN, **I BELIEVED, AND THEREFORE HAVE I SPOKEN**; WE ALSO BELIEVE, AND THEREFORE SPEAK.

Let us not forget that the evidence of salvation is "fruit"-ref Mt 7:20.

8-THE EVIDENCE OF FAITH

Paul wanted to know the people's faith.

Here are given four evidences of a right attitude, which should come forth from faith.

1Thes 3:6-BUT NOW WHEN TIMOTHEUS CAME FROM YOU UNTO US, AND BROUGHT US GOOD TIDINGS OF YOUR **A-FAITH AND**

B-CHARITY (or love),

C-AND THAT YE HAVE GOOD REMEMBRANCE OF US ALWAYS,

D-DESIRING GREATLY TO SEE US, AS WE ALSO TO SEE YOU.

9-SEEING THEIR FAITH

The Scriptures show us that faith can be seen and perceived.

Mt 9:2-AND, BEHOLD, THEY BROUGHT TO HIM A MAN SICK OF THE Palsy, LYING ON A BED: AND JESUS **SEEING THEIR FAITH** SAID UNTO THE SICK OF THE Palsy; SON, BE OF GOOD CHEER; THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE.

Mk 2:5-WHEN JESUS **SAW THEIR FAITH**, HE SAID UNTO THE SICK OF THE Palsy, SON, THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE.

Lk 5:20-AND WHEN HE **SAW THEIR FAITH**, HE SAID UNTO HIM, MAN, THY SINS ARE FORGIVEN THEE.

Acts 14:9-THE SAME HEARD PAUL SPEAK: WHO STEDFASTLY BEHOLDING HIM, AND **PERCEIVING THAT HE HAD FAITH TO BE HEALED.**

10-EVERY PERSON A MEASURE OF FAITH

God gives to every person a measure of faith.

Ro 12:3-FOR I SAY, THROUGH THE GRACE GIVEN UNTO ME, TO EVERY MAN THAT IS AMONG YOU, NOT TO THINK OF HIMSELF MORE HIGHLY THAN HE OUGHT TO THINK; BUT TO THINK SOBERLY, ACCORDING AS GOD HATH **DEALT TO EVERY MAN THE MEASURE OF FAITH.**

Ro 12:6-HAVING THEN GIFTS DIFFERING ACCORDING TO THE GRACE THAT IS GIVEN TO US, WHETHER PROPHECY, LET US PROPHECY ACCORDING TO THE **PROPORTION OF FAITH.**

It may be said, when combining all the Scriptures on "faith," that it is of God and depends solely on the initial moving of God. It involves the Divine influence upon an individual's heart and then the individual's response to receive God's Word into his heart by faith.

11-LOVE WITH FAITH

Over and over, the Scriptures combine faith and love together. Love is so important that no matter how much faith a person has, if he does not have love, he is nothing. No matter how much faith a person has, if they do not love God and their brothers in Christ, they are not saved. The Scriptures convey to us that God's children are to also love their enemies. Love is so important that the Scriptures tell us that faith works by love.

Gal 5:6-FOR IN JESUS CHRIST NEITHER CIRCUMCISION AVAILETH ANY THING, NOR UNCIRCUMCISION; **BUT FAITH WHICH WORKETH BY LOVE.**

The person that does not have love is nothing. It is written, 1 Cor 13:2-AND THOUGH I HAVE THE GIFT OF PROPHECY, AND UNDERSTAND ALL MYSTERIES, AND ALL KNOWLEDGE; AND **THOUGH I HAVE ALL FAITH, SO THAT I COULD REMOVE MOUNTAINS, AND HAVE NOT CHARITY (or love), I AM NOTHING.**

Note how the following verses combine love and faith in various ways.

Col 1:4-SINCE WE HEARD OF YOUR **FAITH** IN CHRIST JESUS, **AND OF THE LOVE** WHICH YE HAVE TO ALL THE SAINTS.

Eph 1:15-WHEREFORE I ALSO, AFTER I HEARD OF YOUR **FAITH** IN THE LORD JESUS, **AND LOVE** UNTO ALL THE SAINTS.

Eph 3:17-THAT **CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS BY FAITH**; THAT YE, BEING **ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE.**

Eph 6:23-PEACE BE TO THE BRETHREN, AND **LOVE WITH FAITH**, FROM GOD THE FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Phile 1:5-HEARING OF THY **LOVE AND FAITH**, WHICH THOU HAST TOWARD THE LORD JESUS, AND TOWARD ALL SAINTS.

1Thes 5:8-BUT LET US, WHO ARE OF THE DAY, BE SOBER, PUTTING ON THE BREASTPLATE **OF FAITH AND LOVE**; AND FOR AN HELMET, THE HOPE OF SALVATION.

1 Tim 1:14-AND THE GRACE OF OUR LORD WAS EXCEEDING ABUNDANT WITH **FAITH AND LOVE** WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS.

Titus 3:15-ALL THAT ARE WITH ME SALUTE THEE. GREET THEM THAT **LOVE US IN THE FAITH.**

12-REPENTANCE AND FAITH

The Scriptures also connect repentance and faith together.

Acts 20:21-TESTIFYING BOTH TO THE JEWS, AND ALSO TO THE GREEKS, **REPENTANCE TOWARD GOD, AND FAITH TOWARD OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

13-OBEDIENCE

Obedience is a result or product of faith (obedience of faith). We may expect if there is little faith, there will be little obedience. In place of little obedience, often comes many excuses.

Ro 16:26-ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDMENT OF THE EVERLASTING GOD, MADE KNOWN TO ALL NATIONS FOR (or leading to) THE **OBEDIENCE OF FAITH.**

God would have us to be "obedient to the faith." Indeed, we receive grace for obedience to the faith.

Acts 6:7-AND THE WORD OF GOD INCREASED; AND THE NUMBER OF THE DISCIPLES MULTIPLIED IN JERUSALEM GREATLY; AND A GREAT COMPANY OF THE PRIESTS WERE **OBEDIENT TO THE FAITH.**

Ro 1:5-BY WHOM WE HAVE **RECEIVED GRACE** AND APOSTLESHIP, **FOR OBEDIENCE TO THE FAITH** AMONG ALL NATIONS, FOR HIS NAME.

14-BE FOLLOWERS OF THEM OF FAITH, WHO HAVE SPOKEN UNTO YOU THE WORD OF GOD

The Scriptures tell us to be followers of or imitate those, who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised-ref Heb 6:12 NIV. Heb 6:12-THAT YE BE NOT SLOTHFUL, BUT **FOLLOWERS OF THEM WHO THROUGH FAITH AND PATIENCE INHERIT THE PROMISES.**

Heb 13:7-REMEMBER THEM (your leaders) WHICH HAVE THE RULE OVER YOU, *WHO HAVE SPOKEN UNTO YOU THE WORD OF GOD*: **WHOSE FAITH FOLLOW**, CONSIDERING THE END OF THEIR CONVERSATION (consider the outcome of their way of life-NIV).

15-THE SAINTS CAN DO WHAT?

Ja 1:6-**ASK IN FAITH.**

16-JOY COMES FROM FAITH

It is written, Phili 1:25-**JOY OF FAITH.**

17-WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH? WHAT HAPPENS AS A RESULT OF FAITH?

We may ask, "What is the importance of faith? What can happen as a result of faith?" A further illustration of the importance of faith comes to us in the following verses. Please note the underlined key words in these verses that appear in alphabetical sequence.

Gal 3:9-SO THEN THEY WHICH BE **OF FAITH ARE BLESSED** WITH FAITHFUL ABRAHAM.

Eph 3:12-**BOLDNESS...BY THE FAITH.**

Gal 3:26-YE ARE ALL THE **CHILDREN OF GOD BY FAITH.**

Eph 3:12-**CONFIDENCE BY THE FAITH OF HIM.**

Eph 3:17-**CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS BY FAITH.**

Ro 1:5-WE HAVE RECEIVED **GRACE...FOR OBEDIENCE TO THE FAITH.**

Ro 4:16-THEREFORE IT IS **OF FAITH**, THAT IT MIGHT BE **BY GRACE.**

Ro 5:2-WE HAVE **ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE.**

Gal 2:16-A MAN IS...**JUSTIFIED BY...FAITH.**

Gal 3:24-**JUSTIFIED BY FAITH.**

Ro 3:28-THEREFORE WE CONCLUDE THAT A MAN IS **JUSTIFIED BY FAITH** WITHOUT THE DEEDS OF THE LAW.

Ro 3:30-SEEING IT IS ONE GOD, WHICH SHALL **JUSTIFY THE CIRCUMCISION BY FAITH, AND UNCIRCUMCISION THROUGH FAITH.**

Ro 5:1-THEREFORE BEING **JUSTIFIED BY FAITH.**

1 Pe 1:5-WHO ARE **KEPT** BY THE POWER OF GOD **THROUGH FAITH.**

Ro 1:17-AS IT IS WRITTEN, THE JUST SHALL **LIVE BY FAITH.**

Lk 8:48-THY **FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE.**

Lk 17:19-THY **FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE.**

Mk 5:34-THY **FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE.**

Mk 10:52-THY **FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE.**

Mt 9:22-THY **FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE.**

Mountains can be moved by faith-ref Mt 17:20.

Ro 16:26-ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDMENT OF THE EVERLASTING GOD, MADE KNOWN TO ALL NATIONS FOR THE **OBEDIENCE OF FAITH.**

1 Jn 5:4-THIS IS THE VICTORY THAT **OVERCOMETH THE WORLD, EVEN OUR FAITH.**

Ro 3:25-WHOM GOD HATH SET FORTH TO BE A **PROPITIATION THROUGH FAITH** IN HIS BLOOD.

Acts 15:9-**PURIFYING THEIR HEARTS BY FAITH.**

Eph 6:16-THE SHIELD OF **FAITH**, WHEREWITH YE SHALL BE ABLE TO **QUENCH ALL THE FIERY DARTS OF THE WICKED.**

Gal 3:2-**RECEIVED YE THE SPIRIT...BY THE HEARING OF FAITH?**

Gal 3:14-THAT WE **MIGHT RECEIVE THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH FAITH.**

Phili 3:9-BUT THAT WHICH IS THROUGH THE **FAITH OF CHRIST, THE RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS OF GOD BY FAITH.**

Ro 3:22-THE **RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD WHICH IS BY FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST.**

Ro 4:5-**FAITH IS COUNTED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

Ro 4:9-FOR WE SAY THAT **FAITH WAS RECKONED TO ABRAHAM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

Ro 4:11-A SEAL **OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE FAITH.**

Ro 4:13-THROUGH THE **RIGHTEOUSNESS OF FAITH.**

Ro 9:30-EVEN THE **RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS OF FAITH.**

Ro 10:6-THE **RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS OF FAITH.**

Phili 2:17-YEA, AND IF I BE OFFERED UPON THE **SACRIFICE...OF YOUR FAITH, I JOY, AND REJOICE WITH YOU ALL.**

1 Pe 1:9-RECEIVING THE END OF YOUR **FAITH, EVEN THE SALVATION OF YOUR SOULS.**

Acts 26:18-**SANCTIFIED BY FAITH.**

Eph 2:8-FOR BY GRACE ARE YE **SAVED THROUGH FAITH.**

Lk 7:50-AND HE SAID TO THE WOMAN, THY **FAITH HATH SAVED THEE.**

Lk 18:42-THY **FAITH HATH SAVED THEE.**

Ja 5:15-AND THE PRAYER OF FAITH SHALL **SAVE THE SICK.**

Phili 2:17-YEA, AND IF I BE OFFERED UPON THE **SACRIFICE AND SERVICE OF YOUR FAITH.**

Ro 11:20-THOU **STANDEST BY FAITH.**

Heb 11:3-**THROUGH FAITH WE UNDERSTAND.**

Gal 5:5-FOR WE THROUGH THE SPIRIT **WAIT** FOR THE HOPE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS **BY FAITH.**

2 Cor 5:7-(FOR WE **WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT**:).

1Thes 1:3-REMEMBERING WITHOUT CEASING YOUR **WORK OF FAITH,**

18-SUMMARY LIST

- Blessed. Of faith are blessed-ref Gal 3:9
- Boldness by faith-ref Eph 3:12
- Children of God by faith-ref Gal 3:36
- Christ dwell in your hearts by faith-ref Eph 3:17
- Confidence by faith-ref Eph 3:12
- Grace for obedience to the faith-ref Ro 1:5

- Grace. Of faith, that it might be by grace-ref Ro 4:16
- Grace. Access by faith into this grace-ref Ro 5:2
- Justified by faith-ref Gal 2:16; 3:24; Ro 3:28; 3:30; 5:1
- Kept through faith-ref 1 Pe 1:5
- Live by faith-ref Ro 1:17
- Made whole (through) faith-ref Lk 8:48; 17:19; Mk 5:34; 10:52; Mt 9:22
- Mountains (can be moved by faith)-ref Mt 17:20
- Obedience of faith-ref Ro 16:26
- Overcometh the world (by faith)-ref 1 Jn 5:4
- Propitiation through faith-ref Ro 3:25
- Purifying your hearts by faith-ref Acts 15:9
- Quench the fiery darts of the wicked (by faith)-ref Eph 6:16
- Received the Spirit by faith-ref Gal 3:2,14
- Righteousness by faith-ref Phili 3:9; Ro 3:22; 4:5; 4:11,13; 9:30; 10:6; Ro 4:9
- Sacrifice of your faith-ref Phili 2:17
- Salvation (through faith)-ref 1 Pe 1:9
- Sanctified by faith-ref Acts 26:18
- Saved (by faith)-ref Eph 2:8; Lk 7:50; 18:42
- Save the sick (the prayer of faith)-ref Ja 5:15
- Service of your faith-ref Phili 2:17
- Standest by faith-ref Ro 11:20
- Understand (through faith)-ref Heb 11:3
- Wait by faith-ref Gal 5:5
- Walk by faith-ref 2 Cor 5:7
- Work of faith-ref 1 Thes 1:3

**THE RESULTS OF FAITH, THE EVIDENCE OF FAITH:
HEBREWS CHAPTER ELEVEN
19-AS A RESULT OF FAITH,
THEIR THINKING CHANGED**

Heb 11:13-As a result of faith, **they WERE PERSUADED.**

Heb 11:26-As a result of faith, **Moses esteemed THE REPROACH OF CHRIST GREATER RICHES THAN THE TREASURES IN EGYPT.**

Heb 11:26-As a result of faith, **Moses HAD RESPECT UNTO THE RECOMPENCE OF THE REWARD.**

Heb 11:3-**THROUGH FAITH WE UNDERSTAND.**

20-THE REWARDS OF FAITH

Heb 11:2-FOR BY IT THE ELDERS OBTAINED A GOOD REPORT.

Heb 11:39-**AND THESE ALL, HAVING OBTAINED A GOOD REPORT THROUGH FAITH, RECEIVED NOT THE PROMISE.**

Heb 11:35-WOMEN RECEIVED THEIR DEAD RAISED TO LIFE AGAIN.

Heb 11:33-OBTAINED PROMISES.

21-AS A RESULT OF FAITH, THESE GREAT THINGS WERE ACCOMPLISHED BY PEOPLE

Heb 11:32-34,35,39-AND WHAT SHALL I MORE SAY? FOR THE TIME WOULD FAIL ME TO TELL OF GEDEON, AND OF BARAK, AND OF SAMSON, AND OF JEPHTHA; OF DAVID ALSO, AND SAMUEL, AND OF THE PROPHETS:

WHO THROUGH FAITH

SUBDUED KINGDOMS,

WROUGHT RIGHTEOUSNESS,

OBTAINED PROMISES,

STOPPED THE MOUTHS OF LIONS,

QUENCHED THE VIOLENCE OF FIRE,

ESCAPED THE EDGE OF THE SWORD,

OUT OF WEAKNESS WERE MADE STRONG,

WAXED VALIANT IN FIGHT,

TURNED TO FLIGHT THE ARMIES OF THE ALIENS

WOMEN RECEIVED THEIR DEAD RAISED TO LIFE

RECEIVED A GOOD REPORT THROUGH FAITH.

22-AS A RESULT OF FAITH, THESE GOOD THINGS HAPPENED TO PEOPLE

Heb 11:3-**THROUGH FAITH WE UNDERSTAND** THAT THE WORLDS WERE FRAMED BY THE WORD OF GOD, SO THAT THINGS WHICH ARE SEEN WERE NOT MADE OF THINGS WHICH DO APPEAR.

Heb 11:5-**BY FAITH ENOCH WAS TRANSLATED** THAT HE SHOULD NOT SEE DEATH; AND WAS NOT FOUND, BECAUSE GOD HAD TRANSLATED HIM:

Heb 11:5-As a result of faith, BEFORE HIS TRANSLATION HE HAD THIS TESTIMONY, THAT **HE PLEASSED GOD.**

Heb 11:11-**THROUGH FAITH ALSO SARAH HERSELF RECEIVED STRENGTH TO CONCEIVE SEED, AND WAS**

DELIVERED OF A CHILD WHEN SHE WAS PAST AGE, BECAUSE SHE JUDGED HIM FAITHFUL WHO HAD PROMISED.
Heb 11:30-**BY FAITH** THE WALLS OF JERICHO FELL DOWN, AFTER THEY WERE COMPASSED ABOUT SEVEN DAYS.
Heb 11:31-**BY FAITH THE HARLOT RAHAB PERISHED NOT** WITH THEM THAT BELIEVED NOT, WHEN SHE HAD RECEIVED THE SPIES WITH PEACE.

23-AS A RESULT OF FAITH, THESE HORRIBLE THINGS HAPPENED TO PEOPLE

Heb 11:35-38-As a result of faith:

OTHERS WERE TORTURED, NOT ACCEPTING DELIVERANCE; THAT THEY MIGHT OBTAIN A BETTER RESURRECTION:

AND OTHERS HAD TRIAL OF CRUEL MOCKINGS AND SCOURGINGS,

YEA, MOREOVER OF BONDS AND IMPRISONMENT:

THEY WERE STONED,

THEY WERE SAWN ASUNDER,

WERE TEMPTED,

WERE SLAIN WITH THE SWORD:

THEY WANDERED ABOUT IN SHEEPSKINS AND GOATSKINS;

BEING DESTITUTE, AFFLICTED, TORMENTED; (OF WHOM THE WORLD WAS NOT WORTHY:)

THEY WANDERED IN DESERTS,

AND IN MOUNTAINS,

AND IN DENS

AND CAVES OF THE EARTH.

Heb 11:25,26-As a result of faith:

CHOOSING... TO SUFFER AFFLICTION WITH THE PEOPLE OF GOD,

THAN TO ENJOY THE PLEASURES OF SIN FOR A SEASON; ESTEEMING THE REPROACH OF CHRIST GREATER RICHES... FOR HE HAD RESPECT UNTO THE RECOMPENSE OF THE REWARD.

24-AS A RESULT OF FAITH, THESE PEOPLE DID CERTAIN THINGS

Heb 11:4-**BY FAITH ABEL OFFERED** UNTO GOD A MORE EXCELLENT SACRIFICE THAN CAIN, BY WHICH HE OBTAINED WITNESS THAT HE WAS RIGHTEOUS, GOD TESTIFYING OF HIS GIFTS: AND BY IT HE BEING DEAD YET SPEAKETH.

Heb 11:7-**BY FAITH NOAH**, BEING WARNED OF GOD OF THINGS NOT SEEN AS YET, **MOVED WITH FEAR, PREPARED AN ARK** TO THE SAVING OF HIS HOUSE; BY THE WHICH HE CONDEMNED THE WORLD, AND BECAME HEIR OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS BY FAITH.

Heb 11:8-**BY FAITH ABRAHAM**, WHEN HE WAS CALLED TO GO OUT INTO A PLACE WHICH HE SHOULD AFTER RECEIVE FOR AN INHERITANCE, **OBEYED**; AND HE WENT OUT, NOT KNOWING WHITHER HE WENT.

Heb 11:9-**BY FAITH HE SOJOURNED** IN THE LAND OF PROMISE, AS IN A STRANGE COUNTRY, DWELLING IN TABERNACLES WITH ISAAC AND JACOB, THE HEIRS WITH HIM OF THE SAME PROMISE.

Heb 11:10-As a result of faith, **HE** (Abraham) **LOOKED FOR A CITY** WHICH HATH FOUNDATIONS, WHOSE BUILDER AND MAKER IS GOD.

Heb 11:13-As a result of faith, they **CONFESSED** THAT THEY WERE STRANGERS AND PILGRIMS ON THE EARTH.

Heb 11:16-As a result of faith, **THEY DESIRE** A BETTER COUNTRY, THAT IS, AN HEAVENLY: WHEREFORE GOD IS NOT ASHAMED TO BE CALLED THEIR GOD: FOR HE HATH PREPARED FOR THEM A CITY.

Heb 11:17-19-**BY FAITH ABRAHAM**, WHEN HE WAS TRIED, **OFFERED UP ISAAC**: AND HE THAT HAD RECEIVED THE PROMISES OFFERED UP HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,

OF WHOM IT WAS SAID, THAT IN ISAAC SHALL THY SEED BE CALLED:

ACCOUNTING THAT GOD WAS ABLE TO RAISE HIM UP, EVEN FROM THE DEAD; FROM WHENCE ALSO HE RECEIVED HIM IN A FIGURE.

Heb 11:20-**BY FAITH ISAAC BLESSED JACOB AND ESAU** CONCERNING THINGS TO COME.

Heb 11:21-**BY FAITH JACOB**, WHEN HE WAS A DYING, **BLESSED BOTH THE SONS OF JOSEPH**; AND WORSHIPPED, LEANING UPON THE TOP OF HIS STAFF.

Heb 11:22-**BY FAITH JOSEPH**, WHEN HE DIED, **MADE MENTION** OF THE DEPARTING OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL; **AND GAVE COMMANDMENT** CONCERNING HIS BONES.

Heb 11:23-**BY FAITH MOSES**, WHEN HE WAS BORN, **WAS HID** THREE MONTHS OF HIS PARENTS, BECAUSE THEY SAW HE WAS A PROPER CHILD

Heb 11:23-As a result of faith, **THEY WERE NOT AFRAID** OF THE KING'S COMMANDMENT.

Heb 11:24-**BY FAITH MOSES**, WHEN HE WAS COME TO YEARS, **REFUSED** TO BE CALLED THE SON OF PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER.

Heb 11:27-**BY FAITH HE FORSOOK EGYPT**.

Heb 11:27-As a result of faith, Moses **NOT FEARING** THE WRATH OF THE KING.

Heb 11:27-As a result of faith, Moses ENDURED, AS SEEING HIM WHO IS INVISIBLE.

Heb 11:28-**THROUGH FAITH HE KEPT THE PASSOVER**, AND THE SPRINKLING OF BLOOD, LEST HE THAT DESTROYED THE FIRSTBORN SHOULD TOUCH THEM.

Heb 11:29-**BY FAITH THEY PASSED** THROUGH THE RED SEA AS BY DRY LAND: WHICH THE EGYPTIANS ASSAYING TO DO WERE DROWNED.

25-THESE DIED IN FAITH

It may be said, the "bottom line" or the final decision of where a person will spend eternity comes in the answer to these words. Did the person "die in faith?" It is written, Heb 11:13-**THESE ALL DIED IN FAITH.**

26-WHEN JESUS RETURNS, SHALL HE FIND FAITH?

This question is asked regarding the return of Jesus. "When Jesus returns, shall He find faith on the earth?"

It is written, Lk 18:8-**NEVERTHELESS WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMETH, SHALL HE FIND FAITH ON THE EARTH?**

DOCTRINES

FAITH—CAN IT BE LOST? Part-3

(Subjects in this Section)

1-SALVATION IS THROUGH FAITH

2-FAITH CAN GROW OR DECREASE

3-EXHORTATION TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH

4-BEWARE, AND TAKE HEED

5-A PERSON'S FAITH WILL BE TESTED TO SEE IF IT IS GENUINE

6-HOW DOES A PERSON STAND IN THE LORD? IT IS BY FAITH

7-SATAN TRIES TO OVERTHROW YOUR FAITH

8-FALLEN FROM FAITH

9-THE CONCLUSION OF THE WHOLE MATTER

10-1 PETER 1:5

CAN A PERSON FALL FROM FAITH?

1-SALVATION IS THROUGH FAITH

Salvation is through faith. Grace is a result of faith. Justification, righteousness, propitiation, and sanctification are through faith. Overcoming and quenching the fiery darts of the devil are done by faith.

Eph 2:8-**FOR BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD.**

- Children of God by faith-ref Gal 3:26
- Christ dwell in your hearts by faith-ref Eph 3:17
- Grace. Of faith, that it might be by grace-ref Ro 4:16
- Grace. Access by faith into this grace-ref Ro 5:2
- Justified by faith-ref Gal 2:16; 3:24; Ro 3:28; 3:30; 5:1
- Overcometh the world (by faith)-ref 1 Jn 5:4
- Propitiation through faith-ref Ro 3:25
- Quench the fiery darts of the wicked (by faith)-ref Eph 6:16
- Righteousness by faith-ref Phili 3:9; Ro 3:22; 4:5; 4:11, 13; 9:30; 10:6; Ro 4:9
- Salvation (through faith)-ref 1 Pe 1:9
- Sanctified by faith-ref Acts 26:18
- Saved (by faith)-ref Eph 2:8; Lk 7:50; 18:42

2-FAITH CAN GROW OR DECREASE

When a person receives Jesus, he comes with little faith. He is very worldly and carnal. He does not have much knowledge, even though he may have been in the church for many years. Now begins a process of learning God's Word. With the process of learning, comes submitting and overcoming. As a person learns and submits to God's Word, if the soil of his heart is right, he begins to grow in faith, wisdom, and knowledge of the Lord.

It is written, 2 Thes 1:3-**YOUR FAITH GROWETH EXCEEDINGLY.**

2 Cor 10:15-**NOT BOASTING OF THINGS WITHOUT OUR MEASURE, THAT IS, OF OTHER MEN'S LABOURS; BUT HAVING HOPE, WHEN YOUR FAITH IS INCREASED.**

Faith should be active and growing; if it is not, a person could be in danger of the following:

EVEN SO FAITH, IF IT HATH NOT WORKS, IS DEAD, BEING ALONE-Ja 2:17.

We see, in Lk 8:12, that with some people after they have heard the Word, **THEN COMETH THE DEVIL, AND TAKETH AWAY THE WORD OUT OF THEIR HEARTS, LEST THEY SHOULD BELIEVE AND BE SAVED-Lk 8:12.**

In Lk 8:13, we read there are those who **RECEIVE THE WORD WITH JOY...WHICH FOR A WHILE BELIEVE, AND IN TIME OF TEMPTATION FALL AWAY.**

And others in Lk 8:14-**WHICH...ARE CHOKED WITH CARES AND RICHES AND PLEASURES OF THIS LIFE, AND BRING NO FRUIT TO PERFECTION.**

God's Word also warns about those who try to **OVERTHROW THE FAITH** OF SOME-2 Tim 2:18.

3-EXHORTATION TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH

A great amount of the Scripture in the New Testament is spent on exhorting the born-again Christian to continue in the faith; stand fast in the faith; hold fast to the faith; and many other verses that convey this same message.

Col 1:23 **CONTINUE IN THE FAITH GROUNDED AND SETTLED.**

Acts 14:22-**CONFIRMING THE SOULS OF THE DISCIPLES, AND EXHORTING THEM TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH, AND THAT WE MUST THROUGH MUCH TRIBULATION ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.**

1 Cor 16:13-**WATCH YE, STAND FAST IN THE FAITH.**

Gal 5:1-**STAND FAST THEREFORE IN THE LIBERTY WHEREWITH CHRIST HATH MADE US FREE, AND BE NOT ENTANGLED AGAIN WITH THE YOKE OF BONDAGE.**

Phili 4:1-**STAND FAST IN THE LORD, MY DEARLY BELOVED.**

2 Thes 2:15-THEREFORE, BRETHREN, **STAND FAST**, AND HOLD THE TRADITIONS WHICH YE HAVE BEEN TAUGHT, WHETHER BY WORD, OR OUR EPISTLE.

2 Tim 1:13-**HOLD FAST** THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS, WHICH THOU HAST HEARD OF ME.

Heb 3:6-BUT CHRIST AS A SON OVER HIS OWN HOUSE; WHOSE HOUSE ARE WE, **IF WE HOLD FAST** THE CONFIDENCE AND THE REJOICING OF THE HOPE FIRM UNTO THE END.

Heb 4:14-LET US **HOLD FAST** OUR PROFESSION.

Heb 10:23-LET US **HOLD FAST** THE PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH WITHOUT WAVERING.

Rev 2:25-**HOLD FAST** TILL I COME.

Eph 4:14-**BE NO MORE** CHILDREN, **TOSSED** TO AND FRO, AND CARRIED ABOUT.

Lk 22:32-BUT I HAVE PRAYED FOR THEE, THAT **THY FAITH FAIL NOT**: AND WHEN THOU ART CONVERTED, STRENGTHEN THY BRETHREN.

Some may say that faith cannot be lost. Some may say that a person can never fall from his faith. Some may say it is not possible to turn from the faith. We might ask, "Why does the Bible over and over exhort us to continue in the faith, if it is not possible to leave the faith? Why do the Scriptures warn us about being entangled again with the yoke of bondage?" The answers are simple. Yes, we can turn from the faith. Yes, we can cease to stand fast in the faith. Yes, we can again be entangled with the yoke of bondage. Yes, we can cease to hold fast our confidence and hope. Yes, we can cease from our profession of faith. Yes, we can become tossed to and fro, as we were before we came to faith in Jesus. Yes, our faith can fail. That is exactly what Satan wishes to cause to happen to every converted Christian. That is why the Bible over and over exhorts us, to beware.

4-BEWARE, AND TAKE HEED

2 Pe 3:17-**BEWARE** LEST YE ALSO, BEING LED AWAY WITH THE ERROR OF THE WICKED, **FALL FROM YOUR OWN STEDFASTNESS**.

Mt 24:4-Jesus told them, **TAKE HEED THAT NO MAN DECEIVE YOU**.

Mk 13:5-Jesus told them, **TAKE HEED LEST ANY MAN DECEIVE YOU**.

Lk 21:8-AND HE SAID, **TAKE HEED THAT YE BE NOT DECEIVED**.

1 Cor 10:12-WHEREFORE LET HIM THAT THINKETH HE STANDETH **TAKE HEED LEST HE FALL**.

Ro 11:21-FOR IF GOD SPARED NOT THE NATURAL BRANCHES, **TAKE HEED LEST HE ALSO SPARE NOT THEE**.

Mk 4:24-**TAKE HEED WHAT YE HEAR**. There are many deceivers that wish to feed a person with things that can deceive them. God is warning the person to take heed what they listen to.

1 Tim 4:16-**TAKE HEED** UNTO THYSELF, AND UNTO THE DOCTRINE; CONTINUE IN THEM.

Heb 3:12-**TAKE HEED, BRETHREN, LEST** THERE BE IN ANY OF YOU AN EVIL HEART OF UNBELIEF, IN **DEPARTING FROM THE LIVING GOD**.

Why are these warnings coming forth? A person does not need to be warned about something that cannot happen. Yes, a person can fall from their steadfastness. Yes, a person can be deceived. Yes, a person can fall. Yes, a person can listen to wrong teaching and be deceived. Yes, a person can depart from the living God. These are things that the devil wishes to do to those who follow Jesus.

5-A PERSON'S FAITH WILL BE TESTED TO SEE IF IT IS GENUINE

When a person commits their life to Jesus, the trials and testings begin. All sorts of temptations and deceptions will come against the converted Christian. Through these, the Lord will know if the person's faith is genuine or not. Through this, the Lord will know the person's true commitment to God. Jesus Himself was tempted in all ways that the converted Christian will be, yet without sin.

1 Pe 1:7-THAT THE **TRIAL OF YOUR FAITH**, BEING MUCH MORE PRECIOUS THAN OF GOLD THAT PERISHETH, THOUGH IT BE TRIED WITH FIRE, MIGHT BE FOUND UNTO PRAISE AND HONOUR AND GLORY AT THE APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST.

1 Pe 1:6,7 NIV-IN THIS YOU GREATLY REJOICE, THOUGH NOW FOR A LITTLE WHILE YOU MAY **HAVE HAD TO SUFFER GRIEF IN ALL KINDS OF TRIALS**.

THESE HAVE COME SO THAT **YOUR FAITH--OF GREATER WORTH THAN GOLD, WHICH PERISHES EVEN THOUGH REFINED BY FIRE--MAY BE PROVED GENUINE** AND MAY RESULT IN PRAISE, GLORY AND HONOR WHEN JESUS CHRIST IS REVEALED. (The genuineness of your faith...may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ-NKJ.)

Ja 1:3-KNOWING THIS, THAT **THE TRYING** (or testing) **OF YOUR FAITH WORKETH PATIENCE**.

6-HOW DOES A PERSON STAND IN THE LORD? IT IS BY FAITH

When a person comes to Jesus, it is by faith. Salvation is through faith. How does a person stand? It is by faith.

Ro 11:20-WELL; BECAUSE OF UNBELIEF THEY WERE BROKEN OFF, AND **THOU STANDEST BY FAITH**. BE NOT HIGHMINDED, BUT FEAR.

1 Cor 16:13-WATCH YE, **STAND FAST IN THE FAITH**, QUIT YOU LIKE MEN, BE STRONG.

2 Cor 1:24- FOR **BY FAITH YE STAND**.

Eph 3:17-THAT **CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS BY FAITH**; THAT YE, BEING ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE.

The question then needs to be asked. What if a person loses their faith? Will they then still be standing by faith?

What if a person loses their faith? Will Christ still dwell in their hearts, when they have no faith?

7-SATAN TRIES TO OVERTHROW YOUR FAITH

Can a person's faith be overthrown? Can a person be turned away from their faith? The answer is clear. It is yes.

Acts 13:8-BUT ELYMAS THE SORCERER (FOR SO IS HIS NAME BY INTERPRETATION) WITHSTOOD THEM, **SEEKING TO TURN AWAY THE DEPUTY FROM THE FAITH**.

8-FALLEN FROM FAITH

Regretfully, many that are saved, do not continue grounded and settled in the faith. Regretfully, many do move away from the hope of the Gospel. Col 1:22,23-HE HAS RECONCILED YOU...TO PRESENT YOU HOLY IN HIS SIGHT, WITHOUT BLEMISH AND

FREE FROM ACCUSATION-NIV.

IF YE CONTINUE IN THE FAITH GROUNDED AND SETTLED, AND BE NOT MOVED AWAY FROM THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL, WHICH YE HAVE HEARD.

Regretfully, many saved people do draw back from their faith in Jesus Christ. The soul of Jesus shall have no pleasure in them that do.

Heb 10:38-NOW THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH: BUT IF ANY MAN DRAW BACK, MY SOUL SHALL HAVE NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

Rev 14:12 is a verse dealing with the Tribulation. During that time, many people will come to faith in Jesus and be saved. However, when faced with their head being chopped off or worshipping the image, there are those who will give in and worship the image of the beast. Their faith will fail because of fear. Many others, however, will stand fast. Their faith will not fail. They will be killed, but then they will be with Jesus forever and ever.

Rev 14:12-HERE IS THE PATIENCE OF THE SAINTS: HERE ARE THEY **THAT KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD, AND THE FAITH OF JESUS.**

Paul knew a person could lose their faith. He was worried that this had happened. He understood the schemes of the devil, and thought that the people had been tempted and that all his labor was for nothing. If the people were still standing, it was centered on one thing—their faith.

1Thes 3:5-FOR THIS CAUSE, WHEN I COULD NO LONGER FORBEAR, I SENT TO KNOW YOUR FAITH, LEST BY SOME MEANS **THE TEMPTER HAVE TEMPTED YOU, AND OUR LABOUR BE IN VAIN.**

Here, Paul makes the clear statement that some had put away their faith and as a result had become shipwreck. Faith can be put away. Faith can be lost.

1 Tim 1:19-**HOLDING FAITH, AND A GOOD CONSCIENCE; WHICH SOME HAVING PUT AWAY CONCERNING FAITH HAVE MADE SHIPWRECK.**

1 Tim 4:1-This verse is dealing with the latter times, which is the time period we are currently living in. Paul is telling us that during this age some people will leave the faith of Jesus Christ and turn to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. A person cannot depart from something he does not have.

1 Tim 4:1-NOW THE SPIRIT SPEAKETH EXPRESSLY, THAT **IN THE LATTER TIMES SOME SHALL DEPART FROM THE FAITH, GIVING HEED TO SEDUCING SPIRITS, AND DOCTRINES OF DEVILS.**

One of the temptations that Satan uses is money. People from India, from Africa, from America, and all over the world have fallen for this temptation. Because of the love of money, some people have erred from the faith of Jesus Christ.

1 Tim 6:10-FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL: WHICH WHILE SOME COVETED AFTER, THEY HAVE **ERRED FROM THE FAITH, AND PIERCED THEMSELVES THROUGH WITH MANY SORROWS.**

If it were true that a person could not lose their faith, then there would be no need to fight the good fight of faith. Unfortunately, some born-again people, even though their intentions are sincere, have deceived others by teaching them that their faith can never be lost. Then the unsuspecting Christian lets down their guard. Satan moves in and deceives them, and they no longer stand by faith.

1 Tim 6:12-**FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH, LAY HOLD ON ETERNAL LIFE, WHEREUNTO THOU ART ALSO CALLED, AND HAST PROFESSED A GOOD PROFESSION BEFORE MANY WITNESSES.**

1 Tim 6:20 NIV-GODLESS CHATTER AND THE OPPOSING IDEAS OF WHAT IS FALSELY CALLED KNOWLEDGE (or science) have caused some people to go astray from the faith.

1 Tim 6:21-**WHICH SOME PROFESSING HAVE ERRED CONCERNING THE FAITH. GRACE BE WITH THEE. AMEN.**

There are also many false teachers that abound. They teach all sorts of deceptive doctrines. As a result of these, some converted Christians go astray. They err. These false teachers accomplish the following:

2 Tim 2:18-They **OVERTHROW THE FAITH OF SOME.**

9-THE CONCLUSION OF THE WHOLE MATTER

The Scriptures are exceedingly clear. A person can repent. They can have faith in Jesus Christ. They can be baptized. They are definitely born-again. However, Satan does move in. All sorts of temptations will come against the converted Christian. All sorts of deceptions will come forth from people whom the devil sends. As a result, many do turn from their faith in Jesus Christ. Many do get deceived. Many do turn aside. Many do shrink back. There is absolutely no doubt that these statements are correct. Then the question arises. "Will the converted Christian still go to heaven but with very few rewards, or will they perish to hell?" Some will say, the power of God will still keep them, even though they lost their faith. They cannot be damned, even though they lost their first faith. What does God's Word say on this subject? Does God's Word give a condition for God's power keeping the converted Christian from falling? The answer is, YES. It is written:

10-1 PETER 1:5—WHO ARE KEPT (or shielded) BY THE POWER OF GOD THROUGH FAITH

Note the words KEPT BY...GOD THROUGH FAITH. For God's power to keep or shield a person that person must not forsake, or lose, or depart from his faith in Jesus Christ. It is because of a person's faith that they are kept by the power of God. This is the reason that Satan attacks a person's faith. This is the reason that Satan does everything he can to overthrow a person's faith. For by FAITH YE STAND. If the person loses his faith or casts off his faith, he is no longer standing. As a result, they will have damnation. You may say, "Where in the Bible does it say that?" Here is the answer.

1 Tim 5:12-HAVING **DAMNATION, BECAUSE THEY HAVE CAST OFF THEIR FIRST FAITH.**

This verse is very clear. People do cast off their first faith. People do cast off their faith in Jesus Christ as their only hope. Those that do, shall have damnation. They had faith in Jesus Christ. They were saved. But now, they have damnation.

Eph 3:17-**THAT CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS BY FAITH.** Christ does not dwell in our hearts, if we have cast off our faith. Paul said it clearly. 2 Tim 4:7-I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE, **I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.** This is the way it is.