

These Perilous Times
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“How To Grow A Faith That Works”

Faith is a Biblical principal that must be realized and practiced by all Christians to please God.

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is...”

Hebrews 11:6

So how do Christians exercise, and grow their faith? Let’s consider some familiar Bible characters who demonstrated their faith by their works, which will help inspire us in our Christian walk of faith.

“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 which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.” Hebrews 11:7

“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.” Hebrews 11:17, 18

Faith Defined

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Hebrews 1:1

Faith: trust, confidence... complete acceptance of a truth which cannot be demonstrated or proved by the process of logical thought... The New Lexicon Webster’s Dictionary, {Encyclopedia Ed.}, 1989, p. 339.

Faith: credence; reliance on Christ for salvation... belief, fidelity... Strong’s Greek Concordance, Entry # 4102.

What does this mean for us?

According to its definition, “Christian faith is not a fuzzy feeling, logical thought or concept. It can’t be worked out with mathematical calculations/ computations, a slide rule, and/or the study of quantum physics.

“Simply stated,” faith is demonstrated when we believe in something without seeing the immediate results. It’s trusting, and having confidence and acting on our beliefs {as they are in Jesus}!

“Jesus saith unto him, Thomas,, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.” John 20:29

Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season

“True faith that relies wholly on Christ will be manifested by obedience to all of the requirements of God ... In all ages there have been those who claimed a right to the favor of God while they were disregarding some of His commands. But the Scriptures declare that by works is “faith made perfect,” and that, without the works of obedience, faith “is dead.” Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 173.

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17

According to Romans 10:17, spending time in God’s word will increase our faith.

Martin Luther, one of the reformation’s leading proponents of “righteousness by faith,” was infuriated by the book of James.

He said that it should have never been written, {probably because of his contempt for the Church of Rome, for their “salvation by works,” dogmas and doctrines}. However, it’s the Holy Spirit who inspires and prompts Bible writers what to write; not men, regardless of how pious they may appear.

According to the inspiration of God’s Spirit given to James, just believing is not enough. The devils do that and tremble. When one has faith in Jesus, his or her life will reflect their profession

by their works. They will be doers of the law and not hearers only.

Notice the words of James

“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; not withstanding you give them not the things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith without works, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yeah 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. Thou believest there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt that not know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead. James 2:15-20

“And the Lord said, if ye had faith as a grain o mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamore tree, Be ye plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.” Luke 17:6

Regardless of the obstacles that seem to be obstructing your Christian walk; “look to Jesus... to find grace, to help in time of need... the author and finisher of our faith.”

Remember friends, “We walk by faith, not by sight.” II Corinthians 5:7



