

Faith And Friends

“I believe in God; Jesus; Holy Spirit;
Word; Church; Reaping (heaven, hell)”

– Demon, James 2:19

Saving faith is not believing . . .

- There is a God. Ac.2. Ja.2:19
- A man named Jesus lived. TV. Jn.8:24
- In true Jesus, but do not come to Him.
Hb.11:6
- That all will be saved whether they believe or not. Universalism.
- Without confessing or obeying Him...

...without confessing or obeying Him.

...⁹that if you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe** in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one **believes** unto righteousness, and with the mouth **confession** is made unto salvation – Ro.10

⁸though He was a Son, yet He learned **obedience** by the things which He suffered. ⁹And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who **obey** Him – Hb.5

I. The Word of Faith

Lk.7:5-9, signs of great faith –

- Confesses unworthiness, 6-8a [cf. 3:16]
 - Believes what Jesus says, though he has not seen it happen, 7-8
 - Understands authority and obedience, 9
- John 20:30-31, written to produce faith

I. The Word of Faith

II. The Work of Faith

Romans 4

Romans emphasizes obedience.

- Romans 1:5, to promote obedience (to God) springing from or belonging to faith in Him.
- Romans 6:17...

Slaves
of sin

Obedient
from heart

Slaves
of right.

- Romans 10:16, obeying || believing

Degrees of faith

Little Faith

Mt.6:30

Great Faith

Mt.8:10

Weak Faith

Ro.4:19

Strong Faith

Ro.4:20

Dead Faith

Ja.2:17

Working Faith

Ja.2:18, 24

James 2

Whatever this passage means, James does not require perfect law-keeping

- Not just any faith will save

⁴² Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God
– Jn.12. [Mt.10:32-33]

- James 2:18 – *show me your faith . . .*

True faith obeys

What *are* works of obedience?

Hb.10: doctrine.

- Writer reinforces facts with illustrations (ch.11)
- Jesus (Mt.7:....24-27)

Hold
Attention

Enlighten

Stick in
Mind

True faith obeys

What *are* works of obedience?

Hb.10: doctrine.

Hb.11: people of faith.

- WHY? Strengthen weak readers
- HOW? Example after example

Seventeen examples + [13-16] + [32ff]

- EXAMPLE: faith of Abraham and Sarah

True faith obeys

What *are* works of obedience?

Faith of Abraham and Sarah

– obeyed when...

- Did not know *where* (8-10)
- Did not know *how* (11-12)
- Did not know *when* (13-16)
- Did not know *why* (17-19)

True faith obeys God

1. Acts that seem foolish, Hb.11:7
(*“things not yet seen”*: 1, 3, 13)
2. Exact obedience, Hb.11:7; Gn.6:14-16
3. Complete obedience, Hb.11:7; Gn.6:22
4. Often requires self-sacrifice, Hb.11:25
(36-38)
5. No connection between command and promise, Hb.11:30

How do we show faith?

- Same as Noah...obey even if it seems foolish.
- Do exactly / completely what God says.
- Even if command makes no sense.
- Requires self-sacrifice.

If Naaman does not dip, he keeps his leprosy – high cost of unbelief

I. The Word of Faith

II. The Work of Faith

III. The Walk of Faith

Romans 4:...11-12

- Abraham: righteous before circumcision, therefore father of every believer...
 - Faith walks in his steps

2 Corinthians 5:7

- We walk here / now **by faith** in the invisible (4:18-5:1)
- We live there / then **by sight** (5:1, 2, 6, 8)

2 Co.5:15, He died for us; we live for Him

- Ga.2:20 . . .

- Dying to sin

- Living by faith

Daily resolves

- Jesus died, then lived

- Jesus causes us to die to sin and to live for Him. Ro.6:4

F·A·I·T·H

- Forsaking
- All
- I
- Take
- Him