

The Meaning of Faith

Faith is believing God's Word

"Now faith is the substance (assurance) of things hoped for, the evidence (conviction) of things not seen. Heb. 11:1 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17 (Ps 18:2; Ps 25:2; Ps. 26:1; Ps. 31:1; Ps 32:10; Ps 146:3; Isa 50:10; 1 Peter 1:17-21)

and acting upon it

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed (in the doing)." James 1:22-25 "Moreover by them is thy servant warned:" Psalm 19:11a

(John 13:17; Genesis 6:22; Exodus 40:16; Psalm 19:11; 119:1-5; Matthew 7:24-25; 12:50; John 15:14; Gal. 5:6)

out of a heart of worship

Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Matthew 4:10

But the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice. 2 Kings 17:36

Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy. Psalm 99:5

Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. Revelations 14:7

Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. Psalm 29:2

for the Glory of God;

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. John 15:8

(Isaiah 24:15; Romans 4:20; 1 Corinthians 6:20; Philippians 1:11; 2:13,15-16; 2 Thessalonians 1:12; 1 Peter 1:7; 4:11; 14-16)

no matter what I think,

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9

(Deuteronomy 29:29; Psalm 25:10; 40:5; 92:5; Ezekiel 18:29; Luke 5:4-6; Romans 11:33)

or how I feel,

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. 1 Corinthians 9:27

(Heb 11; Daniel 6:9-28; 2Samuel 12:7; Esther; Neh. 4:9; 1 Cor 6:12; 8:13; 9:25; 2 Cor 6:4-10)

knowing that God promises a good result,

and in keeping of them [i.e. the judgments of God] there is great reward." Psalm 19:11

"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." Hebrews 11:6

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." Romans 8:28-29

Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith. Habakkuk 2:4

In His own time.

For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. Isaiah 54:7

For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Psalm 30:5 (Eccl. 3:11)

By this, God is pleased.

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. Heb. 11:6

(1 Thess. 4:1 Rom. 8:8; Rom. 12:1-2; Col. 1:10; Heb. 13:16; 1 Jn. 3:22; 1 Pet. 2:20; 1 Cor. 5:9-10)

Original definition from Ron Alchin, Biblical Counseling Center, Arlington Hts., IL, used and expanded with permission by Kent Kloter 10/05