



DAVID EBAUGH BIBLE SCHOOL

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## FAITH IS THE GIFT OF GOD

You have enough faith to do anything good. Use it.

### WHAT IS FAITH?

In addition to my standard answer, "**Faith** is the present tense of the future tense verb **hope**," here are some great ideas about **faith**.

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By ART CURRENS, our son in law,  
husband of our daughter, MARCELLENE.

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Ephesians 2:8-10, *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.*

What is the "gift of God?" Is it **grace**? Well, it could be, but I submit that in this case, grace is not the gift, but the **reason** for the gift.

Is it salvation? That is a possibility. But I submit to you that salvation is the **result** of the gift. So, what is the gift? **Faith**. I believe the gift of God is **faith**.

If **faith** is not a gift of God, then it (the salvation) would be of works (something you can achieve) so then you could boast; **faith** would be of yourselves.

So **faith** is the gift of God.

You might say, what difference does it make? As long as we get the salvation who cares where it comes from or how it is achieved? Well, salvation in this verse refers to the salvation of the **Spirit**, and not of the salvation of the **Soul**, or the **Body**. How do we know?

2 Corinthians 1:10, *Who delivered (past) us from so great a death, and doth deliver (present): in whom we trust that he will yet deliver (future) us;*

First, **Jesus** died for the salvation of our **Spirit**, in the past, which is where the **grace** comes in. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for the salvation of our **Spirits**. Presently we **work** with the **Holy Ghost** to achieve our second step, the salvation of our **Souls**. We are waiting, by **hope**, for the energy of **God** to produce the salvation of our **Bodies**, in the near future. See David Ebaugh's books entitled **THE THIRD SALVATION** and **CIRCUMCISION OF THE HEART**.

### FAITH FOR EVERYONE

Romans 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.*

**Every** man has been given (dealt) the measure (appropriate amount) of **faith** by God.

And here are two more verses that say everyone has received some faith.

Acts 17:31, *Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance (faith) unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.*

In Acts 17:31 the word "**assurance**" is actually "**faith**." See Strong's' # 4102.

Ephesians 4:7, *But unto every one of us is given **grace** according to the measure of the gift of Christ.*

We see that you do not have any ability to control the amount of **faith** and/or **grace** you receive, because they are gifts of God and they have been given in the appropriate measure (amount) to **every** person.

### FAITH INCREASED

Luke 17:5, *And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.*

2 Corinthians 10:15, *Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labours; but having **hope**, when your **faith** is **increased**, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly,*

2 Thessalonians 1:3, *We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your **faith groweth exceedingly**, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;*

**Faith** can be **increased**. We can place our **faith** in the right environment, so it can grow. **Faith** is like a seed. If you keep it in a jar, nothing happens. But, when you put **faith** to work by planting it and nourishing it, **faith**, like a seed, can become a **giant tree**.

Why would we need to have more **faith**? The Bible does say, Matthew 17:20, *And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have **faith** as a grain of mustard **seed**, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and **nothing shall be impossible unto you.***

We need more **faith** so we can do all good things. You can make **faith** **bigger**. So why does your **faith** need to be **increased**? And how can I **increase** my **faith**?

### SALVATION OF SOUL

1 Peter 1:9, *Receiving the end (**outcome**) of your **faith**, even the salvation of your **Souls**.*

We need more **faith** to complete the **salvation** of our **Souls** (not **Spirits**).

Romans 12:6, *Having then gifts differing according to the **grace** that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the **proportion** of **faith**;*

The salvation of our **Souls** is based on the end (out-come) of our **faith**, and we prophesy according to the **proportion** (amount - measure) of our **faith**. Our **Soul** salvation and the operation of the gifts of the **Holy Spirit** both depend on our **proportion** (amount - measure) of **faith**.

### FAITH COMES BY HEARING

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

**Faith** comes by hearing the word of God (Bible). We already know we have enough **faith**; that it is at least the size of a grain of mustard seed;

and now we know that it comes (**increases**) by hearing the word of God. Gathering of Bible knowledge increases **faith**.

### **FAITH IS A GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Did you ever wonder about the idea that the **Holy Spirit** gives **faith**?

1 Corinthians 12:8-10, *For to one is given by the **Spirit** the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same **Spirit**; To another faith by the same **Spirit**;*

It seems that the **Holy Spirit** is charged with giving and **increasing** our **faith**. What works do we need to do to get this **increase** of **faith** from the **Holy Spirit**?

### **PURE HEART.**

#### **RIGHTEOUSNESS, FAITH, LOVE, PEACE**

2 Timothy 2:22, *Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, **faith**, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

We must stop participating in youthful lusts. That was written to **saved** people. It would seem that the **heart** is the depository of **faith**. So the more 1.) righteous-ness, 2.) **faith**, 3.) love, and 4.) peace you have, the more **pure** your **heart** can be.

Acts 15:9, *And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.*

Ephesians 3:17, *That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,*

### **CONSCIENCE**

Hebrews 10:22, *Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

1 Timothy 1:19, *Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:*

1 Timothy 3:9, *Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.*

We see from these verses that **faith** has something to do with the **conscience**. Strong's defines the conscience as follows:

1) the consciousness of anything

2) the **Soul** as distinguishing between what is morally good and bad,

2a) the conscience

I submit that these verses indicate that the conscience (sub-conscious?) and the **heart (Spirit)** are connected together by the word **faith**. As the conscience has to do with the **Soul** (mind), and the **heart** is associated with the **Spirit**, it seems that **faith** is a bridge between the **Soul** and **Spirit**.

### **DO ALL MEN HAVE FAITH? OR NOT?**

Romans 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**.*

But in contrast, 2 Thessalonians 3:2 says, *And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for **all men** have **not faith**.*

This verse is very interesting because it seems to contradict all of the other verses that say that **all** men are given **faith**. It is my opinion that everyone, no matter what their religion, or what they know about God and Jesus, were saved in their **Spirit** and are given **faith**.

### **DOCTRINE OF JESUS**

I believe that the word "**faith**" means "doctrine of Jesus," in this instance where the scripture says, "all men have **not faith**". (2 Thes. 3:2) For example, if I said "**Not** all men are of the Christian **Faith**," I would mean that all men do **not** believe in the doctrine of Jesus Christ. That does **not** mean they do **not** have **faith**. Since all men **do** have **faith** (a gift of God), we must take note that they do **not** necessarily follow the **faith** (doctrine of Jesus). There are many other verses that support the idea that "**faith**" has been used interchangeably with "doctrine of Jesus." Reading the verses in context seems to be the best way to determine how the word "**faith**" is used.

Strong's definition of "**faith**" follows:

4102 pistis {pis'-tis}

from 3982; TDNT - 6:174,849; n f

AV - **faith** 239, assurance 1, believe + 1537 1, belief 1, them that believe 1, fidelity 1; 244

### **1c) the religious beliefs of Christians**

It is what you do with your **faith** that determines what happens to your **Soul** and your **Body**. If we die, our **Spirit** goes back to God who sent it.

Ecclesiastes 12:7, *Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: **and the Spirit shall return unto God who gave it.***

Romans 3:3, *For what if some did **not** believe? shall their **unbelief** make the **faith** of God without effect?*

Now we see that **faith** operates whether or not you believe; and it works to purify your **heart**. **Heart** traditionally has been a symbol for the **Spirit**, so purifying your **heart** (with **faith**, which is not of yourselves) cleanses your **Spirit**.

### THE HEART IS STILL NOT RIGHT

But now we have another problem. The **heart** is said to "*think evil in the heart*" (Matt. 9:4)

*"committed adultery in your **heart**"* (Matt. 5:8)

*"understand with their **heart**"* (Matt. 13:15)

*"for out of the **heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies"* (Matt. 15:19), to name just a few.

How can a saved **Spirit** (heart) be made to think evil or murder, etc.? Even after we become saved, and Jesus enters our **hearts** (**Spirits**), and He removes the penalty for sin, we must subsequently receive the **CIRCUMCISION OF THE HEART**, to remove all the bad things. This will be the subject of a future lesson.

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*FOURTH Harrisburg ANNUAL*

**DAVID EBAUGH BIBLE SCHOOL**

*CONFERENCE*

***Friday, July 5; Saturday, July 6, Sunday, July 7***

**Friday:** 5:30 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Bible teaching

**Saturday:** 1:00 p.m. Bible teaching

5:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Bible teaching

**Sunday:** Times to be announced

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We are pleased to announce **Bob Muncy** from Delaware will be with us again this year to help bring us the **Toronto Blessing**.

This meeting is for adult students interested in serious Bible study. We love and appreciate children and we are sorry we cannot provide for them or assume risk for them. The motel has some facilities for the entertainment and pleasure of children. Our grandchildren plan to use those facilities. Please determine the appropriate and safe use, and check with the motel. You are responsible for your children and your guests. Responsible children are always welcome in the meetings.

**Lord willing!!**

## HARRISBURG BLIZZARD

### FLOOD FOLLOWING

The BLIZZARD of 96 caused a little roof damage here at home. The roof leaked a little water on our tape duplicator, but Betty immediately saw it happen and I helped preserve the equipment. The roof is 20 years old but it still did a pretty good job. The fuel bill was the very highest it has ever been in our 30 years here. Now, let's praise our GOD that it is fully paid.

The flood of 96 caused a little water to come into the basement where we store materials and ship your orders. I quickly moved the boxes of books and tapes and MONARCHS and shipping materials to higher tables and there was no damage to any of our materials. We spent more time and money for cleanup than we did to protect things during the problems. We are debating if we should fix the outside lay of the land, to stop the surface water, or if we should just wait another 30 years for the next big one.

Quick action saved the day in both cases. But I don't think that either Betty or I can claim any credit. The Holy Spirit had us at the right spot at the right time. I'm convinced of it. That's an example of how I think our GOD will deliver us in the time of the tribulation. We will be led by the Holy Spirit.

But it wasn't so good for some of our local friends. One had to wade in chest deep frigid water to rescue a stranded girl. He is a hero. But, his wife's dad lost everything. No lives were lost in our circle of friends and students. Praise our GOD EL ELYON, again.

For the last four months I have spent every available moment writing the new book NAMES OF GOD. We may name it EL ELYON, NOW. What do you think? The blizzard and flood slowed some things down, but they did not stop my book writing.

This is the first time we have been home during very bad weather in 30 years. Past hurricanes and blizzards and floods have found us teaching Bible lessons in the western part of the U.S. and in Brazil. This time when the materials and equipment were in jeopardy we were here to handle it.

I'm glad that we can give you a good report of victory in tribulation. I pray that your life will always be full of testimonies of victory. Praise God some more.