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## **FOUNDATION STONE 2**

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### **FAITH TOWARDS GOD (JUSTIFICATION)**

For the believer it is essential that our faith is in God. Whether one is born again or not, each person has faith in something or someone. Faith means that we are putting our trust in someone or something. Even the person claiming to be an atheist puts his or her faith in some direction. Mainly it is in their own abilities! We need to know that faith will always produce results.

### **WHAT IS FAITH?**

We have on many occasions defined faith as follows: when we exhaust all of our five natural senses sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste. Then faith starts into action. This means that when we encounter a situation that is beyond our control, we have to totally trust "God". When we are able to control a situation, we are not walking by faith, but simply applying our own God given ability. Remember, when we are unable, God is able.

### **FAITH IS OUR FIRST STEP TOWARD PLEASING GOD:**

#### **Hebrews 11:6**

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.*

#### **Psalms 118:8**

*It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust man.*

## **FAITH IS OUR ONLY MEANS OF BECOMING FIRM IN THE TRUTH:**

Until we are able to stand firm on our conviction in what we believe, we will continually be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine.

### **Isaiah 7:9**

*If you will not believe, you surely shall not last.*

### **Proverbs 3:5**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.*

## **WE CAN ONLY GAIN ACCESS TO GOD BY FAITH:**

### **Romans 5:1-2**

*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into His grace in which we stand; and we exalt in hope of the glory of God.*

### **Hebrews 10:35-39**

*Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay. But My righteous one shall live by faith; and if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But, we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.*

### **James 1:6-8**

*But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubt's is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double minded man, unstable in all his ways.*

## **HOW DO WE RECEIVE FAITH?**

We need to remember that just as repentance is a gift from God, so is faith. One's faith is solely based on the truth of the word of God.

We receive faith in many different ways. For instance, by hearing the testimony of other Christians, or simply reading of the testimony of the biblical saints. Jesus himself is the main thrust of our faith.

### **Hebrews 12:2**

*Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith.*

### **Ephesians 2:8**

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.*

### **Acts 3:16**

*And on the basis of faith in His name, it is the name of Jesus which has strengthened this man whom you see and know; and the faith which comes through him has given him this perfect health in the presence of you all.*

### **Romans 10:17**

*So faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*

### **II Timothy 3:14-17**

*You however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them. And that from childhood you have know the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

## **WHAT IS THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSIBILITY CONCERNING THE GIFT OF FAITH THAT GOD HAS GIVEN TO US?**

We must continue to increase our faith as well as guard it!

### **I Timothy 1:5**

*But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.*

### **I Timothy 6:12**

*Fight the good fight of faith: take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

### **I Timothy 4:7**

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith.*

## **WHERE SHOULD THE BELIEVER DIRECT HIS/HER FAITH?**

As a true believer, our faith should be in the whole word of God.

It should be completely in the purpose of Jesus. The following are some of the areas in which we should place our faith.

### **In God**

#### **I Peter 1:21**

*Who thru him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.*

#### **Hebrews 6:1**

*Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith towards God.*

## **In the word of God**

### **I Thessalonians 2:13**

*For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.*

## **In the power of God**

### **I Corinthians 2:5**

*So that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.*

### **I Peter 1:5**

*Who are protected by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

## **QUESTIONS**

- 1. Define faith in your own words and then memorize Hebrews 11:1.**
- 2. Two (2) things we need to do with the gift of faith that God gave us are?**
- 3. In what should our faith rest?**

**MAY THE LORD JESUS KEEP YOU IN ALL THINGS**