

## Biblical Faith By Trey Sullins

Do we have proper faith? Is faith simply trusting in someone or something? Does faith mean a confidence in something? God's people must realize the importance of faith in our lives. In order to be proper Christians, it is necessary to have proper faith. Christians need to understand what faith is, how faith is shown in the Bible, and how they should demonstrate faith so they can recognize how they should properly show it.

In order to discuss faith, Christians must understand what it is. Faith is a strong belief in something which causes someone to act. Hebrews 11:6 states, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Here the Bible teaches faith is the belief and evidence in God and His way even though we cannot physically see Him. This belief in God then leads to faith in the word of God (Romans 10:17). Proper faith is so strong that it brings people to obey that will of God. Faith also requires this action to be a proper Biblical Faith. James 2:14-26 explains, "faith without works is dead." It is not enough to just believe, but action must be taken. True Biblical faith is a belief unto obedience.

One man who showed great faith was Noah. Noah was called upon by God to build a massive boat, because of the coming flood which would destroy the world (Genesis 6:13). Though Noah saw no evidence of the warning, he heeded it and built the ark (Hebrews 11:7). Noah demonstrated his faith by action and followed what God commanded. Because of his great faith not only eight members of Noah's immediate family were saved, but the human race was saved.

Abraham demonstrated great faith. One way that he did this was when he was about to sacrifice his own son to God (Genesis 22:10). Abraham also left his homeland to move to somewhere he did not know at the command of God (Hebrews 11:8). That same faith also caused Abraham to continue living in the land until his death, still believing that his descendants would receive the promise that God made him.

Another great man of faith in the Bible is the apostle Paul. Though he started out as a devout Jew, Paul was converted and proved great faith in his life. He planted many churches and traveled all over the known world preaching the gospel (1 Corinthians 3:6). Paul was shipwrecked, beaten, stoned, imprisoned, and many other things, but even though Paul went through all of these different trials and tribulations, he still showed his tremendous faith and continued preaching the gospel (2 Corinthians 11:23-33). The faith of Paul also led him to write many letters, which are now in the Bible so people might know what must be done for Christ.

Christians must demonstrate faith in their lives. After a person believes in the gospel message, they must take action and show their faith. It is essential for Christians to prove their faith with works. Works are the things that we do because of faith. One of the most important works is to follow the commands of God. If the commands of God are not followed, then a person's faith is not true faith. Other works are helping people, working for the church, and being obedient. Members of the church must also bring others to the faith. Hebrews 11:6 the Bible clarifies, faith is necessary to please God and God will reward those who seek Him by faith. With true faith, people will desire to do what God wants of them.

After understanding Biblical faith, it is clear that all Christians must have proper Biblical faith. Faith is a vital part of following God, and without faith people have no drive to follow God. All people must know what faith is, how it is demonstrated in the Bible, and how it should be demonstrated today so they can be proper to God. By examining the examples in the Bible Christians can acquire and maintain a proper faith. With a proper faith Christians have hope of an eternal reward in heaven (Ephesians 2:8).