(Barnabas and Paul).

ACTS 14:

27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

*I want to define the faith I am speaking about as the scripture defines it*.

EPHESIANS 4

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

*The one faith I am speaking about is what I will call bible faith and there is only one.*

The Greek definition of faith: 4102 pistis {pis'-tis} conviction of the truth of anything, belief;

*With that definition faith is what you believe to be truth, but it can be divided into many divisions such as each division identifies itself as the “whatever name they chose” faith.*

*That identifies a faith that anyone can possess. It can be strong enough that you can give your life for what you believe is faith.*

*Muslims give their lives as martyrs believing they will awake in paradise one day.*

*The faith I am speaking about is beyond that faith and words cannot completely explain it. When the bible speaks of faith coming by the Word.*

ROMANS 10:

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

*It is speaking of a faith that is far beyond the faith most people already have in some things. You do not have it until you hear the Word of God.*

*Faith before you hear the word is based upon knowledge alone.*

I CORINTHIANS 1:

17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

I CORINTHIANS 2

4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

I CORINTHIANS 2

5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

*Any human wisdom that gives you understanding make calvary of no effect.*

*This mystery is revealed by faith as we hear the Word*.

ROMANS 16:

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

ROMANS 16

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

COLOSSIANS 1

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

*We know that Jesus Christ is the Word of God made flesh.*

JOHN 1:

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

*The Word of God starts as a seed and grows from there.*

*When we say one faith it means faith is centered and anchored in Jesus Christ.*

JOHN 15

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

*Our faith must be completely in Christ and His ability to bring forth fruit.*

*When we pray this is what first we must believe.*

MATTHEW 9:

28 And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord.

*Many groups through their teaching do not believe God will keep his Word and teach much of what God does not do.*

*Most know I believe that the “Beast” of Revelation 13 and later 17 represents the systems of this world and the second beast as a lamb represents the false religions and the Babylon church which is one with the systems of this world. I believe this is an example*

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*Of course, I do not agree with extra-Scriptural revelations or women ministers but I do believe in the gifts of the Spirit which they do not so any true believer of scripture would not agree with these unbiblical requirements.*

*I also will never sign any statement saying I believe that there are three persons in the Godhead when the scripture plainly tells us if we do not preach what Paul preached, we are cursed. This is what Paul preached.*

I CORINTHIANS 8:

5 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,)

6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

*Our faith starts when we learn and hear by the Word that we are lost and without a hope, but Christ came to give us hope by our faith in Him and what His Word tells us about Him.*

EPHESIANS 2:

12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of **partition** between us;

*The only wall of partition is the Lord sees Israel and Gentiles as the same.*

partition *: 5418 phragmos {frag-mos'} 1) a hedge, a fence; that which separates, prevents two from coming together*

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

*Although God is not far from any of us, we are without hope until we accept the blood of Christ.*

ACTS 17

27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

*People may not believe in God, but you only exist and live and move because of Him.*

*Christ is the ransom paid for our freedom from the bounds of sin and was never meant to take us to the bounds of religion*.

MATTHEW 20:

28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

I TIMOTHY 2:

5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

*The wrong teaching about election would be opposite of faith the word “all” means what it says.*

3956 pas {pas} each, every, any, all, the whole, everyone, all things, everything.

*When Christ tells us is life is a ransom for many it would be those who believe it is for all of course not all will believe.*

I TIMOTHY 4:

10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, **specially** of those that believe.

Specially: 3122 malista {mal'-is-tah} especially, chiefly, most of all, above

All

GALATIANS 6:

10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, **especially** unto them who are of the household of faith.

*The Gospel is first of all we must believe we are sinners without hope then we must believe Christ paid the price for our deliverance and the punishment we deserved was suffered by Him on Calvary and by his death and resurrection.*

ROMANS 5:

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

HEBREWS 2:

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

ACTS 17

3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

*Faith is personal and only you can believe for yourself. There is a gift of faith as well as other gifts that the Lord has given to His church, and they operate according to his purpose and will of our Lord.*

I CORINTHIANS 12:

4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

I CORINTHIANS 12

8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

*You do not have to believe to be partaker of a gift, but you only receive Christ by your faith.*

ROMANS 1:

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

HABAKKUK 2:

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

*Personal faith is believing what is written in the Word applies to you.*

*A Christian must confess with their mouth when you believe in your heart.*

ROMANS 10:

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

*After you believe the change on the inside (soul) will be done by Christ not by you*.

GALATIANS 2

20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

*Your faith in Christ will bring the faith of Christ to live and guide you.*

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***“In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”*** (**1 Thess. 5:18).**

What an all-inclusive word of instruction this is to the child of God. Everything that the Lord has eternally ordained and providentially brought about in this world is working together for His glory and the good of His people. For His merciful kindness, be thankful that He has not left us to die in our sins with nothing more than a spirit of rebellion and ingratitude. **Pastor Marvin Stalnaker**

The Psalmist wrote, “*Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee*.” (Psalm 73:25) Whom but Christ came into the world to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15)? Whom but Christ Jesus died as the One Mediator between the depraved sinner and a Holy God (1 Timothy 2:5)? Whom but Christ, knew no sin, and was made sin for His people that they might be made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21)? Whom but Christ loved us and gave Himself for us? (Titus 2:14)? Whom but Christ died the just for the unjust to bring us to God (1 Peter 3:18)? When God, by divine intervention, reveals these things to a chosen sinner, they must conclude, “*and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.”*                                    **Pastor David Eddmenson**

*Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast. I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me. He shall send from heaven, and save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.*

**Psalm 57:1-4**

**Absolutely Necessary**

Paul wrote in **Heb. 2:17**, "*Wherefore in all things it behoved him* (was essential) *to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faith­ful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."* Can you give three reasons why it was absolutely essential and necessary for our Lord to become a man; bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh?

**1)**. Unless He was a man, He could not be a high priest to offer sacrifice for sin and make inter­cession; for the high priest was taken from among men (Heb. 5:1).

**2)**. Unless He was a man, He would have no sacri­fice to offer. He had to shed His blood, for without shedding of blood is no remission (Heb. 9:22-25).

**3)**. Unless He was a man, He could not be a Media­tor nor Advocate with a perfect righteousness to plead (I John 2:1).

**Henry T. Mahan**