

The Faith of Jesus

I was stunned by how many different times the King James Bible states that we are saved by the “faith of Jesus”; “faith of Christ”; “his faith”; “the faith that is in me” and so on. I had always been told that salvation depended on our own faith. I began to investigate this observation on a deeper level.

I found that very few pastors teach on the “Doctrine of the Faith of Jesus Christ” or even know about it. There are nearly a dozen verses in the King James Bible that refer to this little-known doctrine.

When Jesus commissioned Paul on the road to Damascus He said it was His faith that would save the Gentiles. Jesus said, “. . . the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me” (Acts 26:17, 18).

Notice that the following verse refers to the faith of Jesus twice with the faith of the believer sandwiched in the middle: “Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Jesus Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified” (Gal. 2:16).

We are justified because of the faith of Jesus and by our faith in Him and what He has done. Notice the many verses that mention the faith “of” Jesus:

“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” (Gal. 2:20).

“But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe” (Gal. 3:22).

We can trust the faith of Jesus. “According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him” (Eph. 3:11, 12).

We put our faith “in” the Lord Jesus Christ and we are “in Him,” by faith in His faith. Put no confidence in the flesh, but only in what Jesus has done.

All modern bibles omit the little word “of” in the phrase “faith of Jesus” and substitute the word “in” disguising the doctrine of the FAITH OF JESUS.

Why is the doctrine of the faith of Jesus absent from all modern bibles? Because Satan hates this doctrine. We may not fully comprehend the magnitude of this doctrine this side of eternity.

Jesus obeyed His Father perfectly even to the point of death on the cross. Jesus prayed to His Father often, talking with Him and receiving instruction.

Jesus mentioned His dependence on the Father while here on earth. “The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do” (John 5:19), and “I can of mine own self do nothing . . . I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father” (John 5:30). Jesus had to trust in the Father’s plan of redemption.

On earth, Jesus was instructed by the word of God. He said, “It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God” (Luke 4:4).

As the God-Man, Jesus was fully God and He was also fully Man. Jesus Christ did not cease to be God. But He humbled Himself and took on the form of a servant “the Word [Jesus] was made flesh [human], and dwelt among us” (John 1:14). Jesus willingly laid aside His privileges as God (the independent use of His attributes) and became dependent on the Father. He laid aside His glory, not His deity. “Who, being in the form of God [100% God], thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men [100% Man]: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Phil. 2:6-8).

The temptation not to go to the cross was strong. Jesus was sweating “as it were great drops of blood” (Luke 22:44). Jesus relied on the word of God (Isaiah 53). He told His Father “not my will, but thine, be done” (Luke 22:42) demonstrating His faith in the Father’s plan for Him to go to the cross. He trusted that the Father would accept His sacrifice for sin and raise Him from the dead. Not for one second did Jesus ever lose His faith; because if He had Jesus would have had to die for His own sins and could not have died for ours.

Jesus put His faith in the Father depending on Him perfectly while finishing all that needed to be done to save us. Salvation is 100% what God has done, and 0% what we have done.

Faith and love are in the Lord Jesus Christ. His faith never wavered because of His love for us, “And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus” (1 Tim. 1:14).

We put our faith in the faith of Jesus by believing God’s word “the holy scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim. 3:15).

About 2,000 years ago Jesus, the Son of God, had the faith to shed His own blood to purchase our redemption. He finished paying for all the sins of all people that ever lived so that those who believe in Him will be His spiritually alive children forever. Because of the perfect faith of Jesus, we can confidently put our faith in Him.

The Lord Jesus Christ had perfect faith in the Father in order to accomplish His work on the cross. The Father was satisfied with His blood atonement and raised Him from the dead. “He . . . shall be satisfied” (Isaiah 53:11).

Salvation is a gift given to a sinner, who has become a child of God, by grace through faith. Christ’s righteousness is imputed to us when we believe that He died for our sins. Christ paid for our sins and gave us His righteousness.

The merit is in the faith of Jesus Christ by whom we receive righteousness. “Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference” (Romans 3:22).

“And be found in him, not having our own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith” (Phil. 3:9).

We just believe. It was the “faith of Jesus” that accomplished the cross, and we just need to have faith in what He has done. Jesus had the faith to complete the mission the Father gave Him to do. We put our faith in His faith.

If the “faith of Jesus” is replaced with our “faith in Jesus” then the emphasis is no longer on Jesus but on the believer.

The little word “of” can make a big difference.