

FAITH IN GOD

'Have faith in God' Jesus answered. I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go throw yourself into the sea' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. - Mark 11:22 NIV

Jesus did not just say 'Have faith' but 'Have faith in God'. A lot of people say they have faith, but that is too general of a statement. What or who is their faith in? The value of faith should be based on reliability of the object of their faith. Back in the mid-1970's while I was in my mid-20's, I went through an intellectual crisis in my faith. A serious study about the truth and proof of the resurrection of Jesus solidified my belief in my Christian faith (thanks to a cassette tape by Josh McDowell that someone gave me when I worked part-time at a Ski Resort Hotel) No matter what other questions I may have had about the Bible, I knew the resurrection was a truth in history. - Romans 1:4. Our God is not mythical like the Greek and Hindu gods and goddesses. He is the only God who knows the future and dares to put it in writing. We call it prophecy. Our faith is factual and not based on silly tales and legends. Archaeologists continue to find evidence for ancient peoples and events that confirm the validity of the Bible. We should not have faith in our subjective feelings or fickle faith. Have faith in God, for He is the Almighty one of history and eternity.

Faith was given that we might depend upon God, not just so we could fulfill our personal pleasures. - James 4:3. God cares about our motives, and His name and kingdom must be our top priority. Paul's goal was Christ - Philippians 3:7-10. Faith believes the promises of God for it knows the trustworthiness of the promise maker. God cannot lie - Titus 1:2, Numbers 23:19. (There are over 8000 promises in the Bible according to [Herbert Lockyer](#) who has many informative books!

- All the Promises of the Bible
- All the Divine Names and Titles in the Bible
- All the Prayers of the Bible
- All the Messianic Prophecies of the Bible
- All the Parables of the Bible
- All the Men and Women of the Bible
- All the Doctrines of the Bible
- All the Angels in the Bible
- All the Teachings of Jesus
- All the Miracles of the Bible
- All About the Holy Spirit
- All the Music of the Bible
- All About the Second Coming
- All About God in Christ
- All the Books and Chapters of the Bible
- All the Twos of the Bible
- All the Threes of the Bible
- All God's Comfort
- All the Holy Days and Holidays
- All the Trades and Occupations of the Bible
- All the Kings and Queens of the Bible
- All the Apostles of the Bible
- Last Words of Saints and Sinners

[He has other books, but I better continue on the subject of faith!]

God is not only the object of our faith, He is also to be our objective. Jesus did everything to please the Father - John 6:28-29. Jesus did not do miracles to show off but to display the glory and power of God but also to demonstrate the compassion of the Father. Faith in God can also have another meaning in Mark 11:22 and Galatians 2:20.

THE FAITH OF GOD - Mark 11:22, Galatians 2:20

Both of these verses can read Faith in God or the Faith of God. When we fix our eyes on Jesus, who is the author (pioneer) of our faith - Hebrews 12:2, He can impart **His faith** unto us. Charles Farah, Jr. translates Mark 11:22 as 'have the faith of God or 'have God-like faith' or 'have God's faith'. (Farah has a cautionary book about extremes in the faith movement in his book, 'From the Pinnacle of the Temple'). God can give us faith, but we should remember that it is primarily faith **in** God that matters.

'Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.'

Philippians 2:12b-13 NKJV

Believers are told to work out their salvation, but it is God who provides the power. v.13 works in you = Greek/ to energize, to work effectively. God works through us as we cooperate with Him. Ephesians 3:20 speaks of God's power at work in believers by the Holy Spirit (v.16). An important truth for a Christian must be '**Christ in you**' - Colossians 1:27. The apostle Paul had much faith and energy because he got out of the way and let Jesus work through him -Col.1:29. Jesus has the faith and the power. Jesus is in us and wants us to have faith in His name, authority and willingness to do great things through us. The apostle Peter knew this faith-power while he was on the way to pray. He met a lame man who expected money from Peter. Peter said to him:

'Silver and gold I do not have, but **what I do have I give you:**
In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

'Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from Him anything we ask because we obey His commands and do what pleases Him. And this is His command: **to believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and to love one another as He commanded us.** - 1 John 3:21-23 NIV

What was Peter's explanation for the healing?

It is Jesus name and the faith that comes through him.....

Acts 3:16

God's faith will have God-like results. How do we get more faith? Spend time in God's Word and read about people of faith in history and in the Word of God. We should remember our leaders. Hebrews 13:7. A good place to learn about faith is from the father of our faith.....Abraham - Romans 4:12-21. Let's go back 4000 years and see the lessons of faith from Abraham's journey of faith. Join us for our upcoming messages as we explore many of faith's friends.

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