

# **A Study of Faith Pt.2: Faith Based In Truth**



**Hebrews 11:6**

# Faith Based In Truth

- Last week we began a study of faith, setting out to define what truly defines faith from a Biblical standpoint.
- Having used the Hebrew authors definition from Hebrews 11:1 we know that faith is based in Hope, and Evidence.

# Faith Based In Truth

- With such a clear definition and application given by the Hebrew writer one would think that it would be impossible to misplace their faith .
- However, it is the case that our faith is often incorrectly placed in both physical and spiritual respects.

# Faith Based In Truth

- This is why this morning we wish to examine faith from the standpoint of truth...
- Not simply just to say that I believe in something, but that I believe in what is true.
- This is important in our study of faith, because our spiritual relationship is contingent upon faith based in truth.

# Broken & Misplaced



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# Faith Based In Truth

- There are several ways that true faith, faith based in pure 100% assurance, can be knocked off course.
- Some of these reasons are the complete and total cause of the person believing them, and others are because of false information or even lying.

# Faith Based In Truth

## 1. Deception

Sometimes we are given information that is simply not true. Such as in the 2008 incident involving Bernie Madoff, the stock Broker and investment firm owner who ran the largest Ponzi scheme in U.S. History.

# Faith Based In Truth

- He misinformed people as to how he believed they should invest their money with him.
- These people hoped to build a large retirement savings for themselves and something to leave to their children, the evidence for their trust was Madoff himself.
- From these people who invested with him he stole \$20 Billion in cash and \$65 Billion in total assets.



# Faith Based In Truth

- Because of his deception he left thousands of people in ruin and took down scores of banks, firms, and businesses that were associated with him.
- Ultimately the victims paid the price for this including any businesses that had invested with Madoff.

# Faith Based In Truth

- But that's just the business world right? That doesn't have an inkling of truth towards my spiritual relationship right?
- Directly, no unless you are Bernie Madoff.
- Indirectly it exposes a Biblical principle in a battle that has been raging since the beginning of time.

# Faith Based In Truth

- The greatest reason we can attribute to faith being misplaced or lost altogether has to do with Satan, the Father of Lies.

You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.

~ John 8:44

# Faith Based In Truth

- **The Garden of Eden**

The First lie that was ever told was told by Satan.

**(Genesis 3:1-7)**

The First Sin that was ever committed was done so by Satan **(Revelation 12:7-9)**

# Faith Based In Truth

- Satan causes doubt and manipulates you into trusting him.
- He makes sin and doubt easy, and the easier you are to fool the more he will stick to you, because the devil likes things easy.
- After Satan the greatest cause of misplaced faith is false teachers:

# Faith Based In Truth

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

~ Matthew 7:15

These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. For when they speak great swelling *words* of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error.

~ 2 Peter 2:17-18

# Faith Based In Truth

But He answered and said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.”

~ **Matthew 15:13-14**

# Faith Based In Truth

- But that's all on the false teachers right? I mean it's not my fault if I am tricked and deceived, it's their fault!
- How could God hold me accountable for what they have done?
- Here is what the Bible has to say about this...



# Faith Based In Truth

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!  
For you travel land and sea to win one  
proselyte, and when he is won, you make him  
twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

~ Matthew 23:15

# Faith Based In Truth

- **The False teacher is in greater danger than the one he leads astray but both are lost**

For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward. But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea.

~ **Mark 9:41-42**

# Faith Based In Truth

- But How do I make sure I don't fall prey to a false teacher or believe any of Satan's lies?
- The answer is to make the Bible your friend, and seek to get to know Jesus Christ more deeply and intimate than you know anything else in this world!
- To do this we must be like the noble Bereans

# Faith Based In Truth

These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so. Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men.

~ Acts 17:11-12

# Faith Based In Truth

## 2. Ignorance

To be ignorant does not mean that one is stupid, an imbecile, or is incapable of understanding something.

To be ignorant simply means that a person has a lack of knowledge or information that can be obtained.

# Faith Based In Truth

- People can simply be unaware of something or they can choose to be ignorant:

**“Ignorance is bliss.”**

**“I don’t know what my kids are up to and I don’t wanna know!”**

# Faith Based In Truth

- When it comes to the Word of God our job is to remove the veil of ignorance for people and teach them about Christ.
- Many of us were taught about Christ from the time we were children, however, there are many adults out there who need what Lois and Eunice gave Timothy

# Faith Based In Truth

I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as *my* forefathers *did*, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

~ 2 Timothy 1:3-5



# Faith Based In Truth

- Some however choose to be ignorant, and this is where our faith gets truly misplaced totally because of us:

**“I don’t care what that book says I won’t change!”**

**“I wouldn’t trade what I feel in my heart for a thousand Bibles”**

**“I don’t care what the Bible says about sin I believe God wants me to be happy no matter what.”**

# Faith Based In Truth

“You worship and believe your way, I’ll worship and believe mine and we’ll both go to heaven.

“Christ died for everyone so no matter how you choose to worship Him you will be pleasing to Him.”

Here is the issue with that. Anytime we say “**I think**” or “**I feel**”, or “**I believe**” as our reason for doing something with regard to spirituality that does not include Bible teaching, we are as Jeremiah says:

# Faith Based In Truth

*O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself;  
It is not in man who walks to direct his own  
steps.*

**~ Jeremiah 10:23**

# Faith Based In Truth

Uphold me according to Your word, that I may live; And do not let me be ashamed of my hope. Hold me up, and I shall be safe, And I shall observe Your statutes continually.

**You reject all those who stray from Your statutes, For their deceit *is* falsehood.**

~ Psalm 119:116-118

# Faith Based In Truth

A man's steps *are* of the LORD;  
How then can a man understand his own way?

~ Proverbs 20:24

# Faith Based In Truth

## 3. Disobedience

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

~ Ephesians 5:6

# Faith Based In Truth

**The question then is this:** “How can I know that the way I am living or worshipping is pleasing to God unless He tells me so?”

*But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.*

**~ 1 Corinthians 2:10-11**

# Faith Based In Truth

- Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to the disciples (**John 14:26; 15:26**).
- These men who wrote the New and Old Testaments were filled with this Spirit (**Acts 2:1-4; 2 Peter 1:20-21**).
- Therefore if we wish to know God's Will we must know His Word, that is the Bible, the only true source of knowing what is pleasing and acceptable to God (**Psalm 119:38**).



*Faith Based In and Upon*

*Truth*

# Faith Based In Truth

- What is Truth?
- Specifically speaking for something to be true it must be in accordance with fact or reality:

$$2+2=4$$

Is in accordance with both fact and reality. This is true. It is not true to say “Well that may be true for you but not for me.” **There is such a thing as objective truth.**

# Faith Based In Truth

- Pilate in speaking with Jesus asked the question what is truth?

Pilate therefore said to Him, “Are You a king then?”  
Jesus answered, “You say *rightly* that I am a king.  
For this cause I was born, and for this cause I  
have come into the world, **that I should bear  
witness to the truth.** Everyone **who is of the  
truth hears My voice.**” (continued)

# Faith Based In Truth

Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?” And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, “I find no fault in Him at all.”

~ John 18:37-38

# Faith Based In Truth

- Jesus explains what is at the core of truth.

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

~ John 14:6

# Faith Based In Truth

- **It is for this reason that Christ could proclaim:**

And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.

**~ John 8:32**

# Faith Based In Truth

- It cannot be denied that there is an objective body of right and truth written down for us in the pages of the Bible.
- Furthermore it cannot be denied that at the very core of this truth in our salvation, worship, and daily living is Christ.
- If there is an objective body of truth and right then there is a right and wrong way to place faith in that truth.

# Faith Based In Truth

- It cannot be denied that a person must have faith in God.

But 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 diligently seek Him.

~ Hebrews 11:6



# Faith Based In Truth

- In order to have this faith it is essential that we know the Word.

So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

~ Romans 10:17

# Faith Based In Truth

- Your faith must be base upon your own hopes and contingent upon the evidence:

*Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.”*

~ John 6:29

# Faith Based In Truth

- What about your heart? Isn't that what really matters here? Isn't all the other stuff secondary?
- While the heart is important, as is zeal, it must be that what we are zealous for is according to truth

# Faith Based In Truth

*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.*

~ Romans 10:2

If zeal is all that is needed then Paul never would have had to become a Christian, and would have gone to Heaven persecuting the Church.

# Faith Based In Truth

- The same can be said of our worship assemblies.

“God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

~ John 4:24

# Faith Based In Truth

- What is the truth?
- Jesus Christ is the Son of God who died for our sins on the cross at Calvary and rose three days later.
- He gave the disciples the Comforting Holy Spirit who inspired them as they penned the New Testament and spread the gospel.

# Faith Based In Truth

- That we possess today this body of inspired truth that we call the Bible.
- That it serves as our guide for conduct, living, worship, and our salvation.
- This is truth!

# Faith Based In Truth

- It is this body of truth that call each and everyone of us home from a world of sin and darkness.
- It is this body of truth in which we find true peace, true happiness, true fellowship, true love, and eternal salvation.



# Jesus Is Standing At The Door...

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

~ Matthew 7:7-8

**All You Have To Do Is Knock**