

A Study of Faith Pt.3

THE FAITH

A photograph of a white dove in flight, symbolizing the Holy Spirit, positioned above a stone rolled away from the entrance of a tomb. The scene is illuminated by a bright, warm light from the left, creating a dramatic and spiritual atmosphere. The tomb's interior is visible, showing a bed of yellowish fabric.

Galatians 1 :23

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THE FAITH

- As we have examined Faith thus far in our study we have, from a Biblical standpoint:
 1. Defined and Identified Faith (**Hebrews 11:1**)
 2. Demonstrated that faith must be based in truth (**Romans 10:2; John 4:24**)

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- This morning we conclude our study of faith by examining faith from the standpoint of a collective body.
- That is those who all hold the same beliefs and convictions, gathered together in one body or mindset.

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THE FAITH

- While we can all believe and have faith in many different things, these pale in comparison to people believing in the Ultimate Truth.
- God wants people to be a part of **THE FAITH**, the most important assembling of people under the most important truth:

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

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THE FAITH

- This morning let us conclude our study of faith by examining THE FAITH!
- Let us look at what it means to each and everyone of us, and what it took to be established.

Faith vs The Faith



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THE FAITH

- The word “Faith” as we have examined it so far has been from a subjective standpoint.
- This means that we are dealing with one’s own personal faith, the faith and belief abiding in the heart of the individual.

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Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to **your faith** be it unto you.

~ **Matthew 9:29**

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

~ **1 Corinthians 2:5**

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- In other cases, faith is used by the New Testament writers objectively.
- This means that it stands for the entire body of doctrine or truth.
- This is the gospel system which calls each and every person to allow their faith to move them to obedience to God.

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But they were hearing only, “He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once *tried to* destroy.”

~ Galatians 1:23

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for **the faith** which was once for all delivered to the saints. ~ Jude 3

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Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand,

~ **1 Corinthians 15:1**

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- Paul said he preached “the faith” in **Galatians 1:23**
- Furthermore he said he preached “the gospel” in **1 Corinthians 15:1**
- Therefore “**the faith**” and “**the gospel**” are one in the same.

So...What is the
GOSPEL?

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- The word gospel comes from the Greek word:

euaggelion

(yoo-ang-ghel'-ee-on)

This is a Greek rendering of a Latin word and it literally

means **“Good News”**

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- As it relates to our relationship with God it means The Good News about the salvation that God has provided through Jesus Christ.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes,

~ Romans 1:16

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- Furthermore the Good News demonstrates to us that we are no longer bound under the Law, nor any other law as it pertains to our souls except Christ's Law.

Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

~ Mark 1:14-15

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- The New Testament often speaks of the gospel in a way that describes its benefits:
 - Gospel of God's Grace (Acts 20:24)
 - Gospel of Salvation (Ephesians 1:13)
 - Gospel of Peace (Ephesians 6:19)
 - Gospel of Hope (Colossians 1:23)
 - Gospel of Glory (2 Corinthians 4:4)
 - Gospel Worth Dying For (Mark 8:35)

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- By its Heavenly design the gospel was intended to be preached and taught to announce God's forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ.
- Furthermore it's story of love, sacrifice, victory, and peace elicits responses from those who hear it.

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Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, **and** said to Peter **and** the rest of the apostles, “**Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?**”

~ Acts 2:37

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- The Gospel is to be preached to all nations...

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

~ Matthew 24:14

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And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

~ **Mark 16:15**

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- Ultimately the gospel joyfully proclaims that the Messiah was sacrificed for the sins of the world upon the cross at Calvary.
- That he was lowered down and buried in a tomb
- Three days later he rose again and all who are Christians will do the same one day when He returns, to be with Him forever.

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- This is why it is called a gospel of peace, hope, grace.
- It is Christ's gospel and as His people we benefit from it and share it.
- Our faith leads us as all like minded believers into one body, thinking and teaching the same thing.

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For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, **so we, *being many*, are one body in Christ**, and individually members of one another.

~ Romans 12:4-5

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Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you, but *that* you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

~ **1 Corinthians 1:10**

Faith That Leads To Obedience



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- Faith is essential to pleasing God (**Hebrews 11:6**)
- However, faith alone will not save you (**Matthew 7:21-23; Romans 10:2; James 2:20**)
- Your faith must lead you to obey the gospel.

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For **the** time *has come* for judgment to begin at **the** house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* **the** end of those who do not **obey the gospel** of God?

~ 1 Peter 4:17

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- How do I obey the gospel and become a Christian?
- How do I become a part of the collective faith that are Christians?
- How do I ensure my sins are forgiven?

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- To do this one must:

Hear (Romans 10:17) – Subjective

Believe (Hebrews 11:6) – Subjective

Repent (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30) – Subjective

Confess (Romans 10:9-10) – Subjective

Baptized (Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:26-27) –

Objective Obedience and the point when one is added to THE FAITH or Church

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- When we obey the gospel we allow Christ to nail our sins to the cross.
- We allow the former life that we lived to die, and we are buried in a watery grave.
- We rise up a new Creature in Christ – we ourselves have died, been buried, and risen as Christ Himself did.

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Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, (continued)

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knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

~ Romans 6:3-8

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- This is how we become the collective body of people who make up THE FAITH, The Body of Christ, The Church of Christ (Romans 16:16).
- It is our faith that stems from hope, grounded in truth, and verified by evidence that leads us to ultimately stepping down into the waters of baptism.

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THE FAITH

- We are God's people...
- Of one mind and one body.
- One organized purpose: To Glorify God and present the gospel to a lost and dying world.
- This our faith, our drive, and our purpose.

This Morning Will You Allow Your Faith

I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

~ Matthew 17:20

To Lead You to Become a Christian?