

Faith, The Faith & the Faith of Christ

The word “faith” Greek *pistis* (*PIS-tis*) is often applied subjectively to one’s inner trust with reliance in Christ or God to save us. It is used as a synonym for “belief”. It is also used for what one believes ... our theology.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Words related to Faith: Strong’s 3982 *Pitho* (*PA-tho*), Trust, be persuaded a prime verb to convince by argument

Strong’s word 4100 Belief *pistoo* (*pis-TA-o*) result of testimony Strong’s 4102

Faith *pistis* (*PIS-tis*) keeps believing and trusting with no proof ...

Faith is trust with reliance in the propositional promises of God.

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 3: 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith [*it is*] impossible to please [*him*]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [*that*] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Faith is not a feeling or an emotion although feelings and emotions can accompany faith. Faith comes only one way

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Faith is just a little stronger word in English than belief.

Faith is trust with reliance that God in Christ will save you.

Example: Houdini kind of guy with a wheelbarrow on a tight-rope at Niagara Falls ... after many examples of the stunt, he asks do you believe I can do it? ...

OK, Hop in! ... God wants you to hop in.

It’s like ham and eggs for breakfast ... the chicken participates, while the pig is all in, fully committed ... God wants you all in ...

Open your Bible to Hebrews 11 and let’s look at verse one.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Faith is the platform your hope rests upon until your hope becomes substance and you can see the evidence of it.

I also like the Phillips translation of this verse:

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith means putting our full confidence in the things we hope for, it means being certain of things we cannot see.

Again I want you to understand clearly Faith only comes one way cf:

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

But faith in other contexts, especially with the Greek article we translate with the English word “the” ... the faith ...

Greek *tis pisteos* (*tees PIS-tee-os*). It is used in the objective sense, meaning the body of truth, the whole system of religion that is taught, believed and practiced by New Testament Christians, the pattern for true 1st century original Christianity.

“The faith” is used to describe a system that superseded and took the place of the Mosaic Law and it’s religious system cf:

Jesus promised the apostles they would be led into all truth:

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [*that*] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Peter indicates the revelation was complete by the time he wrote 2nd Peter:

II Peter 1: 3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [*pertain*] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

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Galatians 3:23-27 But before (*The*) faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Galatians 3:25 But after that (*the*) faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by (*the*) faith in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

We do not become the “children of God” by “the law” but by “the faith”, “*tis PIS-te-os*” (*tees PIS-tee-os*). It is “the faith” because there is only “one faith” cf:

Ephesians 4:4-5 *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

Ephesians 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism

The term “The Way” and “the Faith” are used in the same sense:

Proverbs 4:18 But the path of the just *is* as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

Isaiah 35:8 And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it *shall be* for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err *therein*.

Jeremiah 32:39 And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them:

Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

14 Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Luke 18:8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find (the) faith on the earth?

When Jesus returns will there be any original NT Christianity left on the earth?

Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Because of the danger the Church is exposed to by false teachers, hold fast to that truth which you have received. Strenuously contend for only that faith system you have received from the Lord and His Holy Apostles.

Acts 6:7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

This is a summary of the book of Acts. Notice that before, disciples were added cf: Acts 2:41 and Acts 2:47 but now, disciples are multiplied. True Christianity bears fruit.

Acts 13:7-8 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas (EL- i - mus) the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

To turn him away from personal faith and trust in Christ but also that faith system that goes with personal faith, the faith previously described in short when the Church began on Pentecost cf:

Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Disciples are literally scholars and the Church of Christ is the school. Our doctrine and teaching came from God through Christ and His Apostles. This teaching contains the essential principles of NT Christianity called the faith.

Acts 16:5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

First disciples were added, then disciples were multiplied; now congregations of the Church are added in number daily. Real NT Christianity bears much fruit.

Acts 24:14 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

Romans 1:5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

Because the grace of God revealed the gospel truth to His Holy Apostles it is necessary we have genuine obedience to the faith.

Romans 14:1 Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, *but* not to doubtful disputations.

The context is: Receive the Jewish brother who is weak in the faith and still keeps kosher food laws and days but don't allow it to become a matter of constant disputing.

I Corinthians 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

Quit or behave yourselves as men and not children tossed to and fro with every wind of doctrine and slight of men. You have many enemies, be continually on guard against evil, hold strong to the gospel and NT Christianity as the revealed truth of God.

II Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

Paul is saying, try yourselves, examine your hearts compared to what I have written and see whether you retain the true faith. Put yourselves to the test and try yourselves as gold and silver are tried. It is as easy to find a phony religion as it is to find a counterfeit gold coin, which is mixed with base metals. Are you true; is Christ in you as your hope of glory? Are you becoming Christ-like and bearing fruit?

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Galatians 1:23 But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed.

Paul was well known both as a persecutor in times past, and as a preacher of true Christianity.

Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Till we all come, both Jew and Gentile, in unity, in this Christian system proclaimed by the Apostles. Knowledge is a true, full understanding that God was manifest in the flesh as Jesus, who died and arose for our sins. The perfect is thoroughly taught and instructed in NT Christianity.

Colossians 1:23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister

You will be un-reproveable if you continue in the faith of NT Christianity. You must be grounded in true knowledge and settled, made firm, persevering and steadfast in the truth of New Testament Christianity. The “hope of the Gospel” is the resurrection of our bodies, their glorification with our souls in future realms of blessedness.

Titus 1:13 This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;

“Sound in the faith” is that they practice the incorrupt teaching of NT Christianity.

I Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

So, to turn aside from the NT System is to depart from “the faith” To apostatize from the faith, renouncing the whole system in effect, by bringing in doctrines or teaching of devils, who influenced and taught false prophets, who goal is to change every truth to a lie.

I Timothy 6:20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane *and* vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

Those who teach false knowledge, which was called “science” (Greek *gno'-sis*) have “erred concerning the faith”.

I Timothy 6:21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace *be* with thee. Amen

They have completely forsaken NT Christianity.

Phillippians 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Wrangling together, in union against the enemy, for the truth of the pure gospel of Christ; which is His death, burial, and resurrection. This is the foundation of this whole system of NT Christianity.

All this shows that, in the NT times, there was a clearly defined system of belief and practice which is identified over and over as “the faith”.

The Remnant

Isaiah 1:7-9 Your country *is* desolate, your cities *are* burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and *it is* desolate, as overthrown by strangers. **8** And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city. **9** Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, *and* we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

Isaiah 4:3 And it shall come to pass, *that he that is* left in Zion, and *he that* remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, *even* every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem:

Isaiah 11:16 And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

Jeremiah 6:9 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, They shall thoroughly glean the remnant of Israel as a vine: turn back thine hand as a grapegatherer into the baskets.

Jeremiah 23:3 And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

Jeremiah 31:7 For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

Ezekiel 14:20 Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, *were* in it, *as* I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall *but* deliver their own souls by their righteousness.

Ezekiel 14:22 Yet, behold, therein shall be left a remnant that shall be brought forth, *both* sons and daughters: behold, they shall come forth unto you, and ye shall see their way and their doings: and ye shall be comforted concerning the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, *even* concerning all that I have brought upon it.

Micah 2:12 I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah (BOZ-rah), as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of *the multitude of men*.

Zephaniah 2:9 Therefore *as* I live, saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, *even* the breeding of nettles, and saltpits, and a perpetual desolation: the residue of my people shall spoil them, and the remnant of my people shall possess them.

Romans 9:27 Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved:

Romans 11:5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: **Mat 7:14** Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Romans 3:22 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:

Galatians 2: 16-20 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 Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. 17 But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, [*/s*] therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. 18 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. 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. 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness [*come*] by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

Sources: KJV, theWord.com, Gospel Advocate