

Faith in Acts and the Epistles

Introduction:

1. To know what God wants us to know about "faith" we must carefully examine the Scriptures.
2. In our study of faith we have examined:
 - a. Hebrews 11
 - b. passages in the Gospels.
3. In this lesson we are concentrating on some important points of information revealed in Acts and the New Testament epistles [letters] about faith.

Discussion:

- I. ACTS 14:27
 - A. When Paul and Barnabas completed their missionary journey they returned to Antioch and *"rehearsed all that God had done with them."*
 - B. They also reported how God *"had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles."*
- II. THE EPISTLES
 - A. Romans 10:17
 1. Faith comes by hearing God's Word.
 2. However, in order for faith to develop God's Word must be heard correctly.
 - a. According to Hebrews 4:2, God's Word can be heard with no profit.
 - b. The proper way to hear is explained in Luke 8:15.
 - B. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
 1. Paul discussed the message he preached in Corinth.
 2. His purpose for preaching his message was for people to have their faith stand *"in the power of God"* and not *"in the wisdom of men."*
 - C. 2 Corinthians 5:7 -- God's people are to *"walk by faith, not by sight."*
 - D. Galatians 3:26-27 -- We become God's children *"by faith in Christ Jesus"* when we are *"baptized into Christ."*
 - E. Ephesians 6:13-17
 1. To stand against Satan we must put on *"the whole armor of God."*
 2. A part of this armor is *"the shield of faith"* that enables God's people to *"quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."*
 - F. Philippians 1:25 -- This verse mentions *"joy of faith"* (3:1a; 4:4).
 - G. Colossians 2:11-13 -- God forgives us when we are buried with Christ in baptism and raised with Him *"through faith of the operation of God."*
 - H. 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 -- Verse 3 mentions *"work of faith."*
 - I. 2 Thessalonians 1:3 -- The faith of God's people is to "grow exceedingly."
 - J. 1 Timothy 6:11-12 -- God's people are to follow after faith and *"fight the good fight of faith."*
 - K. 2 Timothy 1:5 -- Faith is influential.
 - L. Titus 2:2 -- Aged men are to be *"sound in faith."*
 - M. Philemon 4-6 -- Faith is to be heard about and communicated.
 - N. James 2:17,20,24,26 -- Faith without works is dead.
 - O. 1 Peter 5:8-9 -- Faith is a key to resisting Satan.
 - P. 2 Peter 1:5-7 -- Faith is the foundation upon which the Christian graces are to be added.
 - Q. 1 John 5:4 -- Faith will enable God's people to overcome the world.
 - R. 3 John 5 -- Gaius did whatever he did *"faithfully"* (1 Corinthians 4:2).
 - S. Revelation 2:10 -- To receive a crown of life God's people must be *"faithful unto death."*