

It Is Faith or It Is Not

Faith must define every part of all Christian's lives – Heb 10:37-38 -37 For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. 38 But my righteous one will LIVE BY faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him."

EVERYTHING we do must be in Jesus' name, which means it must be done in Faith - Col 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, DO IT ALL in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

We become an extreme danger to others when we are not ALWAYS living by Faith - Matt 16:21-23 - 21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Faith not displayed is worthless - James 2:17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, IS DEAD.

Belief is faith shown by works - James 2:21-24 - 21 Was not our ancestor **Abraham considered righteous for WHAT HE DID** when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made COMPLETE BY WHAT HE DID. 23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "**Abraham BELIEVED God**, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend.

We get faith from the Word in order for us to live by the Word - Rom 10:17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

God allows weak faith on matters that have nothing to do with our salvation - Rom 14:1-3 -Accept him whose **faith is weak**, without passing judgment on DISPUTABLE MATTERS. 2 One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables.

Those even with weak faith, must stand firm on that faith - Rom 14:5-8 - 5 One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. **Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind**. 6 He who regards one day as special, **does so to the Lord**. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains, **does so to the Lord** and gives thanks to God. 7 For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. 8 **If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord**. So, **whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord**.

We must remember there are only two life choices, either by Faith or sin - Rom 14:22-23 - 22 So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. 23 But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and **EVERYTHING THAT DOES NOT COME FROM FAITH IS SIN**.

It is imperative that we not only live by Faith, But NEVER by sight - 2 Cor 5:7 We live by faith, NOT BY SIGHT.

When our focus is not through Faith, we become a major problem to the spreading of the Gospel - Phil 3:18-21 - 18 For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. **THEIR MIND IS ON EARTHLY THINGS**. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Our mindset must be to live for God even when we struggle with it - 1 Peter 4:1-3 - Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. 2 **AS A RESULT, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires**, but **rather for the will of God**.

We must suffer in the body, because the body is the source of our sin - James 1:14-15 - 14 but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Our protection from Satan is us STAYING in Faith - 1 Peter 5:8-9 - 8 **Be self-controlled and alert**. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

We must consciously lock in on everything Spiritually and realize we do not have a separate part of our life other than the Spiritual - Col 3:1-4 - Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, **SET YOUR HEARTS ON THINGS ABOVE**, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 **SET YOUR MINDS ON THINGS ABOVE, NOT ON EARTHLY THINGS**. 3 For **you died**, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.