

## BIBLE FACTS ABOUT “THE FAITH”

Ed Dye

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The expression “the faith” is a Bible expression and is found numerous times in the N.T. scriptures.
2. It’s an expression that has reference to “the system of faith” in God’s scheme of human redemption; it refers to “the gospel of Christ,” as the system of faith, which is God’s power to save the believer, both Jew and Gentile, or to the law of Christ, “the perfect law of liberty.”
3. It is the message Jesus commissioned his apostles to go into all the world and preach to every creature to make disciples, “the word of reconciliation” committed to them by which their “ministry of reconciliation” was to be fulfilled.
4. In reality the understanding of “the faith” is relatively simple. Yet it is so often so grossly misunderstood and perverted, as the following two examples indicate.
  - a. In the religious world in general, rather than “the faith,” it’s “your faith,” and “my faith,” the faith of your choice, or many faiths.
  - b. The case of the one widely known as “Mother Teresa,” where her faith, according to reports, was based on hearing – hearing what she thought were voices – the voice of Jesus Christ speaking directly and personally to her – rather than on her “hearing the word of God,” which produces personal faith in us.

“According to an article that was published in the New York Daily Times, Aug. 24, 2007, written by Helen Kennedy, ‘Mother Teresa,’ the famous humanitarian, had struggled with and lost her faith in God. According to her own letters, she felt ‘unwanted, unloved’ by God, and instead of faith, had nothing ‘but emptiness and darkness.’

“In 1946, when she was a 36-year-old convent teacher, she thought ‘Christ spoke to her directly’ and she felt ‘a deeply personal bond with Jesus’ and recounted ‘conversations and visions’ she had with Him. However, the heavenly voices she thought she heard, ceased, and ‘it

was that loss that she mourned the rest of her life,' spending 'her last 50 years secretly struggling with doubts about her faith.' 'She felt abandoned by Christ, referring to Jesus as 'the Absent One.' It seems her faith was built on hearing – hearing what she thought were voices, rather than on 'hearing the word of God.' When the voices ceased, so did her faith. How sad." –Copied from an article by bro. Steve Fontenot, in Think On These Things, Vol. 39, No. 2, Apr.-May-June, 2008, p.2.

5. This emphasizes the importance of some pertinent questions to help further introduce our study of Bible facts about "the faith."
  - a. What are we to believe?
  - b. Why are we to believe what we believe?
  - c. How are we to know what we are to believe?
  - d. How do we know it is by faith or by mere opinion?
  - e. Why is faith necessary?
6. With these introductory thoughts in mind, consider some Bible facts about "The Faith" revealed in the N.T.

## **II. DISCUSSION**

### **A. THERE IS ONLY "ONE FAITH," EPH.4:4-6.**

1. Take note of what this says about each one mentioned.
2. If it means one and only one with reference to "one Spirit," "one Lord," "one God, and Father," and it certainly does; how can it mean more than one when it say "one faith"?
3. This is simple and plain. It does NOT mean two or more. It means ONLY ONE!

### **B. THIS "ONE FAITH" NOT ONLY CAN AND SHOULD BE PREACHED, IT IS "THE FAITH" WHICH THE APOSTLES OF CHRIST PREACHED, Gal.1:15-23; Cf. Gal.2:1,2,7-9; 2Pet.3:15-17. Cf. 1Jno.1:1-6.**

### **C. TO PREACH THE "ONE FAITH" AND THE "ONE GOSPEL OF CHRIST" IS TO PREACH THE SAME THING.**

1. This "one faith" is what the apostles preached.

2. Yet when they preached the “one faith” they preached the “gospel of Christ” which Jesus sent them into the world to preach to every creature, of which there is only one, which they preached when they preached Jesus as the risen Lord, Mk.16:15,16; 1Cor.1:1,2; 15:1,2; Gal.1:6-12,23.

**D. THIS “ONE FAITH” OR THIS “ONE GOSPEL” IS THE ONE AND ONLY MEANS OF SALVATION BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST IN THIS DISPENSATION OF TIME.**

1. Mk.16:15,16.
2. Rom.1:14-17; 3:19-28.
3. 1Cor.15:1,2; 2Th.1:6-10.
4. Ac.10:1-6; 11:13,14; 10:33-35.

**E. THIS “ONE FAITH” OR THIS “ONE GOSPEL” CAN BE AND MUST BE BOTH BELIEVED AND OBEYED IN ORDER TO BE SAVED FROM PAST SINS.**

1. Mk.16:15,16.
2. Ac.6:7.
3. Rom.1:5; 16:25,26; 6:16-18.
4. 2Th.1:6-10.
5. Heb.5:8,9.
6. Jno.12:48-50.
7. Mt.7:24-27; Lk.6:46.

**F. THIS “ONE FAITH” CAN AND SHOULD BE CONTENDED FOR AND OR DEFENDED, Jude 3; Phil.1:17,27.**

**G. THIS “ONE FAITH” CAN BE DEPARTED FROM, 1Cor.1:10-13; 4:6;11:19; 2Th.2:3-12; 1Tim.4:1-3; 2Tim.3:1-5; Heb.6:4-6; 10:28-31.**

**H. THIS “ONE FAITH” CAN BE DESTROYED OR MADE SHIPWRECK, Gal.1:13; Cf. 1:13.**

1. That is, ravaged, wasted, made havock of or overthrown.

2. According to 1Tim.1:19 one may even “cast away” or thrust away a good conscience concerning faith which they have made shipwreck.

**I. THESE BIBLE FACTS ABOUT “THE FAITH” REVEALED IN THE N.T. SCRIPTURES LEAVE NO DOUBT THERE CAN BE NO TRUE BIBLICAL FAITH IN THE FOLLOWING POPULAR DOCTRINES OF MEN, ONLY HUMAN OPINION.**

1. Salvation by faith alone or salvation at the point of faith without further acts of obedience.
2. Remission of past sins before and without water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ.
3. Saved, then join the church, or the Denomination, of your choice.
4. Wearing religious titles such as Father, Reverend, etc.
5. Women preachers.
6. Religious observance of Easter or Christmas as the birthday of Christ, or for any other religious purpose.
7. Centralized and or human institutionalized congregational cooperation for the evangelistic, edification, and or benevolent work of local churches; such as: M.S.; B.S.; E.S.; church sponsored Bible colleges, or the Sponsoring church arrangement for congregational cooperation.

**III. CONCLUSION**

1. Mt.15:9.
2. 1Cor.1:10-13.
3. 1Pet.4:11.
4. Rev.22:18,19.
5. Mt.7:24-27.