

# Christian Faith: A Biblical View

## Introduction

Perhaps the real meaning of the word faith is hidden in very nature and principles of it. The word has not just a single meaning but several. Each of them can be discovered we come to know the nature of true faith.

The above fact is very much true with Christian faith. Bible says, of course, that there is only one faith, but it has many characteristics to recognize it and define it correctly. It is also true that every one may not have the same opinion about the faith. And it is because of the different understanding about faith, its natures and its inner and outer aspects, creates all kind of denominations.

Therefore, whatever it may be it is essential for us to know what bible teaches about the true faith which is in Jesus Christ:

### 1. Faith is the assurance for the things hoped for...and seen (Heb.11:1)

In this very definition of faith a clear and vital truth has been revealed about the faith.

The first things we should know of faith is it is the ASSURANCE and not doubt. It is to have definite hope and certainty. When some says he has faith he means to say he is certain about his believe.

Secondly that the assurance must be on the things/happenings which has not yet come to pass but hoped for. It is we have assurance on the things that we have not seen or felt yet.

### 2. Faith comes from hearing the Word of God (Romans.10:17)

Christian faith is not uncertain or vague which has no basic but has a solid and sure foundation. It has got the eternal source i.e. the Word of God. Christian faith is not just trusting blindly but comes from by hearing the Word of God. Because the Word of God has the power to convince, to cleans and transform a person; the Word of God has power to give a new birth in Jesus Christ. Therefore what ever Bible says is of faith and whatever Bible does not say is not of faith. Faith is born by hearing God's Word and sustain by it alone. But some time it gets weaker due to our disobedience to God and His Word; due to taste of God's person in our life. If God's Word is the foundation of our faith Jesus Christ is the Author of our faith. But faith is never based on knowledge alone. There are thing in the Bible that we should understand first then to have faith on it. For example, the baptism of water. And there are other things in the bible that we never understand but bible commands us to have faith in it. For example, the virgin birth of Jesus, the resurrection of Jesus, the regeneration, etc. but in either case Bible is/should remain the foundation of our faith.

### 3. Faith is always logical and realistic : Its True Nature

How can my faith be proved true if I don't know the person personally on whom I believe. Faith should have answer to give the reason of it. Faith is always defensive of its reason. Though there are many thing in the bible that we do not understand it before we put our faith in it; yet there other sects of thing in the Bible that we should examine thoroughly. The birth of Jesus cannot be understand fully but the fact is that Jesus was born is a evidence that is hidden form the history or time. Trinity cannot be fully explained but this truth is clearly displayed in the Bible. But here the faith has to work out that whether the opinion about the birth of Jesus is true to our faith and God's Word or not; whether the explanation about His resurrection is correctly or not. Is every healings approved by God? In these kinds of cases faith is logical and should be realistic.

### 4. Faith always pleases God. (Heb11:4)

It is not enough to know or to say that god is good, God is almighty, etc. expressing someone by telling that you love him/her does not build any relationship. It is you need to love; you need to experience God is almighty and good. Then and then we are able to please Him through our faith. Our knowledge about Him never pleases God rather our obedience makes us come closer to Him. Faith is always practical.

Abraham not knew that God will make him the father of the nations but he did follow God in spite of many tests and troubles. This is why Bible says faith is dead without works. Faith is like coin having two sides. (Rom1:17)

### 5. Faith is always Progressive (Rom1:17)

Abraham was counted as righteous because of his faith in God. This righteousness came to him from faith to faith. It is to say Abraham righteousness was proved from faith to faith, from time to time. His righteous was perfect but the source of his righteousness was not perfect. His faith was not perfect. His faith was tested several times as Bible records very clearly. We don't become perfect Christian at once though we are accepted as His own child as soon we received Jesus in to our lives. Our faith is never perfect or can be perfect till Jesus Christ come again. If our faith would have perfect then we should not have need of Holy Spirit or God's Word, we would have been in heaven. There would not have been many

denominations, no sickness, no fights, no death, etc. But God wants us to depend on Him and obey Him as our Father, thus our faith is never perfect and complete. A child of God grows everyday. It is growing and always remains progressive. We are cleansed by God day by day. Every one has one faith but not of the same level. Some string faith some weaker. God alone know the measure of our Faith. Because He is the Author and Finisher of our Faith. We are justified by Jesus death on Cross is sure but then we are being sanctified every moments is a progressive thing.

### **Conclusion**

- The Definition of Faith : Faith if the assurance for the things hoped for...and seen (Heb.11:1)
- The Foundation of Faith : Faith comes from hearing the Word of God ( Romans.10:17)
- The Principle of Faith : Faith is always logical and realistic
- The Purpose of Faith : Faith always pleases God. (Heb11:4)
- The Nature of Faith : Faith is always Progressive (Rom1:17)