

Acts 16:29-31;

Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, (30)-And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? (31)-And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Acts 16:32-33;

And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house (33)-And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

1-Without faith it is impossible to please God. Hebrews 11:6.

2-Faith is absolutely necessary to salvation: Mark 16:16.

3-Faith is the first command of the gospel; Acts 16:31.

4-Faith must precede baptism; Acts 8:36-37.

5-In this discourse we desire to find out what faith is and how it is produced.....

1-What is faith?

1-In the narrow sense it is the belief of testimony-For where there is no testimony there can be no faith. John 20:30-31;

And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: (31)-B't these are written that ye

might believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life

1-What is faith? continued:

1-In a broader sense it is absolute confidence in God-It is taking God at his word.

Hebrews 11;

In this chapter:

- 1-The blessings of faith are recited.
- 2-The meaning of fiath is illustrated in the lives of the ancient men of God, who walked by faith, and not by sight.

2 Cor. 5:7

2-In its broadest sense; Heb.11:1;

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen.

1-Substance;

1-Means that which stands under, and supports, a structure.

2-Faith is that which supports all of our hopes----It stands under our hope of eternal life.

2-Faith is the evidence of things not seen:

If this earth is not moved from its orbital course over the cheeks will fly to all parts of the earth

1-I have never been in Paris or Berlin, but I have the evidence that these cities are in existence.

2-I have never seen;

Jesus Christ in person, but I have the evidence that he does exist.

3-Where is that evidence;

In the Bible, the word of God, so

2-How is faith produced?

1-Calvinism teaches that men are as dead spiritually as was Lazarus physically; and that, since it required a special miracle to raise Lazarus from the dead, so it requites miraculus influence to save a sinner. If this is true the there is no such thing as human responsibility, and all men should be saved.

2-How is faith produced? continued- acquired.

1-How do we believe? John 17:20;

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word.

2-John 20:30-31;

And many other signs did Jesus truly in the presence of his disciples which are not written in this book, but these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

3-To believe we must hear; Acts 15:7;

Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

4-Acts 17:11-12;

The Bereans searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed; also of honorable women which were greeks, and of men, not a few.

5-Romans 10:17;

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

6-So we see that;

- 1-Faith is not produced by prayer.
- 2-Faith is not a direct gift from God.
- 3-Faith come by hearing the word of God or the Bible is not so.??????????

7-What must men believe to be saved:

John 20:30-31; Acts 8:37;

1-Belief in Lutheranism, Calvinism, or any other ism, will not bring any remission fo sins... The faith that will save is the belief in Jesus as the Christ, the son of God. THIS FAITH COMES FROM THE INVESTIGATION OF TESTIMONY.

4-We consider the scope of faith:

- 1-Faith stretches from the cradle to the grave.
- 2-Faith controls the business world.
- 3-Faith makes home life happy.
- 4-Faith lightens the burdens of life.
- 5-Faith makes the the soul-happy at the coming of death.

5-What is the object of faith:

- 1-That we might have life through his name.

John 3:14-15;

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

That whosoever believeth in ^{him} should not perish, but have eternal life.

2-James 2:17;

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

1-As faith without works is dead, so faith alone makes merely a disciple.

3-Faith must lead us;

1-Repent and be baptized in order to get into Christ and be Christians:
Gal. 3:26-27;

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

(27)-For as many of you as have been bpatized into Christ have put on Christ.

6-Finally, Faith is a continuous thing:

Repentance is faith willing;

Confession is faith speaking;

Baptism is faith acting; as prayer is

faith communing; and the Christian life

is faith serving---Hence we are saved by faith as the very system that leads to the very portals of eternity. 1-Pet. 1:9; Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.