Faith

I. What is Faith?

A. Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

B. Is a work

Jn 6:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, "This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

C. Is a Full Persuasion

abraham Rom 4:20-21 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

II How many kinds of Faith are there?

A. Eph 4:4-6 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

1.) Active

James 2:18 Yea, a man may say, ~~that~~ thou hast faith and I have works, shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

2.) Inactive

James 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

III. Does Faith alone save?

A. Faith without love will not profit.

I Cor 13:2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge;

and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

B. The Cowardly Rulers Believed

Jn 12:42-43 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

C. Faith without Works is dead

James 2:17-26 pg 285

IV. Why is Faith necessary?

A. We cannot please God without it.

1.) Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him; for ~~th~~he that ~~[illegible]~~ cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those that "diligently" seek him.

B. It purifies the heart.

1.) Acts 15:19 And put no difference between us and them, purifing their hearts by faith.

C. We live by faith.

1.) Rom 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, the just shall live by faith.

D. We walk by faith.

1.) II Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.
True by Believing not by seeing

V. How do We Get Faith?

A. Does faith come in answer to prayer?

a.) James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

1.) IF it does how can we ask in faith?

2.) Would the Prayer be pleasing to God when faith is absent?

Repeat a.) Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

B. The word of God is the medium of Faith.

1.) It is the testimony concerning Christ.

a.) John 20:30-31 And many other signs truly did Jesus 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; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

written that ye might believe.

2.) It is by the word of the apostles.

a.) Jn 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word.

God gave words to Christ. Christ gave words to the apostles.

3.) It is by the word of God.

a.) Rom 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

VI. When does faith Save?

A. Are men justified by faith before or after they obey God?

1.) When was Abel justified by faith?

a.) Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain.

after he offered the sacrifice.

2.) When was Noah justified by faith?

a.) Heb 11:7 By faith Noah being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house.

when he did what God told him to do.

When does faith save? When the word is obeyed; by doing what God wants us to do. By working, not sitting idlley by.

VII. Is Justification by Faith only?

A. The Bible nowhere says we are justified by faith only.

works 1.) ~~James 2:24~~ Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

2.) Rom 8:24 For we are saved by hope: but hope Hope that is seen is not hope: ~~for~~ for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

B. If men are justified by faith only, why are they going to be judged according to their works?

1.) Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead small and great stand before God, and the books were opened, and another book was opened ~~which~~ which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

C. Not hearers, but doers of the law are justified.

1.) James 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

2.) James 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

In Heb 11:6 we find that without faith we can't please God. In Mk 16:16 we find that if we believe not we will be ~~d~~ damned. In Jn 3:36 we read that if we don't believe we won't see life; and in Jn 8:24 that if we believe not we will die in our sins.