

# **“FOR WITHOUT FAITH” (1)**

By Keith Greer

So, does this mean that we just believe in Jesus and we will be saved, without doing anything for Him? Many in the world of religion would affirm that is all men need to do. Jesus concluded his discussion with Nicodemus by telling him that "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God." (John 3:20,21)

God loved us so much that He sent His Son to die for us. "He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God." (1 Peter 1:20,21)

Since man, because of sin, was first separated from God in the garden of Eden, man has had the longing to "go home"- to be with God once again. We read that we are to "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." [James 4:7-8]

What does man in his "wisdom" do? Some may turn to a bottle. Others may take mind-altering drugs. Some may look for satisfaction in one relationship after another, and still others want to work the problems out in their lives first and then "come back to God."

How can we work out anything without God? "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith." (1 John 5:4)

Man has no friend like God. He has done everything for us, and gave us the best He had. Yet, if we are to be His friends, we must keep His commandments. (John 15:14)

One cannot "pick and choose" what we are going to believe, what we are going to obey and still hope to be pleasing to God. Rather, "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:6,7)

Please notice that Satan is not like a shy little kitten. He is referred to as a "roaring lion", and he wants our souls. He wants yours, and he wants mine!

Who are you going to believe? Should one believe the lies that Satan sets forth, and follow after the works of the flesh? Or, are you going to believe God and keep His commandments?

Do I personally understand how God created all of the beauty of the world in six days. BY FAITH, I know He did!

I do not know how God loved us so much that He allowed His Son to be humiliated, reviled, spat upon and crucified. BY FAITH I know He did.

The power of God, we are told, is in the gospel of Christ (Romans 1:16), and "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." (Hebrews 11:6)

Why would anyone choose to spend eternity in Hell, instead of a home with God, thru out the everlasting ages? "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." (Matthew 7:13,14) My faith will be in God because He always keeps His promises. What about you friend, what do you have faith in? \*\*\*