

INCREASE OUR FAITH

By Keith Greer

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” {Hebrews 11:1} This verse gives the Bible’s definition of faith. Every Christian understands the importance of faith—right? “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} Notice the word ‘impossible’ the religious world understands this very well, except it often places TOO MUCH emphasis on faith. How? By making faith the only necessary part of a person’s salvation. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” {John 3:16} So, wherein lies the real truth concerning the subject of FAITH?

Must hear only God. “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” {Romans 10:17} True believers in the Lord must listen to ONLY His instructions. “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.” {Hebrews 1:1,2} Any religious person who follows any other instructions does not have the faith discussed in the Bible.

Only obedient faith is saving faith. “By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.” {Hebrews 11:7} A careful reading and examination of Hebrews 11 will help one see that true Bible faith is obedient faith. Faith’s strength is seen in obedience, and its weakness is revealed by disobedience. Failure to act shows lack of trust in God and declares the weakness of one’s faith. If we want others to understand the meaning of real Bible faith, we must live obedient lives. Sadly, much of the religious world has confused true Bible faith with the concept of “mental accent.” Lord, help us increase our true Bible faith! ***