

*In
Search
of ...*

Truth & Right

GENESIS

Tim Henderson, Editor

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"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

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**Wellsburg
church of Christ**
Which meets at:
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Wellsburg, WV 26070
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*We appreciate so much
your presence here with
us today. We would like
to extend an invitation
to join us at any of our
other times of worship.*

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Classes* 10:00 AM

AM Worship 10:45 AM

PM Worship 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes* 7:00 PM

(* Bible Classes for All Ages)

Today's Sermon:

*We Need More
Barnabas'*

*Audio CD's are available
free of charge in the foyer.*

*Please visit our website:
www.truthandright.org*

*If you have any questions regarding
what we teach and practice, please
feel free to ask*

Characteristics of Bible Faith

By—Tom Moody

Via—Market Street Messenger—06/26/2011

"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" (Hebrews 11:6).

We know that we are saved by faith, and cannot be saved without faith. Most likely, all who are reading this article believe this; but there is great disagreement and misunderstanding of what constitutes true, saving, Bible faith.

Some feel that having faith means the abandonment of reason: the blind acceptance of that for which there is no reasonable basis. This is why religion is ridiculed by skeptics. They picture believers as superstitious and ignorant. Even some religious people seem to think that faith is to accept that which has no reason or evidence. They will teach that faith is something received miraculously when the Spirit "opens our heart." and that, in fact, one cannot even understand the Bible until the Holy Spirit has come upon him in some mystical way.

Further confusion results in the minds of many because they will hear one preacher say that saving faith consists merely of belief in Jesus Christ, while another says that true faith requires action on the part of the believer.

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What Is Bible Faith?

The Bible states: *"The evidence of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"* (Hebrews 11:1). Notice that according to the Bible definition, faith is not the wish for something, but the assurance of the things hoped for. Faith is the evidence of that which is to come; thus it must have its basis on that which is reasonable and factual rather than on superstition, human feeling, or blind acceptance.

What Characterizes True Faith?

Not only do we have an inspired definition to help us identify what saving faith is, but the Lord in His inspired word also supplied us with a number of marks of characteristics that are illustrative of true, Bible faith.

1. Trust — in Hebrews 11:8-10 we read that Abraham left his home and his father's people and *"went out, not knowing whither he went."* He did this *"by faith."* He was not anxious about what the outcome of his sojourn would be because he had faith in God, and trusted God to lead him to a better land and to be with him wherever he went.

Also, in verse 17 of Hebrews 11 we are told that Abraham *"by faith...offered up Isaac."* Though Isaac was Abraham's son of promise, Abraham did not hesitate to obey the Lord, for he knew that if need be, God could raise Isaac from the dead. (v.19).

2. Hope — What caused Abraham to have such unreserved trust in God? One factor was the hope that Abraham had for the promises God had made to him. Again, in Hebrews 11:9-10, *"By faith he sojourned in the land of promise...for he looked for a city which hath foundations whose builder and maker is God."* Through desire for a better country Abraham was given much of the strength and courage he needed to remain faithful.

3. Factual Basis — As already pointed out, true, Bible faith must be based on fact rather than wishful thinking or fickle human feelings or emotions. There are religious people who seem to be very trusting, and are hopeful that they will be saved; but, sadly, they do not have a saving faith because their trust is misplaced and their hope is unfounded. For example, some put trust in their parent's religion despite what the Bible says. Others put trust in promises God has not made. God never promised to save someone by "praying through" at an altar, but many put trust in the idea that God will save by that means. Thousands are hoping for a utopian 1,000 year reign upon earth with Christ as king. Still others are looking for everlasting life on this earth. But the Bible does not promise these things, thus those who trust in

these occurrences of men and who have hope for things not promised in God's word do not have their faith established on a factual basis.

4. Obedience — This is an essential element of Bible faith. Observe that in the cases listed in Hebrews 11 of these great men and women of faith, they were commended because of what they did by faith. Their faith moved them to obedience. Yet many today preach that obedience is not necessary to a saving faith. Do not be deceived! In order to become a Christian you must act upon your faith in obedience to God's plan of salvation. *"Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works"* (James 2:18).

Do you have enough trust and faith in God's will to obey what he says regardless of what it may be: If so, then you can say you have a saving faith.

Jesus said, *"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"* (Mark 16:16).

Many do not have the obedient faith it takes to obey these simple commands, but reject them, believing they can be saved by faith alone or grace alone. What about you? Do you have a trusting faith, a faith based on scriptural facts, and obedient faith? Then show your faith in Jesus Christ by turning from your sins and being baptized for remission of sins and entrance into the church of the Lord.

Building A Home

By—David Thomley
Via—College View Columns

It happens all the time. Boy meets girl. They begin dating. They fall in love. They become engaged. They plan their wedding. They get married.

No doubt, some folks spend much more time planning their wedding than they spend in planning their marriage and their home. The wedding is a one-time celebration bonding two people in the most intimate relationship known to humanity. The marriage, however, was intended by God to endure for a lifetime. In our society, weddings are romanticized so that little girls grow up dreaming and planning for the day when they will be the

beautiful Cinderella in the long flowing gown. Literally hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars are expended on some weddings, while the marriages sometimes do not last long enough to pay off the expenses incurred.

The successful home is the one built according to divine specifications. It merits far more effort and sacrifice than a wedding. The stability of the home rests on the understanding that marriage is God's idea, not man's, and God insists that the relationship He ordained is good! Couples who are determined to have happy, fulfilling marriages must recognize the significance of building their lives together according to the plan God has revealed.

Love: The Divine Adhesive

The apostle Paul described the cloak of Christ which ought to envelope the lives of all the saints (Colossians 3:12-15). *"And above all things put on love, which is the bond of perfectness."* Love is the quality which brings together all the other attributes into a single design.

In marriage, love is the glue that binds man and woman as one and causes them to stick together when other forces are acting to push them apart. The love which keeps a marriage intact is not limited to the mushy-gushy feeling which surges through the veins of a teenage boy and causes his cheeks to glow and his knees to tremble when that special girl asks him a question in algebra class. Nor is this the high-profiled eroticism which is being marketed to the masses under the guise of love. The love which sustains a marriage is a love learned from God which sinks its roots deep into the heart and changes both feelings and behavior.

When the Holy Spirit taught us about this kind of love, He did not spend much time explaining how this love feels. Instead, He meticulously delineated for us the behavior of love (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). *"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not boast, it is not proud. Love is not rude, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love does not fail."* Husbands and wives must come to understand that God did not merely speak of how we ought to feel toward one another; the Lord directed us in our behavior toward one another.

Patience & Tolerance: Abdicating Selfishness

Spoiled children become selfish adults, and selfish people are poor partners in any kind of relationship. There is no way to share a house, a

car, or a life together without a willingness to give. The Lord speaks directly to the point (Ephesians 5:22) as He instructs wives to *"submit to your husbands as to the Lord,"* and immediately instructs husbands to *"love your wives just as Christ loved the church, and gave Himself for it..."*

Does your spouse have some warts and blemishes? You have some, too. Do you get tired of putting up with her imperfections? She tires of yours. Does he have some ways that are immensely annoying? So do you. Did you learn that he was not perfect? He has learned the same thing about you. Do you want your spouse to get over the pettiness and focus on the things that really matter? You need to model that behavior. Giving, giving and giving some more, and more is an essential element of building a home.

Vision and Friendship: Sharing Goals and Walking Together

The prophet asked long ago, *"Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?"* (Amos 3:3). Building a successful home necessitates unity in purpose. A person whose first allegiance is serving the Lord will often find himself at odds with another person whose first desire is making money, or having fun, or working. Blessed, indeed, is the man or woman who can look at his home and confidently affirm, *"As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."* Sharing common purpose in life provides an anchor which will steady the home during the storms. Dreams and visions must be shared and shared again. Friends are those who care, who eagerly give for the benefit of the other. One of the keys to building a happy home is nurturing your friendship with your spouse. Make the sacrifices necessary, but take time for the other. Do the little things, offer the gentle touch, and talk to the person with whom you are spending your life. The more intimately you know each other, the more fully you will understand each other and the stronger the bond will become which makes the two of you one.

Christians would do well to give ample time and attention to building the kind of home they want; the house can come later. The home will need an abundant supply of basic materials such as love, patience, tolerance, vision and friendship. Modeling a happy successful home is one of the greatest opportunities today for Christians to show the world the wisdom of God. A man and woman, serving the Lord, committed to one another, raising children with strong values, more in love with each other at the end of the life than ever before - well, it's the very kind of home millions of people only dream of.

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Bryan Legg
Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Song Leader	Ken Prager
Scripture	Luke 13:22-43
Reader	CJ Isinghood
Prayer	Bryan Legg
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Harold Marshall
Fruit of the Vine	Nathan Marshall
Serve	Terry Smith
Serve	Don Coen, Sr.
Closing Prayer	Wayne Campbell

Please inform the one in charge of announcements if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities.

Sunday PM

Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Song Leader	Harold Marshall
Scripture	Luke 14:1-24
Reader	Terry Smith
1st Prayer	Ken Prager
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Don Coen, Sr.
Closing Prayer	Wayne Campbell

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Dan Marton
Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Song Leader	Nathan Marshall
Invitation	Harold Marshall
Closing Prayer	Tim Henderson

News N Notes

Please remember these in your prayers:

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Leila Brady, Nancy Morris' daughter
- Don Coen, Sr.
- Clifford Coen
- Zeda Goddard
- Robert Schwerferger, Alberta Headen's brother-in-law.
- Grace Lancaster
- Ronald & Charollette Lancaster
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Harold Marshall, SR, is at home under hospice care
- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers
- Jim Moore, Nancy Morris' nephew
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Gabriel Taylor, 5 year old great grandson of Don Coen, Sr., dealing with cancer.
- Trudell Tennant

Our Shut-ins

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

Weirton Geriatric:

- Kitty Morgan

At Home:

- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap
- Ann Rudolph

Send them a card—give them a call—let them know we are thinking about them.

If someone needs to be added to this list, please contact Tim Henderson