

God Requires Faith



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The true Bible standard of faith, and the requirement of God for entering His kingdom, is to trust in faith on the atoning Blood sacrifice of His Son. This standard of believing faith is quite different from what most people think faith is. God's true standard of faith on the shed Blood of His Son for all life issues, is clearly stated in Scripture, but most people who say they have faith in God, do not follow that principle of trust on God alone.

This divine standard of uncompromising faith and trust begins with a deliberate choice on our part to have God teach us His Truth. Our prayer, every day, is for God to remove the unbelieving *sin nature* in our heart, and to replace it with a believing *divine nature*—one that will trust Him for everything in this life.

This required faith for health, healing, protection, food, clothing, justice, and eternal life, is to believe in and trust on, the Atonement Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ John 6:29. This Bible standard of true Christianity is much different from what many think it is. Satan continues to deceive millions by separating people from the Word of God, and having them follow a path of unbelief that would eventually take them to the Lake of Fire if there is no repentance.

Every day is a day of spiritual progress by learning *how* to apply God's standard of faith and how to trust on the Blood He shed for us. Eternal life is connected to knowing God's Truth, and living by His standard of faith. John 17:3 "This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom

you have sent." To really *know* God, is to really *trust* Him, because we really believe that His atoning Blood can convert our heart, heal our body, and save our soul.

Satan wants us to go *backward* spiritually, but God wants us to go *forward* spiritually—by meeting every circumstance as His Word says. Many are deceived to accept a low standard of faith—a standard that is not taught in Scripture. Millions think they are saved, whether they follow God's Word or not, and they are convinced that they will enter Heaven when they die—but that is *not true* if they are *not living* according to God's standard of Bible believing faith.

It *does* matter how we live, because it is only by an enduring faith in the Atonement Blood of Christ, that we enter Heaven. If we could live any way we wanted, and just *say* we believe, but *not live* by God's required faith in Him, Jesus would not have warned us many times; and would not have given His life on the Cross. True believers Luke 8:21 "*are these which hear the word of God, and do it.*"

Multitudes are deceived and think that if they are honest and decent; and if they have never intentionally harmed anyone, they will enter Heaven. Millions of people *say* they believe in Christ, but most have never learned to *trust* God in faith for anything. The number of souls destroyed by Satan's deceptions and false teaching is beyond counting.

God's Truth of Scripture is this—if a person does not live by faith in the atoning sacrifice of Christ to forgive their sins; and if they do not sincerely trust God during their life on earth, they are *not* in God's will, and will *not* enter His kingdom. Only a believing, trusting, and enduring faith in the Atonement Blood of Christ will anyone be saved. Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will en-

ter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

God's will is clearly stated in the Bible—there is no excuse to not *read* it, *accept* it, and *apply* the principles of trust on the Atonement Blood of Christ by the power of His Spirit. We must allow God to teach us His Truth—adding no wrong meaning *to* it, and taking no divine Truth *from* it. We are to trust God in faith for healing, finances, protection, guidance, correcting wrongs done to us, and for Eternal Life.

This *life* will test our *faith*—and our sincerity. We must not allow anyone to lower God's true standard of faith, and be willing to live according to His Word. We must accept only the unaltered Truth God has given in Scripture. 2 Corinthians 4:2 "*We practice no cunning tricks, nor do we [use deception] adulterate God's Message. But by a full clear statement of the truth we strive to commend ourselves in the presence of God to every human conscience.*"

Believers will be a small minority in the last days. Jesus asked Luke 18:8 "*When the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?*" There were only eight whose hearts were right with God, because they believed God and trusted Him during the Flood. Jesus asked if He would find anyone willing to trust God in faith, and if anyone was being victorious over Satan's power.

Only God can teach us His Truth. John 3:27, "*A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.*" Every difficult person we meet; every unpleasant situations we face; every problem we encounter; every insult we hear; or every financial issue we face, can be used by God to refine our faith—if we want to learn. "*For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs [exceeds] them all*" 2 Corinthians 4:17. Every trial is a time to trust God.

Spiritual *lessons* are needed for spiritual *growth* to be seen. Spiritual growth brings about the conversion of heart Matthew 18:3 everyone needs. The way of the *world* is to resent and complain, but the way of the *Word* is to forgive and forget. Luke 6:28 *"Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use [mistreat or insult] you."* God requires that we put His Word into practice, and *that* means to really forgive the person in our heart.

God can see attitudes in us that we cannot see ourselves—*that* is why we look to Him alone to do the spiritual work. Resentful attitudes can lie deep in our heart, but *"nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight"* Hebrews 4:13. Self wants revenge—but *"those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God"* Romans 8:8. We may be tempted to resent, but it is not a sin until we are resentful.

Jesus said John 15:15 *"For all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you."* He told us to practice His Father's Word, because doing that leads to His kingdom. Satan tries to keep us away from the Word, because that will keep us out of Heaven; but the Bible is where the Truth is.

We are to Hebrews 12:1 *"throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles [ensnares]."* It is a warning to get rid of anything that would defile our conscience, or dilute our faith. There is no excuse for not obeying God's Word. Abram left his family farm, and began a life of trust on God—because God said to do it.

God requires that we get rid of—laid-up money, insurance coverage, resentful attitudes, unscriptural entertainment, worldly fellowship, immoral thoughts, prescription medicine—anything outside the will of God or anything that would eliminate trust on Him. Ephesians 5:18-19 *"Do not over-indulge in wine—a thing in which*

excess is so easy—but drink deeply of God's Spirit."

The Holy Spirit is available on request to anyone willing to believe. The Spirit of God reveals any lack of faith in God. Hebrews 12:11 *"Now, at the time, discipline seems to be a matter not for joy, but for grief; yet it afterwards yields to those who have passed through its training a result full of peace—namely, righteousness."*

Righteousness is holiness in the sight of God; therefore we must 14 *"Persistently strive for peace with all men, and for that growth in holiness apart from which no one will see the Lord."* Righteousness is obtained only from God, and only by *believing faith* in His Son Philippians 3:9.

The true Christian life is a continuing faith and trust on the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:12-14, *"Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect [in faith], but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me."* We must be willing to throw out anything that is not in the will of God.

The apostle wanted to forget *"what is behind and straining toward what is ahead."* He needed the *Spirit* of God, so he could follow the *Word* of God—that is required and God's standard of faith. The apostle was staying in the race by following a path of faith on God for everything—regardless of difficulties or persecution. Acts 14:22 *"We must go through many hardships [afflictions; much tribulation] to enter the kingdom of God."*

Is there any reward for conducting our life according to the Word; And, Is there any spiritual benefit for making changes in our attitudes? Jesus said Luke 12:35, 37 *"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning. It will be good for those servants whose master*

finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them."

The apostle Paul held on to the Truth God had given him, and he wrote Philippians 3:16 *"Whatever be the point that we have already reached, let us persevere in the same course."* We must be willing to learn, and be ready to follow God's Truth on trust. Philippians 3:14 *"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."*

Only if God is allowed to work in our heart and change our attitudes, can He prepare us for His eternal kingdom; and only He can do that needed and necessary spiritual work. The result will be His paradise kingdom. When anyone gets back to God's true standard of believing faith in the Blood He shed for them, they will see manifestations of His divine power in their daily life.

Multitudes of those who *profess* to have faith in God, *believe* the lies of the devil, and *doubt* the Truth of Scripture. God, however, can and will enlighten anyone to His Truth, if anyone wants to know it. Only through God's teaching will we ever know anything of spiritual value.

Hebrews 12:14 *"Persistently strive for peace with all men, and for that growth in holiness apart from which no one will see the Lord."* Being with our Savior forever is the eternal reward for conducting our life according to God's required standard of faith!



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