

# Unmasking Bible Truths School

## LESSON 10 The Doctrine Of Faith

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### **It is God's Will for All Men to Have Faith**

It is the will of God for all of His people to have unwavering, unshakeable, and absolute faith in Him.

It could not be anything but His will for all men to have faith in Him. Could it be possible that God would rather have unbelief in Him than to have faith?

Would God rather have men doubt Him (calling Him a liar in everything He says) than for them to have utmost confidence in Him?

Could it be the highest will of God for men to question everything that He says rather than to accept it as truth?

Shall men pray to know whether it is the will of God for them to have faith?

Shall they constantly pray, "If it be thy will, O God, please show me whether it is thy will for me to have faith in you and your Word"?

In answer to these questions, I hear you say, "Certainly not, no one should pray such a prayer!

We should have faith in God and in what He says without praying to know whether it is His will or not."

This is true, and undoubtedly this is what anyone would answer if they were asked the same question.

Yet some will still argue that it is difficult to have faith in God, that they cannot have faith enough to get answers to prayer, that they cannot know whether it is the will of God to do what He has promised, that they cannot get

their prayers answered and they don't know what is wrong.

## **Only One Cause for Failure in Prayer**

There is only one cause for failure in prayer. Jesus taught that it was "Because of your unbelief."

Some argue that this cannot be the trouble in their case, but the fact remains that this is the sole reason, providing one is a qualified child of God.

Suppose we search the Scriptures for some other reason and see if it can be found . . . suppose we investigate what God says and give Him the benefit of any doubt.

If we would answer ourselves with the Bible we would find a number of Scriptures that plainly prove this.

### **Scriptural Proof Unbelief is the Cause of Failure**

When the disciples proved powerless to cast out the devils from the lunatic boy they came to Jesus and said, ""Why could we not drive it out?"

<sup>20</sup> And He \*said to them, "Because of the **littleness of your faith (or unbelief)**; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you." ([Mt. 17:19-20](#));

"And Jesus answered and said to them, "Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' it will happen. <sup>22</sup> And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." ([Mt. 21:21-22](#));

"And Jesus said to him, ""If You can?' All things are possible to him who believes." ([Mk. 9:23](#));

“And Jesus \*answered saying to them, “Have faith in God.

<sup>23</sup> Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be *granted* him.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be *granted* you.” ([Mk. 11:22-24](#));

“And 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 seek Him.” ([Heb. 11:6](#));

“And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

<sup>5</sup> But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

<sup>6</sup> But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

<sup>7</sup> For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord,

<sup>8</sup> *being* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.” ([Jas. 1:4-8](#)).

### **Do Not Make God a Liar**

Are we going to believe these passages or are we going to argue with God and contend with the Almighty concerning His Word?

If God says that we can have what we want if we have faith, then if we do not get what we want it is certainly *because of unbelief*.

When we say that God will give all men the answer to their prayers if they pray in faith, we want to make it clear that we refer to children of God only.

God has not promised to hear every prayer that a sinner prays, except for the prayer of repentance when asking forgiveness for sin.

Sinners cannot have unwavering faith in God for those things promised to Christians.

Faith is the gift of God and one must be qualified as a child of God to have faith to claim the full benefits of the promises of God.

As long as we argue that God will not hear every prayer of every truly saved child of God who prays in faith according to the promises of God, we make God a liar.

Since some Christians are not finding many of their prayers answered—because of unbelief and doubt, we suggest that they try another method—taking God at His Word with unwavering faith, not because they merit anything, but because of the clear written Word of God.

### **The Definition of Faith**

The words "faith," "trust," and "believe"

simply mean "to confide in, so as to be secure without fear;" "to flee for refuge to" or "to take shelter in;" "to put faith in;" "to stay or rest on;" "to rely on;" "to believe or to take one at his word;" "to rely upon the promise of another;" and "to put absolute trust in a person without any questioning or doubts as to His faithfulness."

Faith is the radar....

In the Berean Literal Bible, *faith* is defined as, "Now faith is *the* assurance of *things* hoped for, *the* conviction of things not being seen." ([Heb. 11:1](#)).

Various translations of the Bible express this verse in a number of ways.

A couple..."Now faith is a well-grounded assurance of that for which we hope, and a conviction of the reality of things which we do not see" (Weymouth);

"Now faith is the title-deed of things hoped for; the putting to proof of things not seen" (Centenary Translation)

### **The Nature of Faith**

Paul, in [Romans 4:17](#), teaches that true faith is an attribute of God, "as it has been written: "the *One* giving life to the dead and calling *into* being the things not even existing."

Faith is a union of assurance and conviction; the counting or reckoning a thing done as though it were already done.

Faith does not have to see before it believes.

It laughs at impossibilities and all circumstances that may be contrary to it and counts the thing done that it asks from God.

Faith is not swayed to believe God only when things seem possible.

It is not moved to waver or question in the least when things seem to go contrary to what has been asked.

It doggedly plugs right along counting the impossible as possible; counting as done the things that are not seen; and counting the things that are not as though they were.

## **What Faith is Not**

Faith is not *feeling* that prayer is answered.

The average person who seeks to exercise faith depends upon what he can see, hear or feel.

Testimonies concerning faith are usually expressed in connection with feelings and emotions, or the various senses.

**“Sense faith”** is based upon physical evidence or upon the emotions and feelings of the soul.

All who take this road as the basis of faith will sooner or later be deceived.

Faith should be based upon the Word of God regardless of any sense–knowledge, or feeling–evidences.

People are constantly looking to feelings as to whether prayer has been heard or not.

If they happen to feel good, or if something happens that encourages them, they think that it is easy to believe, but if reverses come and feelings take wings, these same people are plunged into the depths of despair.

They are quick to accuse God of being unfaithful and untrue to His Word.

If they do not go this far, they are quick to imagine that it was not God's will to grant the answer.

They become satisfied to live without those things that God has plainly promised.

### **Faith Related to the Human Senses**

Faith has no relationship with feelings or the evidence of the senses.

During those times when we feel that we have abundant faith, we may have the least in the world.

Likewise, when we think we have the least, we may have more faith than at any other time in our lives.

Many people are surprised to receive answers to prayer, thinking that when they prayed they had no faith.

We should not believe we are healed because the pain is gone, nor should we believe that we are saved just because we feel forgiven.

We should not think that our prayers are answered because things are working out that way.

Instead, we should always maintain that our prayers are answered because the Word of God says they are.

The Word of God should have first place in our lives, instead of our senses. Basing our faith on what we have done, how well we live, or what experiences we've had will lead to failure in prayer.

God does not answer upon these grounds.

He answers solely upon the grounds of grace and personal faith in Him and His Word.

### **Faith Must Be in the Right Objects**

Not only must we have personal faith, but faith must be in the right objects.

Our faith must be "in God" ([Mk. 11:22-24](#)); "in Christ and His atonement" ([Acts 3:16](#); [Rom. 3:25](#)); "in the Holy Spirit" ([1 Cor. 12:1-11](#); [Gal. 5:22](#)); and "in the Word of God" ([Rom. 1:16](#)).

We must choose to believe God regardless of anything that might happen to hinder prayer.

Rather than talking about faith, or the need for it, **we should be involved in the actual exercise of it.**

Simple faith in the Word, regardless of feelings and circumstances, is never possible for the man who lives only in the realm of his senses, for he believes only what he can see, feel, hear, or understand to be possible.

This was the kind of faith Thomas had when he declared that he would not believe until he had seen.

It was the kind that Martha had when she could see nothing but the natural fact that Lazarus had been dead four days and "by this time he stinks."

This is the kind of faith taught and encouraged by modern religious leaders, but it is not the kind required by the New Testament.

### **The Right Kind of Faith is Necessary**

Active, living faith is necessary in order to obtain answers to our prayers.

We must learn to use this kind of faith in God.

We must learn to fight the fight of faith and lay hold of God and His Word.

We must learn that we are surrounded by an unbelieving world and that we live in an atmosphere of doubt.

Demons, fallen angels, and men have lived for centuries in unbelief and wickedness, creating currents of doubt and mistrust that are very subtle and deceiving to those who desire to have faith.

The fall of man has left deep wounds of doubt that must be healed.

We must learn that we have to wrestle with powers of darkness and currents of mistrust and unbelief, which make it a struggle to exercise active living faith for things that are not seen.

We must not only learn *how* to do this, but we must *do it* in order to get results.

### **Weak Faith** **(Rom. 4:19; 14:1–15:4; 1 Cor. 8)**

“And not having become weak in the faith, he considered his body already having become dead, being about a hundred years old, and the lifelessness of Sarah’s womb.”

Weak faith constantly limits the benefits we receive and the appropriation of the privileges granted us as followers of Christ.

Weak faith is due to wrong teachings and personal scruples concerning many non-essentials.

In [Romans 14](#) it is clear that the kingdom of God does not consist in meat, drink, and personal details of life that are not specifically forbidden in Scripture, but that it is “righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

If the devil cannot get men to commit sins that are forbidden in Scripture, he will urge honest-hearted

people to condemn personal liberties that are not strictly forbidden by God.

The law of Scripture concerning anything that is not definitely forbidden by God in Scripture is: "But the *one* doubting has been condemned if he eats, because *it is* not of faith; and anything that *is* not of faith is sin." ([Rom. 14:23](#)).

### **Strong Faith (Rom. 4:20)**

"Yet he did not waver through unbelief at the promise of God, but was strengthened in faith, having given glory to God,"

Strong faith is the kind that refuses to be defeated.

It refuses to take "no" for an answer.

It laughs at circumstances, outward appearance, and what is seen or felt, and it doggedly holds to the fact that what has been asked of God is granted.

Abraham had this kind of faith: "who against hope, in hope believed, for him to become *the* father of many nations, according to that having been spoken, "So shall your offspring be." And not having become weak in the faith, he considered his body already having become dead, being about a hundred years old, and the lifelessness of Sarah's womb. Yet he did not waver through unbelief at the promise of God, but was strengthened in faith, having given glory to God, and having been fully assured that what He had promised, He is also able to do. Therefore also "it was credited to him unto righteousness."" ([Rom. 4:18-22](#)).

By the way, our faith upholds the law..."Do we, then, nullify *the* Law through faith? Never may it be! Instead, we uphold Law." **Rom.3:31**

This is the kind of faith all men should have—and can have—if they will only persuade themselves that God is true to His Word.

Most men claim to have faith in God to this extent, and no one wants to boldly state that God is a liar and that He will not do as He has said, but when it comes to exercising unwavering faith, few will maintain a faith strong enough to thank God for the answer even before it is realized.

Fewer still will simply refuse to question or waver when it seems that things are going contrary to what has been asked of God.

This is exactly why many do not receive definite answers from God.

There is no person who will exercise faith as strong as that of Abraham, who will go very long without an answer from God.

Such a thing, that God would refuse one who came to Him in such unwavering faith, is literally impossible and unheard of ([Jas. 1:4-8](#); [Heb. 11:6](#)).

All men are definitely assured of getting from God those things which He has promised if they will "walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham" ([Rom. 4:12, 23-25](#)).

**Genuine / Unhypocritical Faith**  
**(1 Tim. 1:5; 2 Tim. 1:5)**

“Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, *from* a good conscience, and *from* sincere (Lit. ***unhypocritical***) faith,”

Unhypocritical faith is the kind that knows no hypocrisy, sham, or counterfeit.

It is faith that does not brag or put on an outward show.

It is simply genuine and real and sincere in its every aspect.

It proceeds out of a pure heart and from a good conscience, as stated in these Scriptures.

It is not hereditary, although in [2 Timothy 1:5](#) Paul speaks of it as being in three successive generations.

“when I call to remembrance the genuine (Lit. ***unhypocritical***) faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.”

It is the kind that all honest, pure, and sincere men have.

It is the unselfish, holy, and godly kind that naturally increases in the life of every true child of God, as he grows in grace and knowledge ([2 Pet. 1:4-9](#); [3:18](#)).

### **Temporary Faith (Lk. 8:13)**

Temporary faith is the kind of faith that believes for a while and springs up like a mushroom, but because of shallowness, or lack of root, it fails in time of temptation and test.

People through the ages have been of this type.

They receive the Word of God with great joy, and it seems that they will outstrip everyone in their zeal and faith, but after a few days or weeks they are not heard of again except, perhaps, following another revival meeting where their emotions again become stirred to make another start in faith, only to fall again.

They do not prepare the soil so that the seed can take deep root and produce fruit.

Some teach that this cannot happen, but it does—in spite of the so-called impossibility of falling away from the faith and being renewed in repentance again.

Some teach that one cannot fall from the faith, but Jesus certainly said that some would “And the *one* having been sown upon the rocky places, this is the *one* hearing the word and immediately receiving it with joy.

And he has in himself no root, but is temporary. And having come tribulation or persecution on account of the word, immediately he falls away.” ([Mt. 13:20-21](#); [Mk.4:16-17](#); [Lk. 8:13](#)).

Paul speaks of these as those who “concerning faith have made shipwreck” ([1 Tim. 1:19](#)); as having “cast off their first faith” by going “aside after Satan” ([1 Tim. 5:12-15](#)); and as having “erred concerning the faith” ([1 Tim. 6:21](#)).

Many Scriptures say that men can depart from, and fall from the faith ([Acts 14:22](#); [1 Tim. 2:15](#); [4:1](#); [5:8-15](#); [6:10](#), [21](#); [2 Tim. 2:18](#); [Heb. 3:6](#), [12-14](#); [6:11-12](#); [10:22-38](#)).

We are repeatedly told to continue in the faith ([Acts 14:22](#); [Col. 1:23](#); [2:6-7](#)).

It is clear that we can disbelieve anything that we choose to lose faith in, especially in things that are not seen.

## **Mental or Historical Faith (1 Jn. 5:10-13)**

Mental faith is faith in the history, or the record of God, concerning the past and concerning His own work.

We can believe mentally the record of God and still not be saved.

It is simply believing with the mind the record of anything of the past. No consecration to God is necessary to believe history.

Mental faith may believe every part of the Bible, past, present, and future—and all the truth of the blessings of God—but if it does not act upon the Word of God, it falls short of true heart faith.

Faith without works is dead, being alone. It is passive or mere mental assent to truth.

Thousands of sinners have mental faith in God and the Bible, but they keep neglecting the definite action of obeying truth.

True faith is not only mental assent to truth as a fact.

Most people have such assent. They will believe that God is able, that He has promised to do certain things, and that He would if true faith were exercised, but there is little effort put forth to cooperate with God or to obtain what He has promised.

It is merely a mental assent to truth without active faith in it.

It is the kind of faith that will turn to every source of help but God, and His Word.

It is just like believing that food is good without ever eating to get the benefits from it.

Mental assent, or passive faith, is one of the most dangerous enemies of true faith in God.

It claims all the faith in the world and is satisfied easily with either anything or with nothing from God.

If it does not get what it wants, it does not care. It would accept something from God if He would come personally and lay the answer in the lap, but apart from this there is little or no effort put forth to act in faith concerning anything God has promised.

Mental faith may go as far as to maintain belief in every truth and in every part of God's program, and it may even claim to be contending for certain benefits, but as long as it remains in the mind, it will not dare to act upon the promises of God.

### **Active Faith** **(Jas. 2:14-26; Heb. 10:19-39)**

Active faith acts upon the Word of God as it is made clear.

James put it this way: "show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

Everyone must have this faith to receive anything from God.

As long as faith is purely mental and passive, no action will be taken to obey the truth.

We must move beyond the stage of hearing only and into the act of doing what God says before we see any results.

Active, living faith moves to obey every truth of God and to appropriate what God has promised.

It acts as if the things that are not seen are a reality.

It is quick to provide works to prove that it is sincere and obedient.

Think of having a real, active, living faith of your own!

Imagine the thrill of having your own prayers answered!

A preacher talks about people listening in on their radio program...

People are inspired to take God at His Word.

And as they act, their prayers are answered.

One lady says that she had been sick for ten long years and had not done any of her housework.

She heard a preacher say on the air that if you will believe God and refuse to be sick and defeated, you can have whatever you want.

She said, **"I acted upon the Word and got out of bed and God met my faith. I have been doing my work ever since."**

Another one is so thrilled that her prayers have been answered three times from laying her hands on the radio and praying with us.

Many more are deeply stirred to a new life and deeper consecrations because they are learning to act upon the Word.

Multitudes of people have never had an answer to prayer, and they are missing the greatest blessings of life by such neglect.

Most people depend upon others to get answers for them.

They pray, so they think, but they want someone else to do the believing.

In reality, they are not praying. They are merely saying words and going through a form of prayer.

True New Testament prayer is always heard of God and the answer is always sure.

God has planned that all men should have this kind of faith and results.

“These signs shall follow them that believe,” and “all things are possible to them that believe” ([Mk. 9:23](#); [11:22-24](#); [16:15-20](#); [Jn. 14:12-15](#); [15:7-16](#)).

Faith can be developed into a mighty living force that will know no defeat.

You can know that you are master of all demonic powers and every circumstance through Jesus Christ.

You no longer need to be a slave to fear, timidity, weakness, failure, sickness, poverty, helplessness and despair.

You can be a conqueror in the very things wherein you have suffered defeat.

“If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, you shall ask whatever you wish, and to you it will come to pass.” ([Jn. 15:7](#), [16](#)).

You must awake to the consciousness of the new life you have in Christ.

As a branch, you have His life, His health, His power, His love, and His nature flowing through you.

You are the fruit-bearing part of Christ in the Earth.

You are in Him and He is in you. You have His words abiding in you, giving you faith for whatsoever you ask.

You have as much right in Him to be asking and receiving from God as He had.

You have a right to expect the same answers from God that He received.

You represent God here as He did, so do not be satisfied to go without the benefits that He died to give to you.

You are commanded to be a doer of the Word, and this means *ask* and *receive*.

You are not to be merely a bearer. You are not deceiving yourself when you act upon the Word.

It will be confirmed, for it is truth ([2 Cor. 1:20](#)).

It must be a living, active faith, not a mere mental passive something that all sinners can have.

**Jesus taught us that children of God have a right to get *all* their prayers answered.** When the Gentile woman came to Jesus to get her daughter healed, Jesus answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread, and cast it to the dogs" ([Mt. 15:21-26](#)).

She answered wisely and asked for only the "crumbs" that are the right of a dog.

He could not resist her faith and said, "O woman, great is your faith: be it unto you even as you will; and her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

This certainly teaches that children of God have certain rights in the heavenly family. They have just as much right to expect good things from God as any child in an earthly family has a right to expect things from his parents.

At least one has the rights of a dog if not the rights of a child, so let us have at least the faith of a dog if not the faith of a child.

You are in Christ, and as God's child and heir you have the authority to act on the Word.

You are a fruit-bearer, a producer for God, so get busy and produce for Him according to His Word ([Jn. 15:1-16](#)).

### **Wavering Faith (Jas. 1:5-8)**

Wavering faith is faith doubting God and refusing to believe.

To believe and to have faith is to act on the Word.

It means taking what is already yours. To believe on Jesus means to take Him for all that the Bible declares Him to be.

It means that you take salvation from sin, healing for the body, answers to your prayers, and all that He died to bring to you.

Believing is an act of the will. When you really believe, you have acted.

You have taken the necessary step to get what you want from God.

Faith is action in counting those things that be not as though they were ([Rom. 4:17](#); [Mk. 11:22-24](#)).

Doubting is refusing to act on the Word.

Unbelief is either refusing to act according to the knowledge that you have, or it is a manifestation of ignorance of the Word of God.

If you do not know, you cannot act because you do not understand. If you do not understand, you are afraid to act because you do not know how to act.

The cure for unbelief is a thorough knowledge of the Word and consecration to obey it to the letter, regardless of how impossible it may seem to you at the moment.

A wavering faith is called double-mindedness, a constant change of the mind as to what is wanted or whether the thing asked for is wanted or not.

It is the attitude of yes-no, yes-no, and yes-no, until God Himself cannot tell whether it is yes or no.

One minute it is decided that a thing is wanted, and it may be wanted with some real desperation, but the next minute it is not so important and it does not matter much whether it is received or not.

People who have wavering faith do not really make up their minds that they are going to see the fight of faith through to an answer.

They would accept the answer if it would come without any effort on their part, but are not willing to take the necessary steps to obtain an answer.

## **Unwavering Faith** **(Heb. 10:23; 11:6)**

Unwavering faith is faith taking God at His Word without question.

God commands us to “ask in faith, nothing wavering.

For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways” ([Jas. 1:5-8](#)).

We are told to “Hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)” ([Heb. 10:23](#)).

Again, “And without faith, *it is* impossible to please *Him*. For it behooves the one drawing near to God to believe that He exists and *that* He becomes a rewarder to those earnestly seeking Him out.” ([Heb. 11:6 BLB](#)).

This is faith—refusing to doubt, wonder, question, or reason about any detail of what one has asked from God.

Faith has absolute confidence that what was asked is according to the Word of God, and therefore it knows that prayer is answered.

It rests upon the promises as the basis of the answer, instead of upon feelings and physical senses.

It refuses to act contrary to what it has asked or to question any delay in receiving an answer.

It counts the thing done regardless of all outward evidences to the contrary.

It laughs at impossibilities and goes on in utmost confidence that what God has promised, He is able to perform.

True faith gives thanks for the answer from the moment it asks and looks forward in child-like expectation of getting it.

When all the people on board the boat thought it would sink and all would be lost, Paul said in **Acts 27:25** "Therefore, keep up your courage, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told."

### **Human Faith (Mk. 11:22-24)**

Human faith is simply the exercise of our human faculties in the confidence and conviction that we can believe God, and that God is true to all that He has promised.

All of us are capable of having faith in ourselves and faith in anyone else that makes a statement of promise to us.

Faith is an attribute of man's created being.

It was natural for man to believe God before the fall.

There was no such thing as doubt or unbelieving reasoning on the part of man before this time.

It was the devil that injected doubt and unbelief into man's moral and spiritual makeup.

Since man's fall, and because of the almost total depravity of his being at the age of accountability, it becomes one of the greatest struggles of his redemptive career to have that same simple, unwavering faith that was natural before the fall.

It was doubt and unbelief that caused the fall, and it is of the greatest importance to get rid of all such in redemption.

## Divine Faith

(**Heb. 11:3; 12:2; Gal. 2:20; 5:21; 1 Cor. 13:14**)

Did you know there is a spirit of faith?

This stood out to me from the Scriptures the other day like never before!

“But having the same **spirit of faith** according to that having been written: “I **believed, therefore I have spoken,**” we also **believe and therefore speak.**”  
**2Cor.4:13**

**Ps.33:6** “By the **word of the Lord** the heavens **were made,** And **all the host** of them by the **breath of His mouth.**”

The spirit of faith speaks! Glory to God!

Faith is not only a natural attribute of man, it is an attribute of God.

It is God's absolute confidence and conviction in His own Being and Word.

By faith we understand the universe to have been formed by *the* word of God, so that the things being seen have not been made from the things being visible. **Heb.11:3**

This passage teaches that the ages were planned by faith through the Word of God and that things were brought into existence that never existed before.

God had faith in Himself when He planned the worlds.

He believed that He could do what He commanded, and He “called those things that be not as though they were” ([Rom. 4:17](#)).

**Gal.2:20** speaks of “the faith of the Son of God,” thus proving that He also has faith as does the Father.

In fact, He is the author and finisher of faith ([Heb. 12:1-2](#)).

**1 Cor. 13:14** But now these three things abide: faith, hope, love; but *the* greatest of these *is* love.

This passage speaks of “faith” abiding along with hope and love, which means that these three qualities are eternal as attributes of God.

### General Facts Concerning Faith

FAITH CAN “grow” ([2 Thess. 1:3](#)); “lead to utterance” ([2 Cor. 4:13](#)); “work through love” ([Gal. 5:6](#)); “clothe the naked” ([Mt. 6:30](#)); “heal the sick” ([Mt. 8:1-17](#); [9:2, 22, 29](#); [Jas. 5:14-16](#)); “dispel fear” ([Mt. 8:26](#)); “make whole” ([Mk. 10:52](#)); “save from sin” ([Lk. 7:36-50](#); [Eph. 2:8-9](#)); “fill believers” ([Acts 6:5-8](#)); “purify the heart” ([Acts 15:9](#)); “sanctify” ([Acts 26:18](#)); “impart revelations” ([Rom. 1:17](#)); “justify” ([Rom. 3:28-31](#); [Gal. 3:24](#)); “give access into grace” ([Rom. 5:2](#)); “produce righteousness” ([Rom. 9:30-32](#); [10:6-10](#); [Phil. 3:9](#)); “give security” ([Rom. 11:20](#); [2 Cor. 1:24](#)); “bring blessings” ([Gal. 3:9](#)); “impart the Holy Spirit” ([Gal. 3:14](#)); “make men children of God” ([Gal. 3:26](#)); “bring hope and salvation” ([Gal. 5:5](#); [Eph. 2:8-9](#)); “make conscious of Christ” ([Eph. 3:17](#)); “quench fiery darts of Satan” ([Eph. 6:16](#)); “produce works” ([Phil. 1:17](#); [Jas. 2](#); [1 Thess. 1:3](#); [2 Thess. 1:11](#)); “edify” ([1 Tim. 1:4](#)); “produce inheritance” ([Heb. 6:12](#)); and “keep one true to God” ([1 Pet. 1:5](#)).

FAITH CAN BE “seen” ([Mt. 9:2](#); [Mk. 2:5](#)); “obeyed” ([Acts 6:7](#); [Rom. 1:5](#)); “turned away” ([Acts 13:8](#)); and “continued in” ([Acts 14:22](#); [Col. 1:23](#)). Faith can be “made without effect” ([Rom. 3:3](#)); it can be “increased” ([2 Cor. 10:15](#)); “examined” ([2 Cor. 13:5](#)); “destroyed” ([Gal. 1:23](#)); “perfected” ([1 Thess. 3:10](#)); “shipwrecked” ([1 Tim. 1:19](#)); “departed from” ([1 Tim. 4:1](#)); “denied” ([1 Tim. 5:8](#); [Rev. 2:13](#)); “cast off” ([1 Tim. 5:12](#)); “erred from” ([1 Tim. 6:10, 21](#)); “overthrown” ([2 Tim. 2:18](#)); “followed” ([2 Tim. 2:22](#)); “rejected” ([2 Tim. 3:8](#)); “made sound” ([Titus 1:13](#); [2:2](#)); “kept” ([2 Tim. 4:7](#)); and “tried” ([Jas. 1:3](#); [1 Pet. 1:7](#); [5:9](#)).