

Ephesians Series

Lesson #060

February 9, 2020

Dean Bible Ministries

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EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

**What is Faith?
Ephesians 2:8**

Eph. 2:8, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

Eph. 2:9, “not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

The Problem: What we were before we were saved, Ephesians 2:1–3

The Solution: God's love and mercy, grace in action, regenerate, raise, and seat us positionally in Christ, Ephesians 2:4–9

The Purpose: We are saved, created in Christ Jesus, for good works, Ephesians 2:10

**Eph. 2:5, “even when we were dead in
trespasses, made us alive together with
Christ (by grace you have been saved),”
~NKJV**

**“made alive together” = regeneration
(being born again) = being “saved”**

Eph. 2:8, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,”

**1. being “saved” = regeneration
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1. being “saved” = regeneration (being born again) = “made alive together”

This salvation is “through faith” which means faith must precede salvation.

Eph. 2:8, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that ‘*by grace through faith salvation*’ is not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

Eph. 2:9, “not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

διὰ πίστεως

dia pistis

***through faith, belief
trust***

The Volition Valve

Faith pipe must
first be opened



The
spiritually
dead sinner
separated
from the life
of God, the
water of life.



**The Volition
Valve**

**Faith pipe must
first be opened**

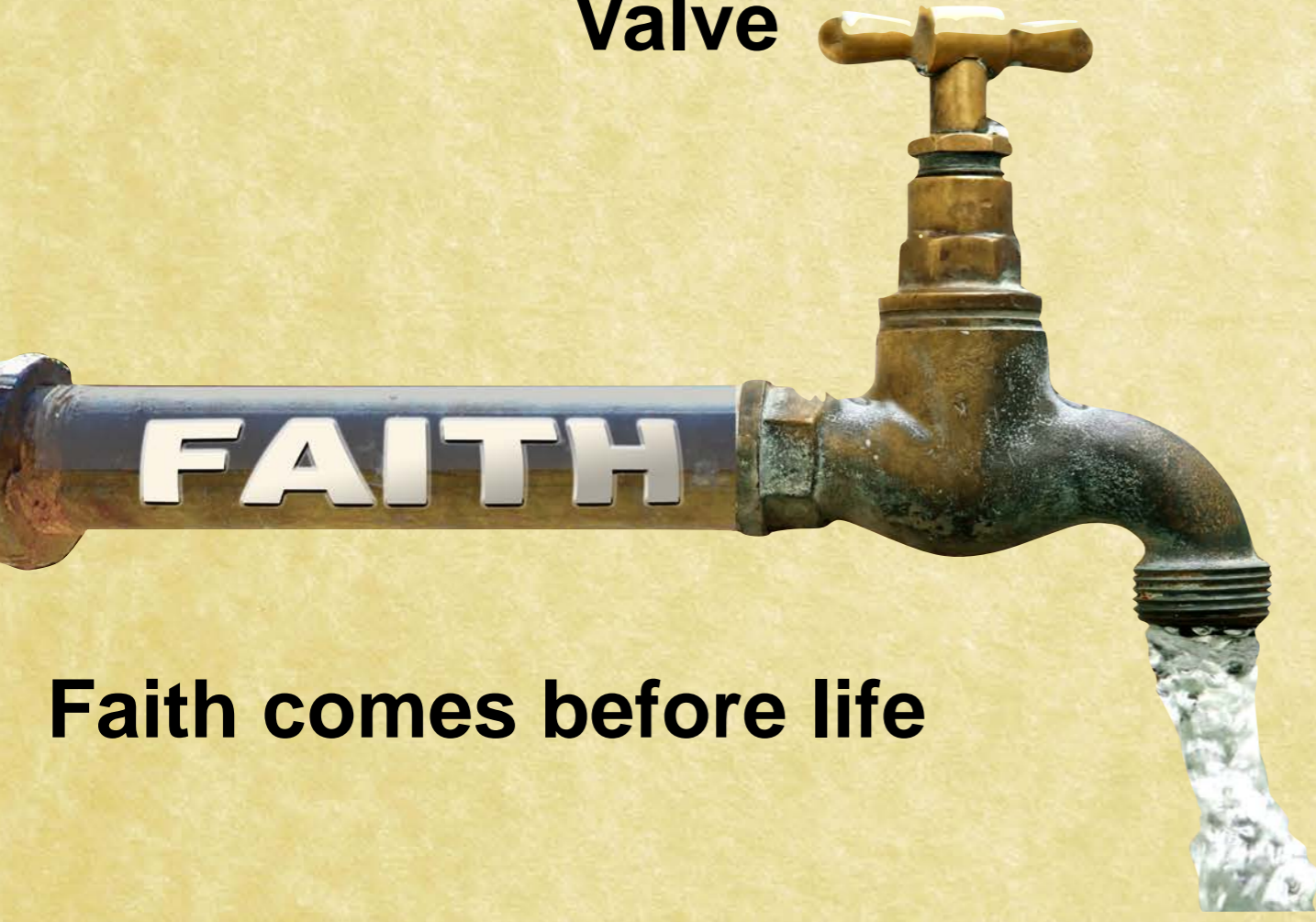


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**The Volition
Valve**

Faith comes before life



Eph. 2:8, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and **that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,”**

- 1. Being “saved” = regeneration (being born again) = “made alive together”**
- 2. What is the “that?” Is it faith? Is it grace? Is it saved?**

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- 3. The pronoun “that” is a neuter and must refer to a neuter noun.**

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- 4. “Grace” and “faith” are feminine nouns; “saved” is a masculine participle.**

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- 1. Being “saved” = regeneration (being born again) = “made alive together”**
- 2. What is the “that?” Is it faith?**
- 3. The pronoun “that” is a neuter and must refer to a neuter noun.**
- 4. “Grace” and “faith” are feminine nouns; “saved” is a masculine participle.**
- 5. In Greek neuter demonstrative pronouns are used to refer to phrases, clauses, sentences, and entire works of literature.**

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What Are the Works?

Gal. 2:16, “knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith [through faith—*dia*] in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.”

Rom. 3:22, “even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;

Rom. 3:23, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

Rom. 3:28, “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.”

Rom. 4:2, “For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

Rom. 4:3, “For what does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’

Rom. 4:4, “Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

Rom. 4:5, “But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,”

Works of the Law in the Epistles related to Jewish legalism: Romans, Galatians

Works of any kind: to Gentiles as in Ephesus and Titus

Titus 3:5, “not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,”

What the Bible Teaches About *Saving Faith*



Basic Definition:

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- 1. Faith is understanding something and then accepting it to be true.**

This is the act of believing, or the noun describing the act of believing.

“believe on the Lord Jesus Christ” verb

“saved through faith” noun

Basic Definition:

Faith has two primary meanings:

- 1. Faith is understanding something and then accepting it to be true.**
- 2. Faith describes the content of a person's belief system, *what* they believe.**
 - Christian faith**
 - Buddhist faith**
 - Presbyterian faith**
 - Roman Catholic faith**

Gal. 1:23, “But they were hearing only, ‘He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy.’ ”

Eph. 4:5, “one Lord, one faith, one baptism;”

**2. Faith is fundamental to all knowledge.
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**Human Viewpoint: Faith is non-rational,
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Human Viewpoint: Faith is non-rational, or goes beyond reason or empiricism and is thus non-verifiable.

Divine Viewpoint: Faith is rational. We believe with the intellect things we understand with the mind. Faith is either in the human ability to reason, interpret their sense data, or in the intuitive insights of their own mind, or in some external authority (i.e., the Bible).

The Basis of Knowledge

	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
Autonomous Systems of Perception	RATIONALISM	Innate ideas; <u>Faith</u> in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	EMPIRICISM	Sense perceptions; External experience; Scientific method; <u>Faith</u> in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	MYSTICISM	Inner, private experience; Intuition; <u>Faith</u> in human ability	Independent, Nonlogical, Nonrational, Nonverifiable
Divine Viewpoint	REVELATION	<u>Faith</u> in the objective revelation of God	Dependent use of logic and reason

3. Biblical Faith is a *response* to what is taught in the Bible, Rom. 10:17

Rom. 10:17, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”