

Ephesians Series

Lesson #123

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Dean Bible Ministries

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EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

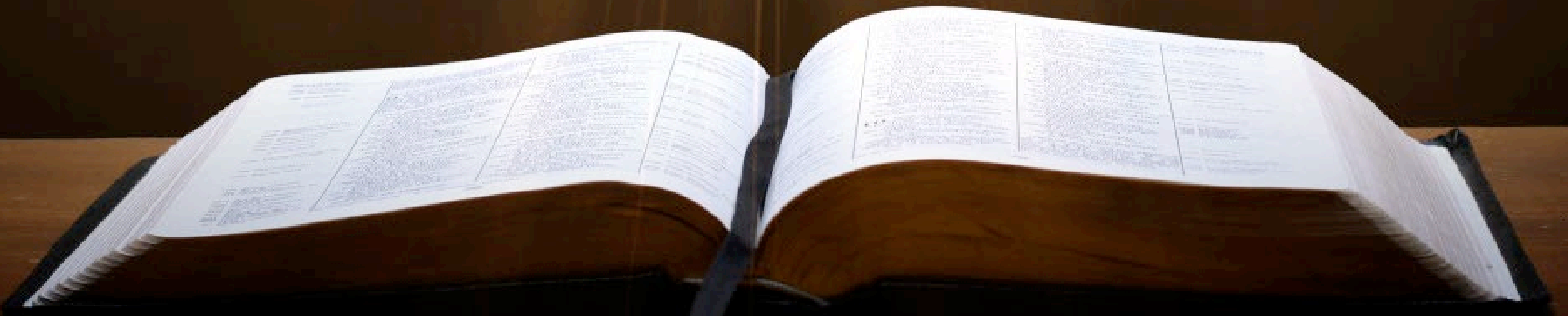
What is “Faith?”
Ephesians 4:4

Eph. 4:4, “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; [God the Holy Spirit]

Eph. 4:5, “one Lord, one faith, one baptism; [God the Son]

Eph. 4:6, “one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” [God the Father]

What the Bible Teaches About FAITH



FAITH: What is it?

1. Introductory issues?

Kinds of faith? Supernatural vs. natural faith?

Saving faith vs. non-saving faith?

Head faith vs. heart faith?

FAITH: What is it?

1. Introductory issues?

What does the Bible mean by “heart”?

Gen. 6:5, “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

Deut. 15:9, “Beware lest there be a wicked thought in your heart, saying, ‘The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand,’ and your eye be evil against your poor brother and you give him nothing, and he cry out to the LORD against you, and it become sin among you.’ ”

Psa. 15:2, “He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart;”

Psa. 49:3, “My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall give understanding.”

Acts 8:22, “Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.”

FAITH: What is it?

Psa. 73:21,

**“Thus my heart was grieved,
And I was vexed in my mind.”**

Heart = mind

FAITH: What is it?

- 2. Different kinds of faith in the Scripture are related to the different objects of faith.**

Rom. 1:17, “For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’ ”

FAITH: What is it?

- 3. Faith is a mental activity triggered by volition. As such faith cannot be emotion because emotion cannot respond to a command.**

Acts 16:31, “*Believe* on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.”

Believe is an aorist active imperative.

FAITH: What is it?

- 4. Faith is always directed toward an object which can be expressed in a proposition. A proposition is the verbal expression of a thought which can be verified or falsified. Therefore, faith is not a function of emotion but of reason. You believe with your mind only.**

Example of a proposition: The sky is blue.

FAITH: What is it?

Notitia

Assensus

Fiducia

Understanding

Assent, agreement

Belief

FAITH: What is it?

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Belief

Они же сказали: веруй в Господа Иисуса Христа, и спасешься ты и весь дом твой.

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Они же сказали: веруй в Господа Иисуса Христа, и спасешься ты и весь дом твой.

Acts 16:31, “So they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.’ ” ~NKJV

FAITH: What is it?

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Belief

Assent: To agree that some statement is true.

Intellectual assent: With our mind we understand something and agree that it is true.

Belief is to agree that some proposition is true.

5. Therefore, we do not believe directly in a person, or come to salvation through a relationship with Jesus, but first believe the propositions in Scripture that inform us about Jesus and His saving work on the Cross.

This means faith is rational not irrational. Though what is believed may be irrational or rational, faith itself is not.