

Faith

Keith Dixon
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Gray

Introduction

1. Romans 10:13-17
 - a. We must hear the facts of the Gospel and then we believe them but why?
 - b. Because faith is based on evidences Hebrews 11:1
2. The point of this sermon is to look at the process of us obtaining our faith

II Discussion

1. The meaning of faith
 - a. Faith means believing something even though there is no good reason to believe it (What about God?)
 - b. Faith is firm belief in something for which there is no proof (Webster's New Ideal Dictionary)
 - c. Belief without need of certain proof (Funk and Wagnall's Standard Desk Dictionary)
 - d. The above are not biblical in the defining of faith
 - e. Faith is always based on evidence, and never extends beyond the evidence. To go beyond this is to go into speculation and opinion Hebrews 11:1
 - f. God is the object of faith Hebrews 11:6
 - g. God is the object of knowledge Romans 1:21
2. Facts are presented 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
 - a. Facts come to us by one of our five senses. Feeling seeing, tasting, hearing, or smelling 1 John 1:1 heard, seen and felt
 - b. George Washington, Napoleon Bonaparte how do you know they lived?
 - i. Facts are placed before you from reliable sources that you trust
 - ii. You then believe
 - c. Christianity is based upon the facts of the Gospel 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
 - i. These are either true or false 1 Corinthians 15:12
 - ii. If false we are all deceiving our selves 1 Corinthians 15:13-15
 - d. If the facts are not true then none of Christianity is true and ought to be rejected.
3. Testimony presented Acts 1:8
 - a. The meaning of testimony:
 - b. **a (1) : the tablets inscribed with the Mosaic law (2) : the ark containing the tablets b : a divine decree attested in the Scriptures 2 a : firsthand authentication of a fact : EVIDENCE b : an outward sign c : a solemn declaration usually made orally by a witness under oath in response to interrogation by a lawyer or authorized public official 3 a : an open acknowledgment b : a public profession of religious experience (we must remember that this last one is how the word is commonly used in religion today, it would not be allowed in a court of law)**¹
 - c. **The apostles were told to be the witness unto the uttermost parts of the earth** Acts 1:8
 - d. This would be in answer to Jesus' prayer John 17:20 Through their word
 - e. This is what Peter did in Acts 2. Verse 22, 36
 - i. Based upon the facts being delivered they believed and acted 37, 42
 - f. Today we cannot testify because no one has heard, seen or touched the Lord
4. Confirmation is always present 1 Corinthians 15:11

¹Merriam-Webster, I. (1996, c1993). *Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary*. Includes index. (10th ed.). Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.: Merriam-Webster.

- a. This is shown to be true to the Corinthians
 - i. 1 Corinthians 1:6 testimony was confirmed
 - ii. 1 Corinthians 2:4 demonstration of the Spirit and power
 - b. This is what the Lord said was the purpose of miracles Mark 16:20
 - c. Nicodemus knew this to be so John 3:2
 - d. This is the purpose of the book of John 20:30-31
 - e. These same miracles are still doing their job of confirming the Word.
5. Faith is the results Acts 18:8
- a. The process is then facts 15:1-4; testimony 15:1, 3, 11; confirmation 11:5-8 and belief 15:11
 - b. They acted upon what they heard and were baptized

III Conclusion

- 1. There are facts of the Gospel presented
- 2. There are commands that are to be obeyed
- 3. There are promises to be accepted
- 4. Will you believe the facts, obey the commands so that the promised can be yours
- 5. Come now

Source: Joshua a commentary exegetical, homiletical; William Cline Editor 1987 p. 48-55