



GRACE GOSPEL MINISTRY

Liberating / Grace

FAITH

The Greek word *pees·tees*, which is rendered “faith”, denotes total unconditional commitment or trust. It is the reliance and confidence in what God has said in His word and is not dependent on what is perceived with man’s natural senses (1Corinthians 1:17-21; 2:9-16)). It is the spiritual intelligence of God conveyed as a gift to the living spirits of His elect, enabling them to comprehend and thus communicate the things that are eternal and unseen (2Corinthians 4:18). This is in essence the enablement of God bestowed on selected men from all who are unable. Faith, according to Hebrews 11:1, gives substance to the things being hoped for which serves as the evidence of events which are not being made visible. The conveyance of faith is limited to those whom God has chosen in eternity to convey it to, thus all men do not possess faith (II Thessalonians 3:2; II Timothy 3:8).

Faith is the median through which believers acknowledge the truth of the gospel, delineating the efficacy of the vicarious death of Jesus Christ in the shedding of His blood for the eradication of the curse and penalty of sin.

From this we foist the statement that we are justified by faith alone, or freely, or by faith without works (for all these notations basically convey the same sense of thought). Thus, we believe it to be an overstatement to say that the faith we possess is a virtue, which causes us to be righteous in ourselves before God. In other words, the essence of the faith that one exercises in believing does not bring about salvation but it is the faithful accomplishments of Jesus Christ's work on behalf of the elect that has wrought deliverance. In this light we understand that we are justified by faith alone inasmuch as our faith embraces Him who in fact justifies us. Our faith is in testimony to our identification with Jesus Christ to whom it unites and joins us. Through this we are made partakers of Him and the benefits that He transfers to us. These being imputed and gifted to us are more than sufficient to make us acquitted of the offence and accounted righteous before God. Accordingly, the assurance of one's salvation is actually invested in the merits of the faithfulness of Jesus Christ in procuring salvation for God's elect. See "Grace Verses Works."