

## Faith –Pt 2 The faith of Christ

This is our second teaching on the word “faith”. In our previous study we established three points– (i) The Lord God is faithful (worthy of our trust), ii) It is impossible to please God without faith, and iii) Baal is “a god” NOT faithful (he is NOT worthy of our faith). In this teaching we establish an additional three points–(I) Jesus Christ is the author and finisher of our faith, and (Ii) we are saved by faith, iii) we are justified by faith,

It is from our search of the scriptures that we establish our three points–

### 1. Jesus Christ is the author and finisher of our faith

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Heb.12: 2).

### 2) We are saved by grace through faith – not of ourselves

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves...” (Eph 2 :8).

### 3. We are justified by faith without the deeds of the law

“Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law” (Rom.3: 28).

#### Illustration

How do missionaries pack up their families and live in another country for years on end? There is much sacrifice that they and their families undertake to participate in such ministry. You simply could not endure the hardships if you did it all in your own faith. You first have to seek the Lord, as a family on what the Lord wants you to do. Because you could not do the work unless He is calling you, the Holy Spirit is leading you and you have discernment to listen to the Spirit, and live by the faith of Christ.

Peter had “little faith” one day, and after the Lord’s resurrection he was healing people in the name of Jesus Christ– Acts 3:6– “Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk”.

#### Question of the scriptures

How do we live by the faith of Christ?

#### Answer to our questions from the scriptures

i) We live by the faith of Christ – when the Spirit of God bears fruit of faith– the faith of Christ, as Christ dwells in us– Rom 8:9– “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” CF– “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith” (Gal.5: 22). His perfect faith in us. IF we struggle to live by the faith of Christ then stop trying to trust, but instead, ask the Lord to show you your sin that is quenching the Spirit of God, and therefore preventing you from bearing the fruit of faith.

We are saved by faith (our own) trusting in the scriptures– in Christ’s death burial and resurrection, and believing in our heart. But then we are justified by His faith, we receive the righteousness by His faith. So let us “live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me”, by dying to ourselves, our sin, and allowing the Spirit to bear the fruit of faith– the perfect faith of Christ! All glory to God!