

FAITH

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Romans 10:12-17**. From Roy H. Enoch.
- B. Our scripture text says that one needs to hear the message preached. Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6).
- C. This lesson covers:
 - 1. A definition of faith.
 - 2. Types of faith.
 - 3. Getting a faith of your own.
 - 4. The great blessings of faith.

I. WHAT IS FAITH?

- A. The definition of faith is in Hebrews 11:1.
 - 1. The *assurance* of things hoped for (things of the future).
 - 2. The *conviction* of things not seen (things of the past).
- B. Faith is used in two distinct ways in the Scriptures:
 - 1. The personal conviction of the heart (Rom. 4:3,19-22; Eph. 4:5).
 - 2. The system of doctrine to follow (Ac. 6:7; Jude 3).
- C. Both need to be right to have a faith that is acceptable to God. It must come from the heart, and be in tune with the teachings of the Spirit (Gal. 3:26).

II. TYPES OF FAITH.

- A. Our faith is not always as it should be. Notice the different stages of faith:
 - 1. Weak in faith. Our earthly hope against the heavenly hope (Rom. 4:19,20).
 - 2. Little in faith. Our doubt keeps us as men of little faith (Mt. 6:30).
 - 3. Dead in faith. Faith without works is dead (Jas. 2:17).
 - 4. Great in faith. Tremendous trust in spite of the odds (Mt. 8:5-10).
- B. Our faith must always in be Christ (Jn. 8:24; Ac. 4:12).

III. GETTING A FAITH OF YOUR OWN.

- A. Faith **does not come** by subjective experience. No one can call on someone or something they have not heard of. Instead of waiting for some experience to happen, hear the Word and believe!
See Romans 10:14-17; Ephesians 1:13,14.
- B. Faith **does come** by hearing the word of God. Yet, we need to be instructed on what to believe; otherwise, no two people will believe the same thing (Rom. 10:8,17; Ac. 15:7; Jn. 20:31; 2Th. 1:10).

IV. THE GREAT BLESSINGS OF FAITH.

- A. Some of the great blessings of having faith are:
 - 1. Salvation. However, the faith that saves is not alone (Eph. 2:8).
 - 2. Justification. The spiritual condition is "just-as-if-I'd never sinned" (Rom. 5:1).
 - 3. Sanctification. Made holy and set apart for a purpose (Ac. 26:18).
- B. A Christian's everyday conduct is to be on the basis of faith (2Cor. 5:7).
- C. Faith means not trusting in the flesh (Gal. 2:20).

CONCLUSION.

- A. Having faith is the first step in becoming a Christian. Everyone who wants to be pleasing to God must come to Him in faith. Hebrews 11 lists the great men and women of God and how they all had faith.
- B. We have discussed:
 - 1. The definition of faith as found in Heb. 11:1.
 - 2. Different types of faith--hopefully striving for a great faith.

3. How faith comes by hearing the word of God.
 4. Some of the great blessings to those who have faith.
- C. Our faith in God and work in Christ should lead us to obedience (Jas. 2:17-20; 1Pet. 1:22; Rom. 6:17).