

*"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Matthew 15:8-9 KJV*



*"Without faith it is impossible to please [God]." Men who would have nothing to do with faith or God, because they blame God for the things that men do or have done, will never see the pearly gates nor hear the angels sing. They wallow in the bitterness of selfish unrequited lust believing Satan's whispered lie that self gratification is the only worthwhile thing in life. Faith is a dark mystery to them. Like a blind man standing in sunlight, they sense its warmth, but never the cornucopia of crisp colors it reveals. "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not" Only God's Word heals the soul's blindness. "Faith cometh by hearing...the Word of God." There are many who come to Christ, but remain the rest of their lives in the nursery, where they must be constantly pampered and fed "the milk of the Word" by others, because of their unwillingness to believe God's Word and act upon it. Paul chided the carnal Corinthians, because they thought to only "add" faith to their repertoire instead of changing their repertoire. "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" They blindly trod underfoot the jewels of His Grace, Mercy, Peace, Joy, and Providence along the path of righteousness. Jesus promised, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and ALL these things shall be added unto you." There is no interest paid on "sock money." Faith will not grow or increase until you put it in the bank of Trust and Obey. All words of love and trust are worthless outside of obedience. Obedience proves faith, because "faith is the evidence of things not seen. Faith, if it hath not works, is dead. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. " Works do not produce faith (belief), but faith produces works. What you believe directly impacts your deeds. If you believe standing in the middle of the highway is dangerous, you will avoid it. If you believe crossing the yellow line in heavy traffic is hazardous, you will stay on your side. If you believe God you will obey God, otherwise your "faith" is only lip-service and is dead! Does your faith have a pulse?*

*Tapping along with feeling cane,  
The blind see not from whence they came,  
They cannot see the dark and gloom,  
Of paths that lead to endless doom! ~CGP*

Believing there is a God is not enough. *"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."* It is acceptance and trust of His Holy Word evidenced by faithful obedience that pleases Him. *"For by grace are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works lest any man should boast. Faith cometh by hearing...the Word of God."* Did your mom ever say to you, "Did you hear what I said?" She didn't think you were deaf, just disobedient. Do you trust God's Word?

*"He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:11-13 KJV*