

The Faith of Jesus Christ

1 Peter 2:23

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Introduction : Faith is belief, Hebrews 11:1-3, 6. Faith may be described as trust. When one believes in God, as He is revealed in the scriptures, one comes to trust the goodness of God. Proverbs 3:5-7; **Matthew 7:11**. **Psalm 95:100**, worship to God is given not only because of His power but also because of His goodness and mercy toward His people. We must have faith in God in order to please Him.

When Jesus Christ left the glory of heaven and came to earth and lived as a man, He manifested great faith/trust in God His Father. In 1 Peter 2:23, the word of God shows that Jesus **Committed Himself first to God's hand at the death on the cross (See Luke 23:46)**. **Note the prayer** of Jesus BEFORE the death, John 17:1-5.

Study with me the faith Jesus showed in His coming to earth to live as a man, and His faith after He left earth for the glory in heaven. We need to see some applications to ourselves also.

I. Jesus Showed Faith

A. In Leaving Heaven

1. **Philippians 2:5-8**, in leaving equality with God to become a servant – even obeyed to the point of death. In this Jesus “learned” obedience in order to become perfected, Hebrews 5:7-9.
2. **2 Corinthians 8:9**, Jesus left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake s. **Matthew 20:28** He left as lived in service for our salvation.
3. To leave equality with God, to be born in the flesh, to live as a servant, finally to die as a sacrifice FOR OTHERS required great faith that the eternal plan of God would achieve the goal of the defeat of Satan and sin. Animal sacrifices were not sufficient – perfection was required, Hebrews 9:11-14. So, He obeyed to the point of death, then God raised Him from the dead, exalted Him as Lord and Christ! **Philippians 2:8-11**; **Acts 2:22-36**; **Romans 1:3, 4**. Satan was overcome and defeated, salvation was secured **Hebrews 2:14**; **Colossians 2:14, 15**; **Hebrews 9:26-28**. Jesus had full trust in God His Father, so Jesus always did the will of God and pleased the Father, **John 8:29**; **17:4**; **Hebrews 10:5-10**! Does Jesus understand **Luke 14:33**?

B. In His Apostles

1. He prayed before choosing, **Luke 6:12**, one was lost, **John 17:12**. The others failed in their faith when they were needed, **Matthew 26:31-35, 56**. Yet, knowing they would do these things Jesus gave them the most important work ever given to humans: announce God's Savior, Jesus Christ, to all the world by the preaching gospel, **Matthew 28:18-20**; **Mark 16:15, 16**; **Luke 24:44-49**; **John 20:30, 31**!
2. Jesus promised that after He left to go back to heaven to the glory of the Father that God would send the Apostles the Holy Spirit, **John 14:26**; **16:5-15**. The Spirit would enable them to do the work of spreading the gospel. Jesus knew that the apostles would face the same rejection and persecution that He had faced **Matthew 10:25**; **20:23**; **John 15:18-25**; **16:33**. Jesus had faith that the Spirit would come to the apostles – Jesus had faith that they would return from their falling, **Luke 22:31-34**;

John 21:15-19. Jesus had faith that the apostles would take salvation in His name to every creature under heaven – and they did!! (Colossians 1:23) Who could have had so great faith in the apostles??

C. Jesus Had Faith in the Word of the Gospel

1. Jesus spoke about His word enduring, even as He spoke of His own death, John 12:23-33, 48. Great nations would come, Jesus' words would not fail, Matthew 24:35; 1 Peter 1:23-25.
2. The word Jesus gave would have power to save, Luke 8:11, 15, 18; John 8:31-34; 8:51; Romans 1:16, 17; James 1:21; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 Thessalonians 2:13.
3. Disciples, followers, of Jesus' words were brought out of sin and spiritual death. They then stood against persecutions and trials, even physical death because they followed the words of their savior! 1 Peter 1:3-12

II. Applications

A. Our Faith to be Born Again, 1 Peter 1:22-25.

1. Die to sin, Romans 6:1-11
2. Live in Christ, whom we do not see, 1 Peter 1:8, even in rejection from those near us, 1 Peter 4:1-4, requires faith. Colossians 2:12; Romans 5:1-5; Hebrews 10:32-39; 13:5, 6.

B. Our Faith that the Word is Complete and Unchanging. John 16:13; Acts 2:1-4, 22-36, 38-47; Colossians 3:17; James 1:21-27; 2:12; 2 Peter 1:3, 4.

1. Following the Word IS Life, Romans 6:1-11; John 6:68; Galatians 2:20.
2. Following the Word Saves in Judgment, 2 Corinthians 5:10, 11; Romans 2:16; Acts 17:30, 31; John 5:24-30.

C. Our Faith that we are In Christ, unto eternal life, 1 John 3:1-3; 5:19-21; 5:3, 4.

Conclusion: As Jesus came in faith and did the Father's will, then was exalted – so, you and I must live in faith, always obeying Jesus as our Lord. By God's love and mercy and faithfulness, we will be exalted in eternal life.

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