

Comparative Faiths

Introduction. In some form, faith occurs over 330 times in the Bible. Faith is used in two ways in the Bible. It is used in a subjective sense in 2 Peter 1:5. I am to add to my faith and make it better. It is used in an objective sense in Acts 6:7 where priests were obedient to "the faith." This is the objective doctrine of Christ.

In Mark 4:30, Jesus asked, "Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it?" In many ways, comparing is good and useful. By comparing man's individual faith with the factual faith of the Bible today we can really highlight the two paths mankind can take. We can observe the relative merits of each and see which one produces righteousness that will get us into Heaven.

I. Modern Faith

- A. Material possessions.
 - 1. Matthew 6:24.
 - 2. Ecclesiastes 5:13-16.
- B. My way.
 - 1. Acts 14:14-16.
 - 2. Job 8:8-13.
- C. Enthroned self.
 - 1. 2 Thessalonians 2:4.
 - 2. 2 Corinthians 10:5, 18.
- D. Use others.
 - 1. 2 Timothy 3:2-4.
 - 2. Philippians 2:19-21.
- E. Live for self.
 - 1. Psalm 10:1-4.
 - 2. Malachi 3:13-14.

II. True Faith

- A. No possessions.
 - 1. Acts 2:45.
 - 2. Proverbs 11:24-25.
- B. New way.
 - 1. Acts 17:30.
 - 2. Ephesians 5:6-8.
- C. Enthroned God.
 - 1. Philippians 2:10.
 - 2. Joshua 22:5.
- D. Serve others.
 - 1. Luke 22:23-26.
 - 2. Galatians 5:13-15.
- E. Live for Jesus.
 - 1. Galatians 2:20.
 - 2. Ephesians 3:17-19.

Conclusion. How does your faith measure up? If you compared yourself right now, in which direction would you lean? A servant of Christ has true faith.