

01 - Faith

To have faith in something you will first need to have some information or knowledge about the thing in which you want to have faith. To believe a medication can help, you will first need to know a few things. One, you need to know this particular medication exists. Two, you will need to know generally what it has done in the past. Three, you may need to trust the doctor prescribing the medication. The same is true concerning God and what the Almighty is doing in history and in your life. This information is available in the Bible.

The first issue concerning the Bible is to identify or establish what you think of the Bible. Do you know if it is the actual revealed Word of God? Or, do you think and believe it is fiction, or a mere legend written down to manipulate masses of people by the elite priests and royalty? If you do not believe the Bible you will not be able to believe the God of the Bible.

If you do not trust the Bible you will need to get information about God from some other source. Where would you go? Another religion? But, what is the source of authority in that religion? Is it trustworthy?

Instead of going to the Bible for information about God you could use your own judgment and come up with your own opinion about God based on your own thoughts and experience. But, before you go too far down this road of deciding what is eternally true in realms you have never ventured, you should first admit how limited your own knowledge is on simple things you use every day such as automobiles, electronic devices, plumbing systems or air conditioning. If any of these broke down would you simply fix it because you know how, or would you call someone for help? Or, what about political situations in your city, your nation and countries around the world? Do you know when they were established, who is pulling their strings, what are the nations' treaties and where are their boundaries? Or, can you diagnose your own blood condition, translate any foreign brochure into your own language, plant the crops you will harvest for your own food supply next year and read all the books written by mankind just in the last 12 months? (Realize humanity has been writing "books" for 6,000 years.) We would each live miserable lives and perish quickly if today each of us as individuals had to understand all these systems and apply all this information.

If we are that limited in natural knowledge concerning things we have available to us in our daily lives, imagine how hopelessly dark it would be to describe with any accuracy actual spiritual reality using only our imagination and our own unauthenticated knowledge. We cannot create our own medical reality, food system, government, language or history. Neither can we create the Truth about God. This Truth must be revealed to us.

If I created my own reality that did not match true science, nutrition, language or history I would perish miserably and quickly. If I created my own personal "truth" about "god" I would likewise perish.

God reveals himself in order for us to trust him and have confidence in him, his ways and his purpose. God does not come to us to be manipulated by us, but to guide, encourage and empower us. The Creator comes to assist his creation in fulfilling its created purpose, but never to be manipulated or ruled by his creation.

There are several concepts that God has revealed to mankind that will provide a fortification for the soul. These come as revelations of God's character, ways, purposes and promises. Knowledge of these truths will be the sure foundation for a faith that will stabilize your soul.