



Church Without Walls

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

**Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him.
For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.**

FOR THE LOVE OF
GOD
MINISTRIES

Faith!

Hebrews 11:1-6

What is faith?

It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see. God gave his approval to people in days of old because of their faith.

By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. God accepted Abel's offering to show that he was a righteous man. And although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us because of his faith.

It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying — "suddenly he disappeared because God took him." But before he was taken up, he was approved as pleasing to God.

*So, you see,
it is impossible to please God without faith.*

Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that there is a God and that he rewards those who sincerely seek Him.

Bamford's Bible Dictionary

faith - Complete confidence and trust in God.

Webster's Dictionary

faith \ 1 : allegiance to duty or a person : LOYALTY

2 : belief and trust in God

3 : complete trust

4 : a system of religious beliefs

God: Fill in the blank. _____.

Jehovah; Buddha; Krishna; Muhammad; Confucius; Allah; etc, etc, etc.

Which name did you fill in? Are all these gods one and the same? What does the Bible say about this?

Number one of the Ten Commandments!

Exodus 20:1-6

Then God instructed the people as follows:

"I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from slavery in Egypt.

"Do not worship any other gods besides me.

"Do not make idols of any kind, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish. You must never worship or bow down to them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not share your affection with any other god! I do not leave unpunished the sins of those who hate me, but I punish the children for the sins of their parents to the third and fourth generations. But I lavish my love on those who love me and obey my commands, even for a thousand generations. NLT

This very commandment tells me that there is a true God and many false gods. It also tells me that I have a choice as to which one I will worship. It also tells me that I should do some research on my own to decide correctly who or who I will not follow.

Number four of Webster's dictionary states that faith is a system of religious beliefs. People often ask "what is your faith"? Some reply I am:

Protestant; Catholic; Pentecostal; Jewish; Baptist; Methodist; Lutheran; Presbyterian; Mormon; Evangelical; Islam; Hindu; Buddhist; Wiccan; etc, etc. Some will even tell you that they are Satanists.

This should tell a person that even as all gods are not the same, neither are all religions the same. Basically what separates one from another is who they are worshipping and what they are teaching.

In the 24th chapter of Matthew's gospel the Lord Jesus warns us very specifically.

Matthew 24:23-25 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. NKJV

The elect spoken of here are the true God's chosen ones.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God. I assure you that you can say to this mountain, 'May God lift you up and throw you into the sea,' and your command will be obeyed. All that's required is that you really believe and do not doubt in your heart. Listen to me! You can pray for anything, and if you believe, you will have it. But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too."

Mark 11:22-25 NLT

The above verses are known as the prayer of faith.

The Psalmist David wrote in Psalm 20:7-8 Some nations boast (have faith) of their armies and weapons, but we boast in the LORD our God. Those nations will fall down and collapse, but we will rise up and stand firm. NLT

In Psalm 49:5-9 we read, There is no need to fear when times of trouble come, when enemies are surrounding me. They trust (have faith) in their wealth and boast of great riches. Yet they cannot redeem themselves from death by paying a ransom to God. Redemption does not come so easily, for no one can ever pay enough to live forever and never see the grave. NLT

In recent years, men like Saddam Hussein and Yasser Arafat became rich at the expense of others including their own people. They both made loud and exorbitant claims against the nation of Israel. They boasted loudly and continuously about what they were going to do to God's chosen people. Today Israel still stands as a mighty nation and a mighty force in the middle east while both Hussein and Ararfat are burning in the pits of hell.

More recently President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran is making similar boasts as to what he is going to do to Israel. He is boasting in his nuclear weapons armament and in his ally Russia. China, North Korea and a host of other countries and their leaders likewise boast in the same things.

In the midst of all this turmoil God is still seated on His Throne and is not the least bit concerned. He is not wringing his hands in agony nor is sweat dripping from His brow in fear of these men or their deceived nations. His answer to all of this can be found in Psalm two. He laughs at them and holds them in derision.

Let us not forget our Atheist friends. This has not been proven to be fact but it does make for interesting reading.

In Florida , an atheist became incensed over the preparation of Easter and Passover holidays He decided to contact his lawyer about the discrimination inflicted on atheists by the constant celebrations afforded to Christians and Jews with all their holidays while atheists had no holiday to celebrate. The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the long passionate presentation by the lawyer, the Judge banged his gavel and declared, 'Case dismissed!' The lawyer immediately stood and objected to the ruling and said, 'Your honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and many other observances. Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah...yet my client and all other atheists have no such holiday!' The judge leaned forward in his chair and simply said, 'Obviously your client is too confused to even know about, much less celebrate his own atheists' holiday!' The lawyer pompously said, 'Your Honor, we are unaware of any such holiday for atheists. Just when might that holiday be, your Honor?' The judge said, 'Well it comes every year on exactly the same date---April 1st! Since our calendar sets April 1st as 'April Fools Day,' consider that Psalm 14:1 states, 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, in my opinion, if your client says there is no God, then by scripture , he is a fool, and April 1st is his holiday! Now have a good day and get out of my courtroom!!

Let's take a look at what happens to people and nations when they take a stand against God and His people. King Sennacherib of Assyria determined he would destroy Jerusalem.

"And this is what the LORD says about the king of Assyria: His armies will not enter Jerusalem to shoot their arrows. They will not march outside its gates with their shields and build banks of earth against its walls. The king will return to his own country by the road on which he came. He will not enter this city, says the LORD. For my own honor and for the sake of my servant David, I will defend it." That night the angel of the LORD went out to the Assyrian camp and killed 185,000 Assyrian troops. When the surviving Assyrians woke up the next morning, they found corpses everywhere. Then King Sennacherib of Assyria broke camp and returned to his own land. He went home to his capital of Nineveh and stayed there. One day while he was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisroch, his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer killed him with their swords. They then escaped to the

to the land of Ararat, and another son, Esarhaddon, became the next king of Assyria. 2 Kings 19:32-37 NLT

Haman, prime minister of Ahasuerus, the Persian king hated the Jews intensely and especially Mordecai a Jew of the city. He convinced king Ahasuerus to set a decree to destroy all the Jews in Persia. He also built a 75 foot gallows in his yard in which he was going to hang this Mordecai. But just like the devil this evil man shot himself in his own foot.

Then Harbona, one of the king's eunuchs, said, "Haman has set up a gallows that stands seventy-five feet tall in his own courtyard. He intended to use it to hang Mordecai, the man who saved the king from assassination." "Then hang Haman on it!" the king ordered. So they hanged Haman on the gallows he had set up for Mordecai, and the king's anger was pacified. Esther 7:9-10 NLT

Then the LORD told Abram, (Abraham) "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you. I will cause you to become the father of a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and I will make you a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the families of the earth will be blessed through you." Genesis 12:1-3 NLT

Once again we have a choice to make as seen in the above three stories from the Word of God. We can bless the nation of Israel or we can curse it. In cursing, we will be cursed.....in blessing, we will be blessed. What is America going to do?

*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
May all who love this city prosper.
O Jerusalem, may there be peace within your walls
and prosperity in your palaces.
For the sake of my family and friends, I will say,
"Peace be with you."
For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek what is best for you, O Jerusalem.
Psalm 122:6 NLT*

***But when I,
the Son of Man,
return,
how many will I find who have faith?
Luke 18:8 NLT***

Warriors

On the left a Roman soldier from the first century, dressed for battle.



On the right a special forces soldier of the United States of America and the twenty first Century, dressed for battle.

Throughout the ages men and nations have engaged in warfare. Some for noble purposes and some for ignoble. Some for conquest and rule and others for defense and freedom.

Whatever the cause, innocent people suffer pain and affliction and many pay the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. Today we are living in what is probably the most dangerous time known in the history of mankind. Despots with no regard for the lives of others or even their own have in their possession weapons that are capable of destroying cities in minutes.

Whatever your position is I strongly urge that you utter prayers on behalf of our military that are in harms way. Pray that the Lord will give them courage and strength and wisdom. Pray the same things over the families of these warriors who are left behind. May the Lord bless the warriors and also the ones who heed these words and pray daily for our nation and its leaders.



Smile!

NOBODY BELIEVES OLD PEOPLE

An elderly couple who were childhood sweethearts had married and settled down in their old neighborhood and are celebrating their sixtieth wedding anniversary. They walk down the street to their old school.

There, they hold hands as they find the old desk they'd shared and where he had carved "I love you, Sally." On their way back home, a bag of money falls out of an armored car practically at their feet. She quickly picks it up, but they don't know what to do with it so they take it home. There, she counts the money, and it's fifty thousand dollars.

The husband says, "We've got to give it back."

She says, "Finders keepers." And she puts the money back in the bag and hides it up in their attic.

The next day, two FBI men are going door-to-door in the neighborhood looking for the money and show up at their home. They say, "Pardon me, but did either of you find any money that fell out of an armored car yesterday?"

She says, "NO."

The husband says, "She's lying. She hid it up in the attic."

She says, "Don't believe him, he's getting senile."

But the agents sit the man down and begin to question him. One says, "Tell us the story from the beginning."

The old man says, " Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday..."

The FBI guy looks at his partner and says, "We're outta here....."

**To Know the Bible
is
Wonderful
To know the Author
Is better**

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