

WHERE IS YOUR PERSONAL FAITH ROOTED?

Every person has a faith because everyone believes in something or someone. Faith is the acceptance of and the conviction in recorded facts, principles, values and teachings. There are many different kinds of faiths, and they do not all agree. Not all faiths are rooted in truth, nor save.

The nature of faith is that it is always personal. Another person cannot believe for you. Faith is based upon what a person has been told by someone who is being trusted. A child's faith is his own faith because he trusts his parents and accepts their word to be true. But faith can change. A man can stop believing what he once believed and believe something new. Just because a person believes something that does not make it true, nor right. Therefore, the Lord challenges all: "Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!" (2 Corinthians 13:5)

There is one system of faith which has true lasting value. This one faith (Ephesians 4:5) should be every man's own faith. But that one faith is not adapted to suit the desires and whims of man. The faith which saves came with the coming of Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:23-26). The one faith "was once for all handed down to the saints" (Jude 3). Every man decides for himself to believe or not believe the faith which has the power to save (cf. Romans 1:16).

The one faith is rooted in truth because it has come from the Unchanging Absolute One, the Lord God of heaven and earth (Acts 17:24). He is who He is - the "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14). He was; He is; and He is to come (Revelation 4:8). No lie, no deceit and no falsehood is ever in Him (Hebrews 6:17-18). With the One who is Light, there is no variation (James 1:17).

Therefore, every man's personal faith ought to be shaped by God's directions, His word of truth. He has spoken through His Son (Hebrews 1:2; 2:3). Everyone is accountable for establishing their personal faith on God's righteousness because all will be judged by that righteousness (Acts 17:30-31). God is not the one who must change; we are. Repentance is mandatory. Men cannot continue in disobedience and sin and be right with God. Jesus Christ is proof that forgiveness is available on God's terms, not on man's terms. In whom and in what are you placing your faith?