

There Is One Faith

Introduction:

1. We are presently studying a series of lessons designed to help us know the truth concerning the 7 unique subjects listed in Ephesians 4:4-6.
2. We have examined passages that relate to the "*one body*," the "*one Spirit*," the "*one hope*," and the "*one Lord*."
3. In this lesson we are concentrating on the "*one faith*" mentioned in vs.5.

Discussion

I. THE BIBLE SPEAKS ABOUT "FAITH" IN DIFFERENT SENSES

- A. Many times "faith" refers to belief or trust in God (Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17).
- B. The Bible also contains a number of references to "*the faith*" that are of special interest to us in this study.
 1. Acts 6:7
 - a. In connection with people learning God's Word and becoming disciples, note that "*a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.*"
 - b. "*The faith*" is associated with God's Word, and it can be obeyed.
 2. Acts 24:24
 - a. While Paul was in custody, Felix "*heard him concerning the faith in Christ.*"
 - b. "*The faith*" can be taught, and it can be heard [a message].
 3. Galatians 1:20-24
 - a. Paul was giving a biographical sketch of his life.
 - 1) Before he became a Christian, he did his best to destroy Christianity.
 - 2) After he was converted, he preached "*the faith*" [a message].
 - b. The message Paul preached is revealed in Galatians 1:11-12 [the Gospel that the Lord had revealed to him].
 4. We learn from these passages that "*the faith*" is the body of doctrines revealed by Christ in the Gospel.
 5. This is the "*one faith*" mentioned in Ephesians 4:5 -- it is to be taught, it is to be heard, and it is to be obeyed.

II. THE BIBLE CONTAINS NUMEROUS INSTRUCTIONS THAT RELATE TO THE "ONE FAITH"

- A. (Acts 14:21-22) God's people are "*to continue in the faith.*"
- B. (Acts 16:4-5) The church is to be "*established in the faith.*"
- C. (1 Corinthians 16:13) God's people are to "*stand fast in the faith.*"
- D. (2 Corinthians 13:5) We are to examine ourselves to determine if we are in "*the faith.*"
- E. (Philippians 1:27) God's people are to strive together with one mind for "*the faith of the Gospel.*"
- F. (2 Timothy 4:7-8) A great reward will be given to those who keep "*the faith.*"
- G. (Jude 3) God's people are to earnestly contend for "*the faith*" that was delivered once for all.

III. THE BIBLE ALSO CONTAINS NUMEROUS WARNINGS THAT RELATE TO THE "ONE FAITH"

- A. (Acts 13:8) We must not allow anyone to turn us away from "*the faith.*"
- B. (1 Timothy 4:1) We must not "*depart from the faith*" by embracing false doctrines.
- C. (1 Timothy 5:8) We must not deny "*the faith*" by failing to fulfill our domestic responsibilities.
- D. (1 Timothy 6:10) We must not allow covetousness to cause us to err from "*the faith.*"
- E. (1 Timothy 6:20-21) We must not allow false teaching to cause us to err concerning "*the faith.*"
- F. (2 Timothy 3:8) We must not become "*reprobate concerning the faith*" by resisting the truth.
- G. (Titus 1:12-14) We must reject anything that will cause us not to be "*sound in the faith.*"