

## “Therefore:” The Logical Lifestyle of a Hopeful Minority

### ***Therefore, Pick Up Your Faith Shield***

Ephesians 6:16, Page 979 in the Church Bible

The Lord’s Day Morning,

July 23, 2017

“In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one.” –Ephesians 6:16

Q1: How does the devil deceive people to create doubt about God?

A1: Here are four examples of “flaming dart” lies:

1. The Smart Atheist: Faith is irrational belief in something in spite of the \_\_\_\_\_, so smart people know there is no God (Eph. 1:11).
2. The Wise Inclusivist: Everybody’s concept of God is true for them because the *presence* of faith is more important than the \_\_\_\_\_ of faith (Eph. 2:12).
3. The Emotional Pragmatist: It doesn’t matter what God is like if your faith gives you good \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 4:17–20; 5:10).
4. The Prosperity Optimist: God guarantees health, wealth, and your best life now if you just have enough \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 3:13).

Q2: How does Scripture define faith?

A2: Faith is the firm conviction, based on solid facts and actionable evidence, that a proposition or promise of God is true. Biblical faith has three parts:

1. Knowledge: I am \_\_\_\_\_ of the facts about Jesus (Ro. 10:17).
2. Assent: I \_\_\_\_\_ that these facts about Jesus are true (Jn. 14:1,6).
3. Commitment: I \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus with my life (Jas. 2:19).

Q3: How does the shield of faith protect us?

A3: The more you \_\_\_\_\_ your commanding officer, the more likely you will stand firm when the battle becomes \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Tim. 2:3,4).