

August 20, 2017
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Jesus said to them, "You faithless people! How long must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy to me." 20 So they brought the boy. But when the evil spirit saw Jesus, it threw the child into a violent convulsion, and he fell to the ground, writhing and foaming at the mouth.

21 "How long has this been happening?" Jesus asked the boy's father. He replied, "Since he was a little boy. ²² The spirit often throws him into the fire or into water, trying to kill him. Have mercy on us and help us, if you can." ²³ "What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "Anything is possible if a person believes."

²⁴ The father instantly cried out, "I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!" 25 When Jesus saw that the crowd of onlookers was growing, he rebuked the evil spirit. "Listen, you spirit that makes this boy unable to hear and speak," he said. "I command you to come out of this child and never enter him again!"

Then the spirit screamed and threw the boy into another violent convulsion and left him.
The boy appeared to be dead. A murmur ran through the crowd as people said, "He's dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and helped him to his feet, and he stood up.

²⁸ Afterward, when Jesus was alone in the house with his disciples, they asked him, "Why couldn't we cast out that evil spirit?" ²⁹ Jesus replied, "This kind can be cast out only by prayer."

QUESTION

Do I believe in God or Do I believe in God?

GOD'S ANSWERS TO PRAYER

- No
- Slow
- Grow
- Go

2 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10

Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. ⁹ Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. 10 That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

QUOTE

"If we cannot believe in God when circumstances seem to be against us, we do not believe in Him at all." – C.H. Spurgeon

To trust God in the light is nothing, but trust him in the dark—

that is faith.

C.H. SPURGEON

DEFINITION

Belief: an opinion or judgement in which a person is fully persuaded.

Faith= belief + action + confidence



JAMES 2:17

So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

JAMES 2:26

Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.

ROMANS 8:28

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

QUOTE

Faith in God includes faith in his timing. -unk

Acts of Faith . Perspective

If it doesn't stem its decline, mainline Protestantism has just 23 Easters left

By Ed Stetzer April 28





HEBREWS 11:1-6

Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. ² Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. ³ 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.

HEBREWS 11:1-6

⁴ It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith. 5 It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—"he disappeared, because God took him." For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God. ⁶ And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

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JOHN 14:1-3

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. ² There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? 3 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.

JOHN 14:6

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

ROMANS 8:1

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 8:37-39

No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. ³⁸ And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.

ROMANS 8:37-39

No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PSALM 103:11-12

For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. ¹² He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.

JAMES 1:2-4

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

BELIEF ATTACKERS

- 1. Questioning God
- 2. Impatience
- 3. Looking for science
- 4. Fear
- 5. Lack of Fellowship
- 6. False teaching