

Should We Believe By Faith?

By Brooks A. Harris

The Bible says that we are to have faith as a little child. In Mark 10:15 Jesus says, "... whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."

So what does such faith look like? **Faith** is trusting, that what we have been told is true. **Faith** is having hope that we will receive what we have been promised to receive. **Faith** creates in us a strong desire for and anticipation for something to happen. **Faith** gives us something to look forward to.

But we live in a scientific world which is used to accepting things as true only if they have supporting evidence. So is it logical or rational to believe in things by faith?

We often put faith or trust in many entities without certainty. We put faith in our modes of transportation and communication, our legal and political systems, our clothing and furniture, and much more. We also put faith in our parents, our spouse, our doctors, our mechanics, our pastor and even our hairdressers. We have faith that these things or people will not fail us, but unfortunately, most of these entities will fail us or disappoint us from time to time. So why should we put our trust in something else that we cannot prove, like God? Also why should we have faith as a little child?

Many children have faith in entities that they cannot prove to be true such as Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy. But should children be allowed to believe in such entities? This is a controversial subject, but if they are allowed to believe, parents must be prepared to eventually show the difference in belief in these entities compared to belief in God. The difference is a blind faith verses a faith based on reliable evidence.

Many people have doubted God's existence, only to find through research that there is an overwhelming amount of (scientific, historic, archaeologic, prophetic, etc.) evidence to support not only God's existence, but also the awesome reliability of the Bible. Many others have seen evidence in the form of answered prayers, miracles and / or changes in the lives of believers.

Even though believing in Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy is a blind faith, it can be training for belief in God, if handled properly. As seen in the 2nd paragraph above, the definitions of faith can fit both faith in these three entities as well as faith in God. Is your faith in God as strong as some little children's faith is in Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny or the Tooth Fairy? Do you trust that what you have been told about God and the Bible are true? Do you have hope for an eternal future in heaven? Do you look forward to what God will do for you? Do you have a strong desire for and live in anticipation of the return of Jesus Christ?

Many of us are like Thomas who said, "Unless I see ... I will not believe" (John 20:25). But Jesus said, "... Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:29). Although most children, and some adults, can believe without seeing, many of us have trouble believing by faith alone. So if you feel the need to see to believe, research for yourself. See much evidence for the reliability of the Bible, for God's existence, for the reality of Jesus Christ and why Christianity, why God allows suffering, why apparent Biblical contradictions and much more, by going to the blogsite - <http://biblicalreliability.blogspot.com> and reading such articles as "Evidence for Biblical Reliability - with Web Articles," "Evidence for Biblical Reliability -Audio CD Script," and several others.