

## WHY MUST OUR FAITH BE TRIED?

**TEXT:** *1 Peter 1:7: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*

**Introduction:** You are only as strong as your faith. Every believer in the Lord Jesus must walk by faith to please God. Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**The just shall live by his faith.**

*Romans 1:17: For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

**Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that comes to God must believe that He is.**

*Hebrews 11:6: But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.*

Real faith does not tremble when put under trial. It delights in being tested because it is strengthened like the muscles of your arms and legs. God permits our faith to be tried to sift out all the dross of fear, doubt, and unbelief.

Peter said that our faith, being tried, is more precious than gold that perishes.

*1 Peter 1:7: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*

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James also tells us:

*James 1:3: Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.*

Trying to serve the Lord Jesus without faith is like trying to drive a car with the brakes on. The disciples worked themselves up into an awful frenzy trying to deliver a demon-infested boy, but the demon refused to move. Jesus came down to them and in a moment delivered the child. The disciples wondered and worried why they couldn't, and asked the Lord: "Why could we not cast him out?" "Because of your unbelief", was the quick answer Jesus gave.

**Matthew 17:19-20a:**

**<sup>19</sup> Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him [the demon] out?**

**<sup>20a</sup> And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief:**

On a tempest-driven sea, these same disciples were worried and hysterical, and cried to Jesus: **Master, save us we perish (Matthew 8:25)**. With three calm words: **Peace be still (Mark 4:39)**, the roaring sea whimpered and settled down to sleep. Just three little words, packed with the power of faith, was all that was needed. The disciples in either case had used thousands of words, but to no profit.



There is a vast difference in trying to have faith, and really living by the faith of the Son of God Who loved us and gave Himself for us.

**Galatians 1:4: Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the Will of God and our Father:**



Genuine faith can no more manifest itself without results, than the sun can shine without giving light. What is this we have been calling faith anyway? Have we made faith more a condition of the mind than a possession of the heart? For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness:

**Romans 8:10: And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.**

**Romans 10:9-10:**

**<sup>9</sup> That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.**

**<sup>10</sup> For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

Philip had been witnessing to a eunuch about The Lord Jesus Christ. When they came upon some water, the eunuch asked:

**Acts 8:36-39:**

**<sup>36</sup> And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?**

***37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.***

***38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.***

***39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.***

Just how much real faith do we have? Only the amount we have left after we have gone through the severe trial. What we have then is all we had in the first place to start with. It is only boiled down to get all the wiggle tails of fear, unbelief, and doubt out. Most of us find out after going through the tests, just how many doubts we really had.

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