

# Does God Give Us Our Faith?

God blesses us in many ways. He gives us the sun and the rain. God gives us our children (Ps. 127:3). God gave us Jesus Christ to die for our sins. God gave us the revealed word. But does God give us our faith? Some seem to think so. They would have a person just wait until the Lord gives them the faith and then they will be saved.

Let us consider what the Bible says about this. Where does faith come from?

- The Hebrew writer said that **God cannot be pleased without faith** (Heb. 11:6). Now if God indeed gave us faith, then it is God who is responsible for my salvation. If I am lost, if I am an unbeliever, then God is to blame for not giving me faith. Such would make God a respecter of persons, which He is not.
- **Faith comes from my hearing of God's word** (Rom. 10:17). If I do not hear or if I do not believe what I hear then I will not have faith.
- **What man does affects his faith in God.** Faith must be sought after (Jude 3). Faith can be shipwrecked (1 Tim. 1:19); it can be denied (1 Tim. 5:8); wandered from (Tim. 6:10); upset (2 Tim. 2:18); strengthened (Acts 16:5); continued in (Col. 1:23); and encouraged (1 Thess. 3:2). These are all results of what man does. A strong faith or a weak faith is determined by how well a person applies himself to God's word.

God supplies the evidence and the means for me to believe. When I do, I have faith, not because God gave me faith, but because He gave me the reason to have faith. If I don't have faith it is because I will not accept God in my heart. Faith comes from man's heart. It is not a gift of God.

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