

# Not By Sight



LARRY DEASON

One Step Closer to Jesus Series

## About the Author

Larry Deason has been proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ for 40 years. He has served the Body of Christ as deacon, elder, preacher, missionary, counselor, teacher and writer.

Larry's seminars have been presented throughout the Northeastern United States, Texas, California and Florida. He has also presented seminars in Australia, New Zealand, Tonga and the Fiji Islands.

While doing mission work in New Zealand Larry co-founded and taught for four years at the *Tauranga Two-Year Bible School*. He also co-founded and directed the *Northeast School of Biblical Studies* where he taught for 12 years. He also consulted in the establishing of the *South Pacific Bible College* in New Zealand. Larry has been a guest lecturer each year for the past 23 years at the South Pacific Bible College.

Larry Deason has written more than 20 booklets, books and in-depth study guides. The books have been distributed in all the states in the USA and in more than 70 nations worldwide including China, Eastern Europe, and Russia.

Larry and his wife Helen have been married for 50 years. They have two daughters, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Larry Deason continues to do mission work, present his seminars and distribute his books worldwide.

To  
Jesus Christ  
My Personal  
Lord and Savior,  
Who is the  
Focus of my life.

My orientation in His Amazing Grace and  
His Love my motivation in loving all others.

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by

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*(The Fallacy and Failure of Legalism)*

**Not By Sight**

*We live by faith, not by sight.*  
2 Corinthians 5:7

*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for  
and certain of what we do not see.*  
Hebrews 11:1

*Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"*  
*Then Jesus told him,*  
*"Because you have seen me, you have believed;*  
*blessed are those who have not seen*  
*and yet have believed."*  
John 20:28-29

**“...Lord, increase our faith!”**



## **We Walk by Faith —Not by Sight**

“We *live* by faith, not by sight,”<sup>1</sup> another translation reads, “We *walk* by faith, not by sight.” Both expressions mean the same thing, for our lives should be a walk by faith, not by sight.

It is imperative that we know the meaning of the phrase “not by sight.” It is also crucial to one’s understanding of walking by faith to keep in mind the negative aspect of this entire concept. We need to comprehend that following Jesus is not only a life of faith, but also involves *not* walking by sight.

Consider statements made by Jesus Christ throughout His ministry. He talked very explicitly about faith and the lack of it. He mentions again and again to His followers, “You of little faith.”<sup>2</sup> When Jesus spoke these words to His followers, He was trying to bring to their awareness the need for faith in various situations; He was in no way disparaging His disciples to the point of full reproof or rebuke, for Jesus spoke often of the smallest degree of faith and of its value. Jesus valued faith that was only the size of a mustard seed, the tiniest of all seeds.

On one occasion Peter had the faith to step out of a boat and walk on water. But he became faithless; taking his eyes off Jesus and then seeing waves,

he began to sink. When he looked at the waves, he began to walk by sight, not by faith. A valuable lesson can be learned here. In troublesome times, during moments of frustration and futility, when everything seems to be lost, we must ask ourselves some very important questions: What am I seeing? What am I looking at? Am I walking by sight or by faith? The Lord once said to Peter, “I have prayed... that your faith may not fail.”<sup>3</sup> In a post-resurrection appearance, Jesus Christ said to Thomas, “Stop doubting and believe.” In other words, the Lord is calling His disciples to “walk *not by sight*, but by faith.”

### ***Faith is a Necessary Part of Daily Life***

What is faith? The word “faith” portrays the idea of *believing*. The basic definition of the word involves *trust*. Usage of the word expands its fullest meaning to the concept of not only trust, but also “dependency, confidence, and reliance upon.”

There are those, however, who object to the supposition of faith; this we must consider. In the world, we find many who say in response to those who have belief or faith in Jesus Christ: “That ‘faith’ stuff is just for Christians!” But we all live in a concrete world, in the realm of realities, and in this creation there are many *unseen realities*. All that we can have faith in (as being real) is not that which is

simply seen by physical means. Entities exist that are both seen and unseen—invisible realities. But non-Christians reject the notion that people have to rely upon something called faith, a thing they say is not real. They say that, because of insecurities, Christians resort to this phenomenon we call “faith.”

The truth of the matter is that *every* human being, whether a believer in God or not, lives his life on a principle of faith: that is, believing. All of us, because of the essential characteristics and makeup of human beings, live in a world which, of necessity, activates what is called “faith.”

Henry Ford, maker of the four-cylinder automobile, had an ingenious and incredible idea. He went to his engineers and proposed this idea: “Make a V-block engine for me.” “Impossible!” they replied. “There is no way you can make four cylinders with pistons in a V-shape.” Ford thought this would make automobiles faster. He insisted on it. Six weeks later he returned to find them still saying, “Impossible.” But he continued to have faith in spite of this intangible idea. He insisted that this must be brought about.

He *believed* in his idea, that it could be done. Twelve months passed and still the word came back, “Impossible.”

He persisted: “This can be done.” And then the breakthrough came and the V-block engine was invented. Here is a man who had faith—in his idea and in himself. He thus experienced the power and results of believing!

Those who object to faith in God would never object to faith when it comes to something as basic as eating. They do not say to themselves, “I have no faith because I do not know what this is; therefore, I won’t eat it.” We consume things with complete confidence, with thorough trust in those who have prepared it. We get a little apprehensive sometimes, and this is one of the reasons why we stop for a moment as our faith is shaken: for instance, during the Tylenol scare and other food and drug incidents. But in spite of this, people trust. They continue to indulge in these things to survive.

People get into automobiles or other transportation vehicles (trains, boats, aircraft), and in doing so they express their trust, their faith. I myself, and others to whom I have spoken, do not feel comfortable while flying in an aircraft, which is supposed to be the most reliable source of transportation. Yet we trust sufficiently in the mechanics of the craft and those operating it to actually get on board and fly. Everyone who flies, whether atheist or theist, expresses confidence and trust in doing so, regardless of their fears.

A situation may occur in family life or relationships that may cause lack of trust in someone, but those involved should not stop trusting or believing in that person altogether. They may even regain that lost trust. Their faith can be restored.

When people read, confidence is expressed in what they accept and believe. Geography students, never having been to the places read about and seen on maps, believe those places exist. The world doesn't stop reading, flying, driving, or eating. Instead, people are *believing* in these areas of life.

Some say, "I will not believe in anything I cannot see, touch, control, or hear." And yet these same people will walk into a bank, give the teller a piece of paper representing their money and this deposit slip disappears from view. They don't see where it goes, but have the confidence that it is going into the value and that it will represent the amount of dollars deposited. They don't see the results of it, they don't feel the money; and yet, they proceed on the basis of faith.

We go to our employer and receive a piece of paper that represents "X" amount of dollars for services rendered. I have never heard an employee say, "This is just a piece of paper, and it only represents 'X' amount of dollars for services I've rendered. I can't trust this piece of paper!" But what does

he do with it? With the utmost confidence he takes the check, goes to the bank, makes that deposit, and feels assured that his money is in the bank. We have confidence and trust in this process.

Will we trust men, but refuse to trust God? Some say, "It is foolish to trust God." And yet, is it not foolish to trust men and their procedures?

We trust, believe, have confidence in, and rely upon unseen things every moment, every day of our lives. *Everyone* lives by faith.

### ***False Concepts of Faith***

Some believe faith to be a "religious experience." We have already shown that everyone has faith; it is a common thing among non-believers and believers in God. Faith is not an abstract "exercise of the soul." It is not a mere "gracious disposition of the heart." Faith is not something we can see, look at, or feel. It is not a "passport to God's goodness," nor is it to be looked at as "currency to purchase His gifts."

By this latter false concept some believe that if you have faith, God is going to graciously give you something. It is true that He bestows His grace and mercy upon those who have faith, if that faith is in Him. But God does not bestow it upon them simply because

they have *human* faith, as will be further explained in the next section. Some falsely believe faith to be an “inner condition of man”: something that is unexplainable. Neither is it mere “mental assent.”

What is faith? It is dependency: trust in and reliance upon *something or someone*. Every human being under the sun operates on this principle of believing. We believe in things and use our senses to determine what not to believe in and what to believe in. So people believe, disbelieve, and even misbelieve. People are inherently believing beings. They are made that way in order to survive. The question is this: “What is *biblical* faith?”<sup>4</sup>

### ***Faith is Believing in God***

What is the faith that is “unto the saving of the soul”—biblical faith? What is the faith that reaches beyond human experience? This is the faith that Jesus calls us to. The faith that Peter had when he stepped out of the boat and walked on water was a reliance upon someone other than himself. Peter reached beyond his own human experience and mere human ability.

Subjective faith has no power within itself. Biblical faith, as Scripture reveals, rests on the power of an objective reality. The individual believes in something outside himself. The believer will expe-

rience the power of an objective reality. The individual believes in something outside himself. The believer will experience the power of the *object* in which he places his faith. Biblical faith, then, is believing in *God*, the all-powerful.

Paul, the apostle, demonstrates the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ to reveal a righteousness that is exclusively of God. It is accredited to all who come to fix their faith in Jesus as Savior, in obedience from the heart. Such people are then pronounced justified by God. They are cleansed from their past sins because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. “God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, through *faith* in His blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice [in forgiving], because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished.”<sup>5</sup>

### ***Faith with Flesh on It***

Abraham is presented as having faith in God. The Holy Spirit of God, who spoke through the letter of Paul to the Romans, did not merely give an abstract definition of faith, but used the personification of the great man, Abraham, to demonstrate with faith in God truly is.

The following verses introduce what is written about Abraham:



*Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were."*<sup>6</sup>

*"In whom he believed...God."* This is the key. Abraham approached God and His promises by faith, not by sight. He was made righteous before he was circumcised. Circumcision followed after. He was accounted righteous before circumcision, which was a sign or seal of the righteousness of faith. "The promise comes by *faith*,"<sup>7</sup> and is guaranteed to all of Abraham's offspring, both Jews and Gentiles. This all rests upon the *faith* of Abraham *in God*. It did not rest upon some subjective act of the believer.

Abraham believed in the God who "gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were." He lived his life on the basis of unseen reality; he walked by faith, not by sight.

*Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him. “So shall your offspring be.” Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.<sup>8</sup>*

### ***Faith: Going and Growing***

Throughout his life, Abraham continually believed God. And Abraham was told by God, “Do you see the stars up in the heaven? Your descendants are going to be this innumerable.<sup>9</sup> As he walked along the sands of the sea he was reminded again by God who promised, “Abraham, do you see the

sands of the shore that are too many to count? The descendants out of your loins are going to be this innumerable.”<sup>10</sup> He believed in hope against hope. Could Abraham have had the confidence and the trust in the power of God’s promise that he would become a father at the age of a hundred years old, with Sarah’s womb being dead, had he forgotten the object of his faith—God?

Consider this man’s faith! The messenger from God said that they were going to have a son. Abraham carefully scrutinized the situation. He looked at the things that he could see: he took his own body into account. Conclusion: his body was dead. He then considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. Conclusion: dead. Twice dead was the conclusion based upon that which he could *see*.

Had he only evaluated the situation with these facts, would he ever have been called the father of the faithful? Would he ever have realized the promise that God had given him? No. Instead, his faith grew strong in the God who had spoken, believing that God could perform that which He had promised. Abraham believed *in God*. He walked not by sight, but by faith.

Therefore, we conclude that faith is walking on the basis of the *object* of one’s faith. The success, the achievement of one’s faith, will come to rest upon

the *object* of his believing. This explains why Hebrews 12:2 states: “Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...” The idea of the word “fixing” or “looking” means the removal of our attention from a prior object to focus it on Jesus Christ, the author, the source and the origin of faith, trust, and dependency upon God. The word “perfecter” or “finisher” denotes completion, the fullness. The completion of one’s faith rests upon the object of one’s faith.

Houdini was known as the greatest escape artist in the world. He could get out of straitjackets, chains, and locked boxes of all kinds. He had a standing offer that he could escape from any jail in 60 minutes provided he would be permitted to walk inside the cell in his street clothes and that all present would turn their backs while he worked; he didn’t want to reveal his way of getting out.

In the British Isles many had heard of the great Houdini. They believed they had a jail from which he could not escape. Houdini accepted the challenge of this escape-proof jail.

He tried to trip the lock with a long flexible steel rod. Keeping his ear close to the lock, trying to hear it trip, 60 minutes had passed and he was not successful in getting out. He continued for another two hours until he became exhausted. In his fatigue

he leaned against the door and it fell open. Houdini *believed* the cell door was locked but it had never been locked! It was locked only in his mind!

How many things are only locked in our minds when the door is wide open?

Abraham believed God. He believed not only in God, but in the God *who promised*. Ask yourself a few questions as you read the historical narrative. Inscribed in the Bible are all the promises that God has ever made to man. The questions: Has God ever faulted on any of His promises? Has God ever failed to carry out with enabling power that which He has promised? No, He has *never* failed, He has *never* faulted on any of His promises. Therefore, we can believe in God, with an utter dependency upon *His word* and *power*.

***Humanly Helpless—  
But Not Without God's Help***

Faith, then, extends itself by believing in God's promises. Another look at Abraham and his faith in God's promises shows that he walked not by sight, but trusting in God, even though he had *no ability* to make any contribution from a human standpoint. He was helpless in the matter of resolving the problem of giving life to the dead womb of Sarah. He was resting completely upon the power

of God, the promise that God had spoken. Abraham believed, *in spite of* all human calculations that contradicted the realization of this promise. Physical sight is helpless when it comes to believing in the *unseen realities* of God's promises! *Seeing* someone or something is "sight-knowledge." *Believing* someone or something is "faith-knowledge." Abraham lived by faith-knowledge.

The Hebrew writer gives us examples of faith-knowledge and its results:

*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for an certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.*

*By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.*

*By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead.*

*By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him*

*away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*<sup>11</sup>

Faith-knowledge is the way of righteousness. Walking “not by sight” is a way to have a faith-relationship with God throughout our lives. In having this relationship with God we are blessed. We must believe in the integrity of God and trust that He will fulfill the promises He makes to those who honestly seek Him, to those whose belief is based upon faith-knowledge, rather than sight-knowledge.

### ***Where is Faith’s Power?***

Faith’s power and results do not rest in “my believing,” but in that something or someone which I trust and believe. If I believe in the “truth of the gospel” as revealed by God in Jesus Christ my Savior, who died in my place, and the response of genuine faith fixes on Him with an obedience from the heart, I am saved! God has promised!<sup>12</sup> However, if I believe in “another gospel,” I believe in a lie. Consequently, I will not have the promise or prospect of salvation, for God has not promised that He will save me if I believe in a lie. The saving power of God is in Jesus Christ and our trust must be in Him only to receive the promised result—salvation!

If I believe a lie, I'll get only what that lie can deliver. In the even that I rest my faith in a job, I'll get what that job can do. If I fix my faith on my education, I'll get only what education can do, with its limitations. If I trust in government, I'll receive only what government can offer. And if I fix my faith on the pleasures of this world, I will obtain only what the pleasures of this world can give. If I suppose that drugs and alcohol can give me something in my life, I live only with the consequences of what these things can do to me. If I find myself looking to famous people and set my faith, confidence, and reliance on what their lives represent, I'll get what this way of life can do—and only that! Finally, if I place my trust and faith in myself, I'll get only what self can do.

But thankfully, if I place my faith in God, I will get what God can do! This is the faith to which Jesus calls us: *faith fixed in God*. The act of believing is the same in all of these proposals listed; the experiential, subjective expression of believing is identical. It is the *objects* of our faith that are different. We have seen repeatedly that Abraham believed in *God* (the object) with his whole heart; as a result we can appreciate the magnitude, the beauty, and the powerful results of this great faith.

In summary, through Abraham's example we have seen that faith apart from its object is nothing. His faith was complete dependence upon *God*. Faith is



confidence in God's promises and *holding to that*, even if no human ability can build on it, even if all human calculations contradict it, and even if conditions and circumstances make hope seem hopeless and impossible! In addition, we have observed through Abraham's godly example that faith is not *seeing* something or someone, but *believing* something or someone:

*Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.<sup>5</sup>*

Abraham gave the example that faith's *power* and *results* do not rest upon the individual's believing, but in that someone or something on which belief (trust) is fixed.

### ***Faith is Believing in God and Trusting Him by Walking with Him***

We have examples of the Scriptures of many great men and women who walked with God daily by faith and not by sight.<sup>14</sup> Faith's walk is *nothing more* than believing God's promises, believing God's word, and trusting God to keep His word!

No matter how difficult life's situations may become, don't abandon your walk of faith with Jesus Christ. Rather, look to this great cloud of witnesses previously mentioned who endured hardships. They did not obtain the promises *apart* from us, for their completion was to be *with* our completion on the basis of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice and priesthood, which are eternal. "God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect."<sup>15</sup> Jesus Christ crowns the whole, who endured the shameful humiliation of the cross and continued for the joy that was set before Him.

Christ looked at things seen in Gethsemane and pleaded, "Father, let this cup pass from Me." Three times He sought the Father as He looked to the cruel death that He did not deserve. "...he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death..."<sup>16</sup> But Jesus walked by faith and added, "Yet not what I will, but what you will." And the Father delivered Him from death.

God the Father did not deliver Him from *dying*, but He did deliver Him from *death*. His body did not see corruption; it was impossible that the grave should hold Him.

Jesus, Son of Man, Son of God, demonstrated dependency upon the Father. He was tempted in all points, as we are; He suffered through many temp-

tations. Jesus Christ did not desire to experience the scourging and dying on the cross; He simply did not want to go through with it! But He willingly did so on the basis of a loving response of faith: confidence and trust in the spoken word of God Almighty. And the Father rescued Him from death, as He will do for us if we believe in His word!

The Father gave Jesus strength to overcome temptation and endure dying, and raised Him from the dead. Jesus Christ is the supreme example of trusting in God. He demonstrates by His life on earth how to believe in God's promises; how to believe in God's word; how to trust God to keep His word.

Though we may prove faithless, He abides faithful. Will the faithlessness of man bring about the unfaithfulness of God? Will the unrighteousness of men bring about the unrighteousness of God? No! Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is dependable, reliable, and trustworthy. We may fail ourselves, we may disappoint ourselves; but He never will disappoint us.

***Trusting God Each Minute,  
Every Day...All the Way***

Walking by faith, walking with God, means committing *all* to God and His management *without worry*:

*“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?... Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.”<sup>17</sup>*

And yet, we often find ourselves worrying about these everyday necessities of life, when what we need to be concerned about is our walk with Him. The Scriptures say to seek *first* the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and as a result all these other things will be supplied to us. Every step we take in life has cares. They should not make our walk a walk of worry, but rather a walk of faith, knowing and believing that God will work all things out for our good. We must trust His management of our entire lives: every second, every minute, every hour, and every day.

Abraham shows us that faith’s walk is committing *all* to God and his management, no matter what demands are made of us. The promised child was born right on schedule. God was faithful. The boy, Isaac,

grew and became the apple of this aged father's eye; but God spoke once more. Abraham was told to take his only son and offer him up as a sacrifice to God.

A abhor the representation that the movie, "The Bible," gave of Abraham's reaction. Abraham is shown rejecting the directions of God. He shouts out, "No! No!" And with his groans and screams, he takes his spear and in anger beats it upon a boulder in the desert night. He looks up to God in arrogant, unbelieving protest.

This display was far from the truth of how Abraham responded to God's call. Instead, he calmly continued to believe in God, knowing that God is able to perform that which He promised. He trusted in God and His management *without worry!*

Faith in God is negated by man's dependency upon himself. Self-management is not "walking by *faith*"; nor is self-sufficiency or self-confidence. Instead, we must walk hand in hand with Jesus, trusting in Him with our every step.

Faith's walk takes a stand upon the power, promises, and trustworthiness of God. In everyday life, we trust His management and control of the sun and moon, the stars and galaxies, the winds and the seas, the rivers and the lakes, the birds and the animals, and the whole universe.

*For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.*<sup>18</sup>

God appointed Jesus Christ as heir of all things and through Him He made the universe. Jesus Christ sustains all things by His *word!* He is the master of nature and all things are controlled by His spoken word; we trust in Him to command it without worry.

He is also the Lord of circumstances in our lives. We must trust his management and control of *us*.

*In him we were chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.*<sup>19</sup>

We must trust Him at all times and during all conditions. Trust Him from morning to night; trust Him in the light and in the dark; trust Him in good times and bad times; trust Him in sickness and in health; trust Him in want and in wealth. We must trust Him in all things, in all ways, and at all times.

This trusting, believing faith will become like breathing if we give our all to it. It will be logical, natural, and even subconscious. All our actions will be dependent upon God our Father, through Christ Jesus, His son.

*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*<sup>20</sup>

As we have died to sin, we now walk in newness of life and Christ is now Lord of our new lives. We must believe in the fact that God is our *Father*. He cares, He provides:

*...God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."*

*So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"*<sup>21</sup>

With these words from God it becomes only logical that we trust in Him as we believe his promises. We see again through this scripture that faith's walk takes a stand upon the power, promises, and trustworthiness of God!

***Summary: Faith Walking and Waiting—  
But Not Disappointed***

Faith's journey will not be disappointed as we walk *not by sight*, but we must wait on the Lord.

*We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.*<sup>22</sup>

We must not be like those of old who heard and rebelled—the ones whom Moses led out of Egypt. They were not able to enter God’s rest *because of their unbelief*. They did not wait on the Lord!

*As it is written, “See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”*<sup>23</sup>

Some preferred the way of legalism, so that they could establish their own righteousness. They did not rely on God’s righteousness, the true righteousness, the righteousness that is by faith in Christ. It is the one who believes in the Lord’s righteousness who has *faith*, and will not be embarrassed.

Faith’s walk will not be put to shame, although we are confronted with insurmountable trials—and even though present conditions seem to contradict it. Walking by faith, not by sight, will overcome all these obstacles!

Faith’s walk is to take each step *with* God and to glorify God. “Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God.”<sup>24</sup> Abraham’s faith glorified God!



*Faith is faith because it depends upon God.* A believing and trusting that is not absolute dependency upon God is not biblical faith at all.

The Lord commends us even if we have faith the size of a mustard seed. But in order to not walk by sight we must pray that the Lord increase our faith. The apostles cried out, “Lord, increase our faith!” They desired the righteousness of God that comes by faith, not by sight. Let this be our prayer every day...all the way!

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## Notes

<sup>1</sup>2 Cor. 5:7.

<sup>2</sup>See Matt. 8:24-26; 14:26-31; 16:6-11.

<sup>3</sup>Luke 22:32.

<sup>4</sup>See Rom. 4:17-25; James 2:17-26.

<sup>5</sup>Rom. 3:25.

<sup>6</sup>Rom. 4:16-17.

<sup>7</sup>Rom. 4:16.

<sup>8</sup>Rom. 4:18-25.

<sup>9</sup>See Gen. 15:5.

<sup>10</sup>See Gen. 22:15-18.

<sup>11</sup>Heb. 11:1-6.

<sup>12</sup>See Rom. 3:21-31; 10:9-10.

<sup>13</sup>1 Peter 1:8-9.

<sup>14</sup>See Heb. 11:1ff.

<sup>15</sup>Heb. 11:40.

<sup>16</sup>Heb. 5:7.

<sup>17</sup>Matt. 6:25-27, 34.

<sup>18</sup>Col. 1:16-17.

<sup>19</sup>Eph. 1:11.

<sup>20</sup>Gal. 2:20.

<sup>21</sup>Heb. 13:5-7.

<sup>22</sup>Heb. 3:14.

<sup>23</sup>Rom. 9:33.

<sup>24</sup>Rom. 4:20.

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