

## A Saving Faith

**FAITH** is an essential ingredient in life; one which we cannot do without. It is much talked about, but little understood, simple and yet profound, available to all but little used. To have faith means to believe in or be reliant on someone or something. In the realm of the Christian life, to have faith in Jesus Christ means to believe in Him, to be reliant upon Him for eternal salvation. **FAITH** in Jesus Christ means that apart from Him there is no forgiveness of sins or eternal life. So, to have the forgiveness of sins and to have eternal life, people must place their belief, their **FAITH**, in Jesus Christ alone. In doing so, they must believe that their 'good works' cannot help them in securing the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Reading in Ephesians 2:8, 9, we find that, "For by grace are ye saved through **FAITH** (emphasis added); and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast."

**FAITH** in Jesus Christ for Eternal salvation:

**Forsaking All I Trust Him.**

**Forsaking** — laying aside my human efforts and wisdom, having realized that they cannot help, but only hinder, God's offer for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

**All** — holding back nothing whatsoever, I completely empty myself of my pride, efforts, desires, etc.

**I** — no one else can do it for me; it is my choice, my responsibility, and I must do it.

**Trust** — the placing of my total confidence, or commitment.

**Him** — Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, the One who, though innocent and perfect, died on the Cross of Calvary as my sin-bearer, my substitute, in order that the demands of a holy God should be met for the payment of sin. "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed." (I Peter 2:22-24). "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" (Heb. 9:14). "...but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." (Heb. 9:26b).

**FAITH** — it's an absolute, essential ingredient for eternal salvation, without which there can be no salvation. Romans 3:28 tells us "that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." This means that a believing sinner is declared to be judicially free from the penalty of sin (eternal damnation in the lake of fire and brimstone, Rev. 20:15, 21:8) when he stops depending on his own merit for salvation and placed his **FAITH** in Jesus Christ.

Now, my friend, will you this day admit to God that you are sinner, repent (turn away from sin) and turn to Jesus Christ, placing your **FAITH** in Him alone for forgiveness of sin and for eternal salvation? God offers to you the gift of eternal life — will you by **FAITH** receive it?

**TODAY!**

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12). "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." (John 20:31)

- Richard A. Ciarrocca