

YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS

Colossians 1:1 “We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. .
.having heard of your faith. . .in Christ Jesus. . .”

The faith you have in Jesus Christ, which the Holy Spirit has worked in your heart through your baptism and the message of the Gospel, makes you unique among the people of the world. Unique, of course, means you are endowed with what others do not have. Having this faith means you have a complete confidence and trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins, His serving you as your Good Shepherd, and your certainty of eternal life in heaven.

As a true believer in Christ, you “walk by faith, not by sight.” (2 Corinthians 5:7) As a result of your faith in Jesus the Holy Spirit has given, you “. .do not lose heart. Though (y)our outer self is wasting away, (y)our inner self is being renewed day by day.” (2 Corinthians 4:16) In your faith you rely, depend upon, have full and complete trust in God through Jesus Christ for all your needs of body, soul, mind and spirit.

The very definition of faith means that as a Christian, though you must deal, as do all people, with everything that comes your way in your earthly life, you know, even when it is not readily obvious, that God will provide all you need to support you in this life and for all eternity. Your faith assures you; you were bought with a price (1 Corinthians 6:20), the blood of Jesus Christ shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins. You are therefore not on your own. Your faith in Jesus assures you He is in you, with you, for you and will bless you.

Solomon’s (a man of great wisdom and wealth) faith was in God not in the things of this world. In Proverbs 3:5-8 he gives this counsel, “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.”

Prayer: Holy Spirit, through the power of my baptism and the Gospel strengthen me in my faith and trust in Jesus and through Him in You and my heavenly Father. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Oh, for a faith that will not shrink 'Tho' pressed by many a foe;
That will not tremble on the brink Of poverty or woe;

That will not murmur nor complain Beneath the chast'ning rod,
But in the hour of grief or pain Can lean upon its God;

A faith that shines more bright and clear When tempests rage without;
That, when in danger, knows no fear, In darkness feels no doubt;

That bears unmoved the world's dread frown Nor heeds its scornful smile;
That sin's wild ocean cannot drown Nor Satan's arts beguile;

A faith that keeps the narrow way Till life's last spark is fled
And with a pure and heavenly ray Lights up the dying bed.

Lord, give us such a faith as this; And then, whate'er may come,
We'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss Of an eternal home.

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