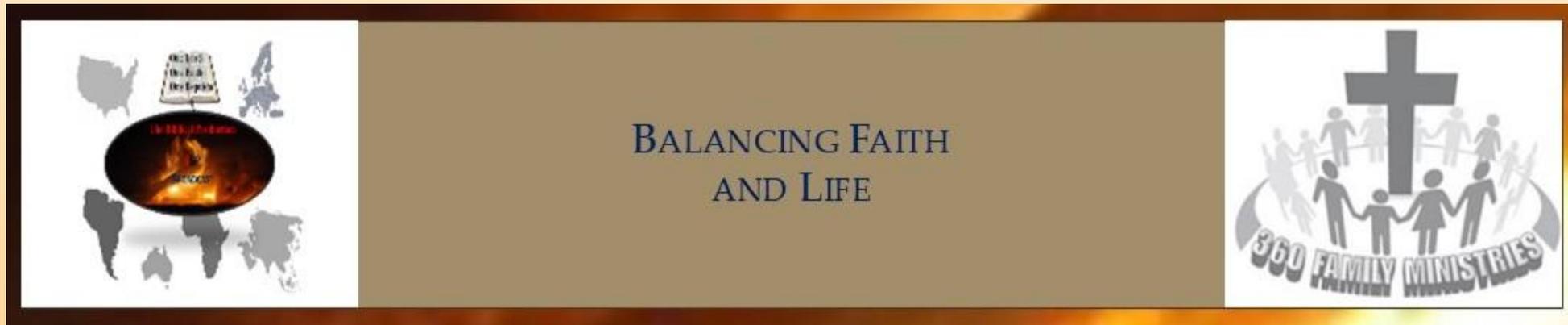


THE DOCTRINE OF SAVING FAITH



Textbook: Christian Dogmatics by John Theodore Mueller, TH . D., ISBN 978 0570 032212.

THE DOCTRINE OF SAVING FAITH (FINAL ESSAY REQUIRED)

There are ten (10) subtopics found under the heading of “The Doctrine of Saving Faith”. Select two of the subtopics and complete a two page essay on each of the two selected.

You are not just writing from the author and denominational points of views but from your own understanding using scriptures from the Bible for references.

I. THE NECESSITY OF FAITH

(GOD'S MEANS OF GRACE)

- a. Without faith...
- b. Without hope....
- c. What is the equity of life?
- d. Faith is needed to obtain salvation; one must believe on Jesus and the one who sent him!

Deuteronomy 32:19-20 (ESV)

¹⁹ “The LORD saw it and spurned them, because of the provocation of his sons and his daughters.
²⁰ And he said, ‘I will hide my face from them; I will see what their end will be, for they are a perverse generation, children in whom is no faithfulness.

Habakkuk 2:4 (KJV)

⁴ Behold, his soul *which* is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

2. THE NATURE OF SAVING FAITH {THE OFFERING OF SALVATION}

1. {Creeds, Statement of Faith, Congregational dogmas, quotes, etc.} Not absolute...
2. Personnel trust is the focus...
3. A pendulum swings back and forth, faith, not so much. Jesus says, to his disciples on several occasions “oh you of little faith”.
 - a. Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. **Matthew 9:29 (KJV)**
 - b. Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; **Romans 3:25 (KJV)**
 - c. I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. **Galatians 2:20 (ESV)**

3. CONCERNING KNOWLEDGE, ASSENT AND CONFIDENCE

1. The word of God (voice) has spoken but all have not heard the message... In the absence of faith, knowledge is lost, trust in God is voided out and the unjust continues in their own conspicuous way.
2. Faith comes by hearing the word of God and employing it is such a way that brings men into a life that aligns with these words, “the just shall live by his faith”.
3. Therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I am bringing upon Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the disaster that I have pronounced against them, because I have spoken to them and they have not listened, I have called to them and they have not answered.” **Jeremiah 35:17 (ESV)**

4. **WHY** SAVING FAITH JUSTIFIES {AN ACT OF INTELLECT AND WILL}

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. **Ephesians 2:8-10 (ESV)**

5. FAITH VIEWED AS A PASSIVE ACT OR A PASSIVE INSTRUMENT

1. Salvation is a free gift that is received by faith; through the obedience of the word of God, by the redemptive work of Christ we have grace, justification and forgiveness of sins.
2. ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. **Ephesians 1:18-21 (ESV)**

6. THE EXPRESSION “TRUE FAITH” AND “LIVING FAITH”

- True Faith...

- Living Faith...

7. FAITH AND THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

- Am I saved (is my salvation secure)?

What is the assurance I am saved?

8. CAN THE BELIEVER BE SURE OF POSSESSING SAVING FAITH

Which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³ Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you. **2 Timothy 1:12-14 (ESV)**

9. THE FAITH OF INFANTS

1. While children can believe in the heavenly, it is ascribed to them to obey their parents in the Lord.
2. There are numerous religious people who make several arguments for the infant faith, such as the baptism of an infant.
3. John the Baptist filled in the womb... Luke 1:41-44
4. Infant faith and your faith as an adult will not be the same...

10. THE USE OF THE TERM “FAITH” IN SCRIPTURE

1. Used over 240 times in the Bible
2. Works unto salvation
3. Works unto justification
4. Works unto healings
5. Works unto financial
6. Works unto needs
7. Works are unlimited according to scriptures