

OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH
By: Dr. Hal Webb, Evangelist

I see a real need for we believers to know why we believe as we do. Is our faith something just handed down from our parents? Are we just subscribing to spiritual truths that seem likely or have we sought out our faith and nailed it down with clear understanding? By what clear reasoning have we arrived at the tenants of our Christian Faith? Here are a few reasons to believe.

There is first the **PROVEN, PERFECT LIFE OF CHRIST**. Those disciples that followed Him and hung on His every word knew Him to have a blameless life. His words rang with authority and caused them to conclude "*We have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God*" John 6:69. Their close fellowship brought them to this way of belief and the same is open to any believer who walks with Him in the Word.

Follow that with **THE RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE**. It is the most trusted, tested, and used book ever to be written. It's claims have never failed. It is without error because "*All scripture is given by the inspiration of God*" II Tim. 3:16. In 65 years of preaching I have never found anything to doubt or any scripture that did not provide what it offered. I believe it to be the same as the voice of God. He speaks and His words are always true for He cannot lie.

I further love the **FOUNDATION OF ITS CLAIMS**. Those who saw Him die, risked their lives to be sure we would know they had seen and walked and talked with Him, after the resurrection. In or out of prison, the message was the same "*The God of our fathers raised up Jesus*" Acts 5:30. For over 40 days, seen by

many and felt by Thomas; Jesus left much proof of His bodily resurrection and ascension.

I further joy in **HIS POWER TO SAVE AND TRANSFORM LIVES**. My faith is made strong in the seeing of tens of thousands that I have been changed and saved in our own meetings. From Paul, killer of Christians and one of the disciples worst enemies, until the present; Jesus has proven He can "*save to the uttermost*" Heb. 7:25. Many people attempt religious changes, but, only Jesus saves and keeps and satisfies. How could one doubt when present reality shines on every hand.

I further am strengthened by the proven facts from **CHRISTIANITY'S IMPACT ON SOCIETY**. Everything decent in our great world owes it's start to the faultless values of Christianity. Social morality, the desire to succeed, family values and the desire to live, all come because of Christianity. Every calendar points to the day of the birth of the Son of God. Everything high, holy and noble can be ascribed to God the Father and His Son.

Never forget that **GOD CALLED IT LIKE IT IS**. He certainly revealed the center of the problem when He said "*all have sinned and come short of the glory of God*" Rom3:23. Man has utterly failed to climb the ladder of human achievement, exactly as Christianity predicted. Human nature cannot bypass the sin of the heart, but Christianity offers the cleansing of the blood of Jesus Christ. One might say "where the rubber meets the road." Only Christianity reveals mans plight and offers a guaranteed solution to all who will believe.

Lastly, Christianity offers **SALVATION FULL AND FREE TO ALL WHO BELIEVE**. Our Christian faith is the only one to do this. It not only offers forgiveness for sin, but adoption into the family of God. It gives a reason for living and prepares for dying. It offers a home

in Heaven and a joyful eternity, living with God. Mans religious ideas crumble with the dust of the ages. Christianity looks into eternity to a perfect city "*whose builder and maker is God*" Heb. 11:10. We have many other reasons to believe in the Christian faith but the ones I have given are well worth noting. Praise God!

IT'S THE TIME TO SHOW OUR FAITH"

Throughout the years Christmas time has been a special time to demonstrate who's we are. Sadly, the world has gone for the fake Santa and all the gift giving, with "maxed out" credit cards to be paid off later, often with much regret over such spending. Commercialism has taken over with the news media waiting to herald the season as a "bummer" or a success. Nationwide the birthday of the King is being refused, manger scenes trashed and the God ignoring word Holidays is substituted for the real meaning of it all. All because a few people do not like to be reminded of Christ. This "don't offend anyone" has gone too far and the majority is being forced to give up what we believe to satisfy those who refuse to believe. America has been great because it was established on the principles of God. Our nations founding was on the basis of our Creator's commands. No Christmas is another attempt to remove Christ by those who want to ignore and hate him. Presents have become just presents rather than acts of kindness in the name of Christ. The season should not be a time of scramble, selling, buying and giving but a time to remember where it all began. The original giver was the God who willingly gave His only Son to redeem mankind. How then can we show the real meaning of Christmas? Be sure that your whole family and friends are aware of your faith in Christ. It's a good time to seek a way to be helpful to a sick neighbor, shovel a sidewalk or bring in some wood. We have needy all around us who can be influenced by kindness at Christmas time. Be sure the cards you send have a scripture verse and

you tuck in a line of your faith at Christmas time. Take a neighbor to church with you or help prepare some food for the needy. Stop and think..."Who in our congregation can I help", and do something. Hug your pastor and family and do something to lift their load at Christmas time. Call a relative and assure them you are thinking of and praying for them. There are a lot of lonely people around us at this season, more tender and ready for your action of kindness. Let's stir up the fires at Christmas with the real reason for the season. Tell them again with a smile of joy, that the "*Gift of God is eternal life*" Rom. 6:23. Ask them, "Won't you take God's greatest gift this Christmas? Use your Bible to show them the real meaning of Christmas and celebrate by adding another person to the roll call of believers. I'll guarantee that Christmas will become even more precious to you. God bless you all and.....

Have a Blessed Christmas

Dr. Hal Webb and Sue