

**Faith Is The Victory!**

JOSHUA 6:1-16

## INTRODUCTION

- A. Grace & Faith - God's grace manifested itself in the gift of the city of Jericho to the children of Israel.
  - 1. The people's faith is manifested by the obedience to the commands of God.
  - 2. The end is that the walls fell and God delivered the city over to the Israelites.
- B. Faith & Jericho.
  - 1. HE 11:30.
  - 2. 1 JN 5:4.
- C. Biblical Faith Defined.
  - 1. Liddell & Scott show that the verb *pisteuo* (believe) can mean "to comply" (1273).
  - 2. H. Cremmer stated that the noun *pistis* (faith), both in the Old and New Testaments "is a bearing towards God and His revelation which recognizes and confides in Him and in it, which not only acknowledges and holds to His word as true, but practically applies and appropriates it." (482).
  - 3. W.E. Vine noted that *pistis* involves "a personal surrender" to Christ (71).
  - 4. Lexicographer J.H. Thayer commented that *pisteuo* includes "a conviction, full of joyful trust, that Jesus is the Messiah" – the divinely appointed author of eternal salvation in the kingdom of God, conjoined with obedience to Christ." (511).
  - 5. O. Michel has stated: "Faith understood merely as trust and confession is not able to save. Only through obedience . . . and conduct which fulfills the commandments of God does faith come to completion (Jas. 2:22)" (604).
  - 6. Bultmann contended that "'to believe' is 'to obey'" (205). He stressed that this is particularly emphasized in Hebrews 11:7. He further made this interesting comment: "According to Paul, the event of salvation history is actualized for the individual, not in pious experience, but in his baptism (Gl. 3:27-29). Faith makes it his. Hence faith is not at the end of the way to God, as in Philo. It is at the beginning" (217).
  - 7. Alan Richardson declared that faith "is confident reliance on God. It is the act by which he lays hold on God's proffered resources, becomes obedient to what God prescribes, and, abandoning all self-interest and self-reliance, trusts God completely. . . . Obedience, conformity to what God prescribes, is the inevitable concomitant of believing" (75, 76)

## DISCUSSION

- I. FAITH AND ACTION – OBEDIENCE
  - A. MK 2:4-5.
  - B. JN 3:16.
  - C. HE 5:9.
  - D. JN 3:36.
  - E. Acts 14:1-2.
  - F. HE 3:18-19.
  - G. HE 4:3.
  - H. HE 4:6.
  - I. HE 3:18-19.
  - J. RO 16:19.
  - K. RO 1:5.
  - L. RO 16:26.
- II. FAITH ALONE IS NO FAITH AT ALL.

- A. JN 8:30-31.
- B. JN 8:44.
- C. JN 12:42.
- D. MT 10:33.
- E. Acts 11:21.
- F. The Book Luther Wanted Thrown Out! JA 2:21-23.

III. HOW DOES IT WORK AGAIN?

- A. 1 CO 15:1-4 – Facts.
- B. 1 CO 15:5-9 – Evidence.
- C. JN 1:12 – Power To Become.
- D. Action Taken – Acts 8:12.
- E. A NT Example – Acts 16:30-34
- F. Verified By God - EP 2:8-10.

CONCLUSION

- A. Obey the Gospel while you have time.
- B. Be faithful!