

A scenic view of a traditional Chinese water town. A stone archway, heavily covered in green moss and vines, spans a narrow canal. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding buildings and the arch. In the background, a person with a yellow umbrella is visible on the canal. The buildings are traditional, with some showing signs of age and weathering. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and historic.

**FAITH**

**What is it?**

# FAITH – WHAT IS IT?

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.”

(Acts 16:31)

What is faith? What does it mean to believe? How does faith save?

## 1. FAITH means accepting Jesus Christ as **A GIFT**.

No one normally would be so rude to attempt to pay for a gift freely given. The moment payment is made it ceases to be a gift. All one does is to say, “Thank you – you are so kind, so thoughtful, so generous.” You did not work for it, you did not earn it for then it would become wages. The sins committed by a sinner deserves its wage and death is the wage of sin. “The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

God, in His infinite love gives in such a manner as to pass all other giving. This giving which has its source in divine love is more excellent and precious than anything else. In His love He gave His Son unto us that we should not perish but have everlasting life. Faith is the very hand that takes this gift by believing in Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ must be believed and accepted as God’s genuine offer of salvation to set you free from sin and its consequences.

God’s free (but costly to Himself) gift to you is forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Accept it friend, believe in the Son of God as God’s free, unconditional offer to you. It is simple but marvellously true, the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ.

## 2. FAITH means receiving Jesus Christ as **A GUEST**.

“Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my

voice and open the door, I will come in.” (Revelation 3:20) Incredible but true! He waits outside your heart’s door. He will not force His way in. You must be willing to open to Jesus Christ. You must choose to let Him in. The moment you open the door He enters. Be courteous to God, dear friend! You would never treat a visitor to your home in such a way by keeping him standing outside the door, would you? Invite Him in, receive Him now! You will never regret it I tell you if you invite Him in but you will regret it if you ignore Jesus who waits to enter your heart and life.

### 3. FAITH means believing Jesus Christ is **GOD**.

The fisherman Peter said as he began to sink in the waves and water, “Lord, save me.”

You are drowning. Someone throws you a life-line. Do you ignore it? Do you reject and spurn it? Never. You grasp it. That is faith! You trust it. This is why we tell you to rely upon another. “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.” It is so simple, yet so many will not believe in Jesus and would rather drown in their sins.

God spared not His Son but deliberately delivered Him up for us all to be the Saviour of men. This Saviour must be great enough, strong enough and care enough for all men and be able to save all who will trust in Him. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is “the Word” – made flesh, dwelling amongst us, full of grace and truth.

Faith receives Jesus Christ and discovers that this gracious Guest is Emmanuel, “God with us.” This is the Saviour of the world come to seek and to save that which is lost. (Luke 19:10)

\* \* \* \* \*

It is simple to believe in Jesus. Why not trust Him right now?

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

It is not an intellectual matter – that will not do. It is not believing **about** Jesus, the demons do that, even tremble but they perish. You must **trust** Jesus Christ. Do not look within yourself. It is not a time to examine your feelings. You do not cast an anchor inside the boat. You cast an anchor outside. Lay hold on Jesus Christ. “Look unto Jesus” and He will save you.

Maybe you have heard His Word – it is powerful, eternal and trustworthy. “Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out.” You say you do not understand, but have you “**come**”! You may believe that Jesus said “as many as received Him to them gave He power to become the sons of God,” but have you **received** Him? You must take the initiative. You must act on what you say you believe if you are to be saved. Have you done it?

In fact this is the only thing that matters. The head and intellect have little or nothing to do with it for according to God’s word, it is “with the **heart** man believeth.” (Romans 10:10)

But you say you cannot understand. God doesn’t ask you to understand. He tells you to accept His Son Jesus. You insist you cannot believe, God asks are you willing to receive?

There are thousands of things that we do not understand but we still believe in them because we know they work even though we cannot explain them.

If you will come to God right now as you are with all your problems, intellectual or otherwise, even with your doubts and fears, if you will come and receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour, you will be saved.

Your head will follow your heart and then all your misunderstandings God will undertake for you. God will enlighten you from His word the Bible.

What God is asking of you is simply “What will you do with Jesus?” He is demanding a decision regarding His Son.

If you trust in Jesus as Lord and Saviour, old things will pass away and all things shall become new, for you will have a new position before God. Jesus Christ shall become your life. His atoning death can put away your sins and His mighty resurrection life shall justify you from all things. (Romans 3:24-25)

Choose you this day Whom you will believe!

Will you do it? Do it, and believe Jesus now!

J.A.S.

Guangzhou, CHINA.

July 1998.

**“For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”**

**(John 3:16)**



### **CHRISTIAN BOOK ROOM**

*A Non-profit Ministry Devoted to the Lord's Work*

P.O. Box 95413 Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong, S.A.R. of CHINA.