

## Principles of Faith

### INTRODUCTION:

#### Hebrew/Greek words & definition:

- § *aman* – it is true; I believe it; to believe; to trust – Isa. 28:16; Gen. 15:6;
  - § *batach* – trust; to slam down; to throw trouble onto God – Psm. 37:3
  - § *chasah* – to hide; take shelter; seek refuge – Psm. 57:1; 25:20
  - § *yachal* – trust even through pain; wait; hope – Lam. 3:21,24; Job 13:15
  - § *qavah* – to wait expectantly; to look for; Psa. 25:3; Isa. 40:31
  - § *pistis* – to believe; trust; faith; depend upon – Jn. 1:12; Rom 3:22
- a. Faith is the natural human system for influencing the heart of man.
  - b. The heart is programmed by what we choose to accept as true – *why I am the way I am*
  - c. Faith is a human action of the soul where one chooses to depend upon something as truth – to believe it as true.
  - d. Faith is an act of volition – a choice – Jn. 3:16; Mt. 23:37 – *we have chosen to be how we are*
  - e. An act of faith, ie believing something to be true does not require visible evidence – 2Cor. 5:7
  - f. Faith is the **mechanics** of accepting truth and allowing it to influence the heart – Rom. 3:22,25,28 – *How I got this way and how do I change*
  - g. Believing the truth is the mechanics of receiving the truth – Jn. 1:12.
  - h. Faith is God's only requirement for receiving His grace blessings.
  - i. Faith is the only action God will allow us to receive His grace blessings – Eph. 2:8-9
  - j. Faith is also the natural human system for applying any concept to experience – we act on what we believe in at any given moment.

#### Faith perception cp. faith application – Faith Cycle – know, believe apply, complete

- a. Faith perception – to believe that which the mind understands; to accept as true a concept that has been perceived and understood.
  - § We operate under faith perception in bible class when we are open to the teaching of the word.
  - § F/P occurs when we are teachable and willing to be influenced by the word.
  - § F/P is the grace means of learning the word – learning process of CWL.
  - § GHS is able to influence our hearts in a supernatural way when we operate under F/P.

- § Both old man and new man belief systems are built by faith in principles and concepts – believing a lie or untruth cp. believing the truth.
- § Jer. 17:5,7; 1Cor. 2:5; Phil 3:3-4; 2Thess. 2:10-12
- § Both the old and new belief systems remain stored in the heart, ready for application by our volition.

b. Faith application – to believe and commit to action based upon a concept or principle; to act upon that which we believe to be true; to commit to a course of action based on what we believe at any given moment.

- § Faith perception (F/P) does not guarantee faith application (F/A).
- § F/P is the learning process that permanently changes our point of view, while F/A is a moment by moment decision to act on what we have learned.
- § At any given moment we combine our faith by an act of volition with concepts stored in our memory and action is produced – F/A.
- § We have the option of drawing on either old or new thinking for application.
- § F/A is an act of faith in either the old or new beliefs we have accepted.

c. Habitual choice – the result of choosing a certain belief for application over time; continually choosing a belief for application creating a habit of choice.

- § When any concept is used over and over as the basis of action it becomes a habitual thought process carried out by the subconscious – automatic response – unaware, unfelt choice
- § Habitual choosing creates well worn pathways in the neuron structure of the brain – *magal* – paths; wagon ruts; worn places in the road from use – Psm 23:3 – paths of righteousness.
- § Habitual choosing causes enslavement of the volition to operate within the wagon ruts in the soul – Rom 6:16 – slaves to sin or God.
- § Habitual choice can only be broken by conscious rejection of the old belief and conscious choosing of the new – Eph 4:22-24; Heb 12:1-2.