

WHAT IS NOT FAITH

(Rom. 10:17)

"17 So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God," Rom. 10:17. This passage clearly establishes the fact of *"faith cometh by hearing,"* Rom. 10:17. If something is of faith, it can be seen written in the New Testament; thus, what is not written cannot be of faith. For the sake of illustrating I want to turn this around and observe another thought that is **demanded**.

If something is of faith, when it can be cited in the New Testament – *"faith comes from hearing and hearing from the word of God,"* then that which **cannot** be read in the New Testament **cannot produce faith! This being true**, there are many who **think they have faith**, that really do not have the **Bible Faith**, the Lord requires. Consider some of these consequences.

DENOMINATIONALISM cannot be a matter of faith. The **Baptist Church**, **Methodist Church**, **Pentecostal Church**, **Lutheran Church**, **Presbyterian Church**, **Shepherd of the Hills Church**, **Mormon Church**, **Jehovah Witness Church**, and yes, even though the **Catholic Church** is not a denomination we shall include it. These, just to name a few, and the naming of these representing **all religious organizations** (churches) which cannot be read of in the word of God - **cannot be of faith!** You could belong to any of these organizations and none of them be of faith; because, one cannot read of them in the New Testament. If you cannot read of such in the New Testament, it cannot be of faith, Rom. 10:17. I was presented with the thought, many years ago, "You cannot find the Church of Christ in the Bible?" To which I responded, *"Yes you can, Rom. 16:16," "The churches of Christ salute you."* This is the church the Lord built; and thus, is called after his name. The Lord's building of his church can be read of in the New Testament, Matt. 16:18; and thus, **is of faith**.

BAPTISM is taught by the Baptist Church. The Baptist Church does not teach baptism to be saved; but rather: *"It is the door into the Baptist Church."* Also they define baptism as: *"An outward sign of an inward conversion."* According to them, this is baptism. Baptism, according to them, is for the purpose of showing to the world they are saved – this salvation took place before baptism. Now, where in the New Testament do you read of such? **It cannot be found.** Baptist baptism cannot be found in the New Testament; thus, is not of faith. What the Baptist teaches about baptism is not found in the New Testament; thus, **their practice is not of faith!**

THE MORMON CHURCH teaches we need an addition to the Bible, the book of Mormon. The Bible says, *"16 Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness: 17 that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work,"* II Tim. 3:16-17. According to this, **the book of Mormon is not needed**, God's word is **complete** without it. Add to this Jude 3, *"3 I was constrained to write unto you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints."* The book of Mormon **cannot be of faith**; because, one cannot read of it from the Bible, Rom. 10:17.

There are millions who claim faith and yet, what they believe **cannot** be found in the New Testament. If It cannot be found in the New Testament **it cannot be the faith of the Bible** – Rom. 10:17, *"Faith cometh of hearing and hearing by the word of God."* If it cannot be heard, it cannot be the faith of the Bible. **Could it be that there are thousands who claim to have faith; yet, what they have is not the faith of the Bible?**

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