

05-27-18

Series: The Book of Romans

# FAITH AND JUSTIFICATION: THE WAY FOR THE WORLD TO BE RIGHT WITH GOD

(92)

Pastor Eddie Ildefonso

[Romans 3:21-5:21](#)

(Continuation from 05/20/18)

## B. Faith: The Way that Puts an End to Human Boasting and Pride, to Self-Righteousness and Works, [Romans 3:27-31](#)

**Romans 3:27-31 (NASB)**

<sup>27</sup> “Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

<sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

<sup>29</sup> Or is God *the God* of Jews only? Is He not *the God* of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,

<sup>30</sup> since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.

<sup>31</sup> Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.”

**([Romans 3:27-31](#)) Introduction:** one of the most powerful forces in all the world is faith. This passage discusses the power of faith, revealing four things that faith does.

1. **Faith excludes boasting (v.27).**
2. **Faith justifies a man without the works of the law (v.28).**
3. **Faith reveals only one God, who deals with all equally (v.29-30).**
4. **Faith upholds and establishes the law (v.31).**

### **[DEEPER STUDY # 1 \(Romans 3:27-31\) Faith](#)**

#### **DEEPER STUDY # 1**

**Romans 3:27-31 (NASB)**

<sup>27</sup> “Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

<sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

<sup>29</sup> Or is God *the God* of Jews only? Is He not *the God* of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,

<sup>30</sup> since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.

<sup>31</sup> Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.”

[\(Romans 3:27-31\)](#) **Faith**: see below [Deeper Study # 2, John 2:24](#); see note [Deeper Study # 3](#),—[Romans 10:16-17](#); and [Deeper Study # 4, Hebrews 10:38](#).

## DEEPER STUDY # 2

### John 2:24 (NASB)

<sup>24</sup>“But Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting Himself to them, for He knew all men.”

[\(John 2:24\)](#) **Believe—Commit**: the word “commit” (*episteuen*) is the very same word “believe” (*episteusan*) (cp. [John 2:23](#)).

### John 2:23 (NASB)

<sup>23</sup>“Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing.”

This gives an excellent picture of *saving faith*, of what *genuine faith* is—of the kind of faith that really saves a person.

**1. Saving faith is not head knowledge, not just a mental conviction and intellectual assent.** It is not just *believing the fact* that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. It is not just believing history, that Jesus Christ lived upon earth as the Savior just as George Washington lived upon earth as the President of America. It is not just believing the words and claims of Jesus in the same way that a person would believe the words of George Washington.

**2. Saving faith is believing in Jesus, *who* and *what* He is, that He is the *Savior* and *Lord* of life.** It is a man giving and turning his life over to Jesus. It is a man casting himself upon Jesus as Savior and Lord.

**3. Saving faith is commitment—the commitment of a man's total being and life to Jesus Christ.** It is a man's commitment of all he *is and has* to Jesus. It gives Jesus everything; therefore, it involves all of a man's affairs. The man trusts Jesus to take care of his past (**sins**), his present (**welfare**), and his future (**destiny**). He entrusts his whole life, being and possessions into Jesus' hands. He lays himself upon Jesus' keeping, confiding in Him about his daily necessities and acknowledging Him in all the ways of life. He follows Jesus in every area and in every detail of life, seeking His instructions and leaving his welfare up to Him. It is simply commitment of a man's whole being, all he is and has, to Jesus.

There are three steps involved in faith, steps that are clearly seen in this passage. (See [Deeper Study # 3](#) — [Romans 10:16-17](#) for more discussion.)

**1. There is the step of *seeing* ([John 2:23](#)) or *hearing* ([Romans 10:16](#)).**

05-27-18

Series: The Book of Romans

**John 2:23 (NASB)**

<sup>23</sup>“Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing.”

**Romans 10:16 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup>“However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, “LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?”

A man must be willing to listen to the message of Christ, the revelation of truth.

**2. There is the step of *mental assent*.** A man must agree that the message is true, that the facts of the case are thus and so. But this is not enough. Mere agreement does not lead to action. Many a person knows that something is true, but he does not change his behavior to match his knowledge. For example, a man knows that eating too much harms his body, but he may continue to eat too much. He agrees to the truth and knows the truth, but he does nothing about it.

A person may believe and know that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world and yet do nothing about it, never make a decision to follow Christ. This man still does not have faith, not the kind of faith that the Bible talks about.

**3. There is the step of *commitment*.** When the New Testament speaks of faith, it speaks of *commitment, a personal commitment to the truth*. A man hears the truth and agrees that it is true and does something about it. He commits and yields his life to the truth. The truth becomes a part of his very being, a part of his behavior and life.