

One Faith

Ephesians 4:5
Colossians 3:21-23

Introduction: Faith is used extensively throughout the Bible. Sometimes it is used in a very broad fashion. In ***Ephesians 4:5*** it is used in a narrow way by the statement of there being one faith. Let us see if we can determine what that one faith is.

I. What Is The One Faith?

- A.** Possibilities.
 - 1. Faith in God.
 - 2. Faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God.
 - 3. A system of faith.
- B.** There is one.
 - 1. People had faith in God before Jesus.
 - 2. Not mere mental assent—acknowledge, but don't follow.
 - 3. The system of faith fits better than anything else.

II. There Is A System Of Faith.

- A.** ***“Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong” (1 Cor. 16:13).***
- B.** ***“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith ...” (2 Cor. 13:5).***
- C.** ***“... now preaches the faith ...” (Gal. 1:23).***
- D.** ***“till we all come to the unity of the faith ...” (Eph. 4:13).***
- E.** ***“... one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel ...” (Phil. 1:27).***
- F.** ***“if indeed you continue in the faith ...” (Col. 1:23).***
- G.** ***“holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience” (1 Tim. 3:9).***
- H.** ***“... great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus” (1 Tim. 3:13).***
- I.** ***“... some will depart from the faith ...” (1 Tim. 4:1).***
- J.** ***“... he has denied the faith ...” (1 Tim. 5:8).***
- K.** ***“... some have strayed from the faith ...” (1 Tim. 6:10).***
- L.** ***“... some have strayed concerning the faith ...” (1 Tim. 6:21).***
- M.** ***“... I have kept the faith ...” (2 Tim. 4:7).***
- N.** ***“... that they may be sound in the faith ...” (Titus 1:13).***
- O.** ***“... contend earnestly for the faith ..” (Jude 3).***

III. The Faith Once Delivered (Jude 3).

- A.** A system that is complete.
 - 1.** No addition, no subtraction (**Rev. 22:18-19**).
 - 2.** Christ was once offered (**Heb. 9:28**). He has once delivered His gospel—the system of faith.
- B.** A system of faith emphasizes unity of doctrine (**Eph. 4:3, 13**).
 - 1.** There can be no unity without a sameness of doctrine.
 - 2.** Reasons for lack of unity today.
 - a.** Go to Old Testament (circumcision, instruments of music, infant baptism, etc.)
 - b.** Teach commandments of men (**Matt. 15:9**).
 - c.** Turn from truth to fables (**2 Tim. 4:3-4**).

Conclusion: “By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name” (Rom. 1:5).