

These Qualities
YOUR FAITH
2 Peter 1:1,5

What is the difference between being a good person and being a Christian person?
Are you a person with saving faith or just a faith?
Are you a person of biblical facts or biblical faith?

A particular faith → “a faith” *received* through the righteousness of our God and Saviour, Jesus Christ...not through self-righteousness. (1)

A personal faith → “your faith” which is to be enriched (“add to”) “through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord” (2) ...“our Lord Jesus Christ.” (8)

Faith is... *the gift to believe in the truth about God.*

Necessary facts to believe in order to have “the faith”

- That God is...*theists, not atheists*
- That God is eternally existent in three persons...*Trinitarian, not Unitarian*
- That God (Christ) created the universe and all there is...*creationists, not Darwinists*
- That Jesus Christ is the Son of God and only solution to the problem of sin that alienates people forever from God...*salvationists, not universalists*

Saving faith versus mere faith (key to salvation) “*By grace, through faith, not works*” (Eph. 2:8; Jn 1:11,12; 3:14-16)

Saving faith is the gift to believe in and receive salvation through the work/ merit of Jesus Christ alone—exclusive truth

Personal faith versus the dead faith of religious facts (key to sanctification) “*Through works, faith is perfected/ completed*” (Jas. 2:22; Rom 12:1,2)

“...*add to your faith*”→ *what faith in “the faith” acts like...*

Those who have been gifted faith, are commanded to act on the truth they believe in order for their faith to be completed (proven genuine). Real faith, works; works don’t produce faith.

Faith produces works that in turn perfect faith.