

**Remnant  
Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter Day Saints**

***FAITH***

Gospel Series No. 2

# FAITH

“Have faith in God.” – Mark 11:22

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## WHAT IS YOUR MENTAL ATTITUDE?

Do you “desire to believe”?

A very ancient and wise preacher named Alma told his hearers that if they could do no more than “desire to believe,” they should encourage that desire until faith came, and after faith, knowledge.

A modern philosopher named William James has a book entitled *The Will to Believe*. He argues that it is perfectly logical to have the *will* to believe.

Faith offers all. Doubt offers nothing, and will take away that which you have. It is the creeping paralysis of all hope and all initiative.

## FAITH IS DYNAMIC

The home is the unit of civilization, yet marriage and the home are based on faith. If a man can trust a woman with his name, his honor, and the souls of his children, he ought to trust God who made the woman.

All democratic governments are based on faith. All business and financial systems and credit are based on faith. If you trust the promise of men on a slip of paper, why not trust God, whose promises stand sure forever?

By faith men plant, believing that they will reap. By faith men build, believing that they will occupy. By faith men explore, hoping to discover.

## A UNIVERSAL HUMAN INSTINCT

All races have some form of religion. The religious sentiment is universal, and has always been so. Every idol, however crude, expresses an ideal. It testifies to the never-ending search for God. Faith is natural. Atheism is an artificial culture.

## FAITH IN LAW THE BASIS OF ALL SCIENCE

All sciences are based, first, on faith and *continuity* of law; second, on faith in *universality* of law. We cannot go back beyond recorded history, yet we believe that law has always been in force and will always continue. On the principle of continuity, religion has based its belief in

the immortality of the human soul.

We are chained to this earth, and actually know little about the other heavenly bodies. Yet we assume that law reigns supreme in the nearest star and in other stars beyond it, as far as space exists. We believe, in other words, that law is universal.

By faith astronomy weighs the stars. By faith geology reads earth's prehistoric records. By faith chemistry mixes her compounds.

Science rears her edifice on faith in continuous and universal law. Religion rears her temple on faith in the great Lawgiver, a self-existent, universal, never-changing God: "I am the Lord, I change Not." (Malachi 3:6)

#### THE TESTIMONY OF SCIENTISTS

It has been assumed that science is in conflict with religion. This is not true. There is no conflict between true science and true religion.

A great scientist has said, "Religion has its roots deep in the reality of things."

Another says, "Science positively affirms creative power."

A third scientist has emphatically stated that there is not a great scientist living who is not aware of the existence of a dominant mind in the universe.

#### FAITH CARRIES HER OWN CREDENTIALS

Doubt is negative and destructive. Faith is constructive and affirmative. Why not join the builders? Ally yourself with those who believe and affirm and create. Christianity is creative.

Atheism leads only to chaos. One atheist's creed began, "I believe in no God." It ran on very logically: "I believe in no God. I believe in no government. I believe in no marriage. I believe in no property."

#### THE SOUND BASIS FOR FAITH

Gullibility has its roots in ignorance. Ignorance is often characterized by belief based on insufficient or faulty evidence.

Faith has its root in observation and revelation. It calls for the keenest minds, the biggest hearts, and the cleanest lives. Faith studies the known, and reasons from the known to the unknown (Romans 1:20). With its feet upon the known and the real it reaches into the unknown and discovers truth.

The universe demonstrates the existence of a creator. A study of the universe leads to a belief in his existence. Revelation shows his moral nature and his will concerning man. Both study and revelation are necessary.

## FAITH TAUGHT BY REVELATION

Jesus, to whom the whole Christian world renders homage, gave as the first postulate of his creed, "Have faith in God." (Mark 11:22).

The whole body of the written revelations of God's word appeals to faith because it meets man's spiritual appeal of God that comes into your heart from time to time. Or you may stand in the light with faith and fight against the powers of doubt and despair that assail you. Why not fight under faith's flag?

The follower of Jesus Christ has everything to gain and nothing to lose. The atheist has all to lose and nothing to gain. This church calls you to have faith and to serve a personal God, a universal, all powerful, all wise God, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is willing to bless man, to heal man, and to reveal his will to man today just as he did in all past ages when man had faith. In him there is no variableness, neither shadow of changing. He is an ever-present help in every time of need.

Accept then, the first great fundamental principle of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and have faith in God.

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