

信的意义

The Meaning of Faith

读经：

Please Read the Bible Verse:

来十一 1 信就是所望之事的质实，是未见之事的确证。

Heb. 11:1 Now faith is the substantiation of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

基督徒就是一个得着基督和祂的大救恩的人。... 接受基督只有一个方法，那就是借着信。相信就是接受。

A Christian is a person who has received Christ and His great salvation. ... **There is only one way to receive Christ, and that is by faith. In fact, to receive is just to believe.**

信的定义

The Definition of Faith

信这个字，有人计算过，在新约圣经里，一共享过一百五十次。三十五次用作名词，一百十五次用作动词。这么多次的说信，要信，必须信祂，就是因为信是得着基督的惟一而且重要的途径。

Someone counted the word "faith" in the New Testament. It appears one hundred fifty times. Thirty-five of these times, the word is used as a noun; the rest as a verb. The reason this word is mentioned and emphasized repeatedly is because **faith is the unique and crucial way of receiving Christ.**

但是我们先要来看一下，什么叫作信？或者问说，信的定义是什么？

Let us first examine the meaning of faith. We will try to find a definition for this word.

说到信的定义，一件事顶希奇，全部圣经中，信字用了那么多次，单只新约中就用了一百五十次，可是只有一个地方，告诉我们信的定义是什么。或者说，只有一处地方，解释信是什么意思。所以这一个地方的圣经，我们要仔细的来看一下，这就是希伯来十一章一节，对于信惟一解释的地方：“信就是所望之事的实底，是未见之事的的确据。”

It is remarkable that although the word "faith" has been used one hundred fifty times in the New Testament, its definition is given only once. Only in one verse is the word explained. We have to look carefully into this one place. Let us turn to Hebrews 11:1. Here it gives us a unique explanation of faith. "**Faith is assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen**" (ASV, 1901).

实化

Substantiating

我认为那个叫人能领会实质的能力，就叫作实化。... 我们五官的作用，就是要把许多客观的东西，搬到我们里面来，成为我们主观的东西。没有了五官，就叫外面许多东西，永远在外面，不会到我们里面来。五官所作的事情，就是我所说的实化。

I believe that **substantiating is the ability which enables us to realize a substance.** ... The function of our five senses is to transfer all the objective items into us to become our subjective experience. If we do not have these five senses, all of the outside objects will remain outside of us; they will never be able to come into us. The work that the five senses does is a work of substantiating.

我再把这个字申明一下，用颜色来作例证。譬如说蓝色，蓝色是一个本质，就是英文的 **substance**，它本来存在在那里的。可是现在你把它看了一下，你这样一看，你眼睛就把这个蓝色搬到你里面去了，这就成了实化。这个时候，你可以说，我把那个蓝色实化到了，我知道在那里有蓝色。

Let me explain this a little further. I shall again use the example of color. Blue is a substance. It is there all the time. But when you take a look at it, your eyes begin to transfer the blue into you. This is what is meant by substantiation. Now you can say that you have substantiated the blue into you. You know now that there is such a color called blue.

实化的信

The Substantiating Faith

就像眼睛对看见，耳朵对听见，鼻子对嗅到一样，信是将一切属灵的事实化到我们里面的器官；缺乏了信，则一切属灵的事，像是不存在一样。所以圣经说，信是所望之事的实化。

As the eye is to seeing, the ear to hearing, and the nose to smelling, so **faith is the organ whereby we substantiate everything spiritual into us. Without faith, every spiritual matter is a nonentity to us.** This is why the Bible calls faith the substantiation of things hoped for.

属灵的事到底存在不存在？你不能光靠你的五官来判定！神已经把包括我们在基督里，和基督一同死了。我们的罪，都由基督担当了。基督死而复活，今天是在圣灵里了。这些事你能用你的五官来实化么？五官在这些事上是不起作用的。在这些事上，眼睛像瞎子一样，耳朵像聋子一样，鼻子像没有嗅觉的，舌头像没有味觉的，一切的触摸，也都像麻木无感的一样。... 实在说起来，不是那个 substance (实质) 没有，乃是缺少那个把实质实化的功能。

Are spiritual matters real or not? You cannot ascertain them by your five senses. God has put us into Christ; we are crucified with Him. All our sins were borne by Him. Today Christ is resurrected and is in the Holy Spirit. But can we substantiate any of these with our five senses? They are useless in this respect. When it comes to these matters, the eyes are blind, the ears deaf, the nose numb, the tongue flat, and all the senses dull. The fact is that the substance is there, but the substantiating ability is absent.

信就是接受

Faith Is Receiving

神是把一切的事，都在基督里作好了，都预备好了。神也把基督放在圣灵里，叫基督成为人人所享受的，时时可享受的，处处可享受的了。只要有人肯接受祂，就好了。如何接受呢？信就是接受。人只要信，就能把基督和基督的一切，接受到里面来了！

God has prepared and accomplished everything in Christ. He has also put Christ into the Holy Spirit so that everyone can henceforth enjoy Him anywhere and anytime. All that it takes is for man to receive Him. But how does one go about receiving Him? It is by faith. **Faith is the receiving. When man believes, he receives everything of Christ into him.**

信不是赞成

Faith Is Not Agreement

在这里，我要题起一个重要点，就是信和赞成不同。信心是活的，赞成是头脑的。只有信心才能得着属灵世界里一切的事情，头脑里赞成却永远得不到它。用赞成去想得属灵的事，就好像用眼睛去看声音，用舌头去尝颜色一样，你永远不能得着它。

I have to mention an important point: **faith and agreement are two different matters. Faith is living, while agreement is an exercise of the mind.** Only faith will inherit all the things in the spiritual world. Mental consent has no part in it. To perceive spiritual things through mental consent is like using the eyes to see sound or using the tongue to taste color. You will never receive anything that way.

譬如说，大家都说黄山风景最好，书上是这么说，画上也是这么画，我们听了以后很赞成，也说黄山好，但是黄山并没有实在的被我们接受，那里的风景对我们也不实际。对于属灵的事的接受，不是赞成，乃是信心。信什么呢？信神的话。用信心和神的话调在一起，对于神的话，你不但不反对、不怀疑，更联在一起，你就得救了。

For example, everyone agrees that Hwang Mountain is a very scenic place. It says so in books, and we see it in pictures. We give our consent and agree that it is very scenic. But Hwang Mountain has never been received into us. None of the beauties there are

real to us. **The receiving of spiritual matters is not a matter of consent but of faith. We need faith in the words of God. We have to mix His words with our faith.** Do not doubt or argue against the words of God. Rather, we should identify ourselves with them and be saved.

我们只要信，就将所信的接受到我们里面。今天的基督，已经在圣灵里了，祂是无所不在的，你可以在任何地方，只要用心碰祂一下，你就得救了。好像这里的电灯，什么都装设好了，你只要把电门一按，电线一接起，全部的电灯就都亮了。

If you have this living faith, you can be saved whether you are at home or in the church, in the wilderness or anywhere. **Today Christ is in the Holy Spirit. He is omnipresent. Wherever you may be, you can be saved simply by touching Him by faith.** Just as the electricity in this room is fully installed and will light up at your touch of the switch, so salvation will be immediately realized when you exercise your faith to receive Him.

也许你从前听过人讲基督的道理，到现在也许十年八年了，... 你必须说，我信！你必须说，我信拿撒勒人耶稣是神的儿子！我信基督现在是在圣灵里！我信基督在十字架上解决了我的罪，也信祂已经钉死了我这个旧人！我信我在基督里得着了新生命！你这样信，就是到神面前和祂碰一碰，一碰就成功了！

Perhaps you have heard about the doctrines of Christ for more than ten years. ... You must proclaim, **"I believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the Son of God. I believe that He is now in the Holy Spirit. I also believe that on the cross He has taken away my sins and that He has crucified my old man and given me a new life."** With this faith, you will be brought face to face with God. You will touch Him, and salvation will be accomplished in you.

信产生能力

Power in faith

一个在信心中与基督碰过的人，和以前就不一样了。基督的能力，要在碰过祂的人身上才显出来。我们许多的罪，污秽的罪，不能脱离的罪，和基督碰过之后，就能脱离了。我们只要一信，基督复活的生命，就能来到我们里面。如果你信，这一切的东西，就实实在在的到你里面了。

A man who has met Christ in faith is different. **Only those who have touched Christ have His power manifested through them.** All the filthy and binding sins are shaken off from us when we touch Christ. **The minute we believe in Him, His resurrection life comes into us. By faith all these become real in us.**

我们因着信，不但叫我们的生活有大改变，我告诉你，这里还有一个很大的能力，产生出很多传道人和殉道人来。因为有这个大的能力在里面，是你没有法子压制，也没有法子困住的，叫人能坦然为主受苦难，经过危险，以致泰然的去殉道。这一切都是因着信，和基督一碰，基督里面的一切，就都到你里面来了。（倪柝声文集第二辑第七册，197至198、200至201、203至204、206至208、211页。）

Not only are our lives changed by faith, but there is a very great power within this faith which motivates thousands to become missionaries and martyrs. This great power within is irrepressible and unlimited. It makes man willing to suffer for the Lord, ride through danger, and eventually be martyred. All these abilities come from faith. **When we touch Christ, everything of Him will be transmitted into us.** (The Collected Works of Watchman Nee (Set 2) Vol. 27: The Normal Christian Faith, Section Four: Christ and the Christian, Chapter 13.)

参读：倪柝声文集第二辑第七册，基督与基督徒，第一篇；希伯来书生命读经，第四十七篇；罗马书的结晶，第八篇。

Reference: The Collected Works of Watchman Nee (Set 2) Vol. 27, Christ and the Christian, Chapter 13; Life-Study of Hebrews, Chapter 47; Crystallization-study of the Epistle to the Romans, Chapter 8.