

FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE – I Corinthians 13:13
Faith (Part 1)

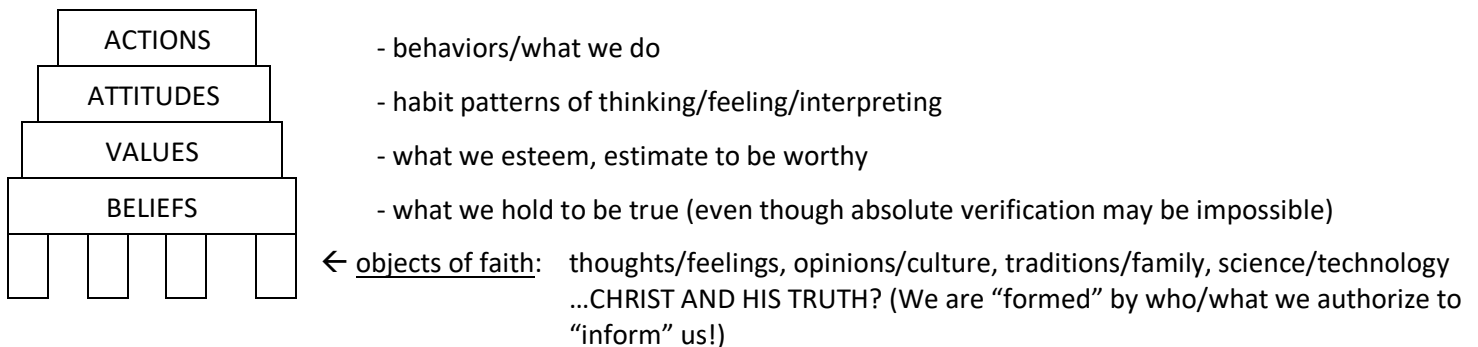
The Most Divine and Most Human Aspects of Living Intersect at the Same Points:

- Faith: Saying What God Says (Truth: What God says) – II Cor 5:7; Jo 17:17
- Hope: Seeing What God Sees (Reality: What God sees) – Col 1:27; Ro 15:13
- Love: Living as God Lives (Love: Life for others) – I Jo 4:7,8
...Here on earth, faith, hope, and love make us participants in the Life of God – I Thess 1:3; I Jo 2:6

The Faithful Life: Saying What God Says – II Cor 5:7

- Christ-like faithfulness has a singular “object” – the Person of God – Jo 8:28; 12:49
...faithfulness requires the correct object of faith – Jo 5:39; Lk 24:27,44
...“but I say to you” – Matt 5:20-44; Ro 10:17 (our response: “I believe You!”)
- Christian faithfulness is not born of religious education but of personal revelation – I Cor 2:10; Eph 1:17; I Jo 2:27
...God lovingly exposes inadequate objects of faith – Jo 6:63
...in order to bring us into “1st hand faith” – Ro 10:17; Ga 1:11-12
...so we may build upon the firm foundation that is Christ – Lk 6:47-49

An Old Testament Illustration – Is 7:1-9; II Kgs 15:37-16:11



Do I believe...

- ...the approval of man is more important than the approval of God – Jo 5:44
- ...that being happy matters more than being holy – I Pet 1:16
- ...I must be in control/have my way to be content, at peace – Ro 11:36; Phil 4:11
- ...that temptation is against me (just me) or against Christ in me – Ga 2:20; Col 3:4; Ja 1:2-4

Faithfulness finds its rest on one foundation – Jesus Christ the Lord – I Cor 3:11

- There is no faithfulness apart from a radical fascination with the Person of Christ – Phil 3:7-11; Col 3:16
...He is the Object of our faith, the Subject of our teaching, the Faithfulness beneath our faith – I Pet 2:6
- Put the “prayer” of Ahaz upon its proper object/foundation – “I am your servant and your son/daughter... come deliver me!” – II Kgs 16:7