

FACTS, FAITH, FEELINGS

1Co.15:1-8 (Text)

Gospel preached as “fact”. Corinthians were to believe these facts.

These facts were the basis of their faith.

If such facts were not true, then their faith had no basis. Tragic.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FACT, FAITH AND FEELING

Fact: real occurrence or state of things.

Truth known by actual observation. 1Jo.1:1-3

Facts based on authentic testimony. Joh.20:20-31

Distinguished from mere allegation of belief.

Faith (belief): confidence or trust in person, thing, or account.

A mental ascent; acceptance.

Feeling: (emotion) a consciousness, impression, sense of something.

FAITH BASED ON FACTS PRODUCES JOY (Act.8:39)

Act.2:41 & 46, 16:34

This is the simple truth: **facts** as a basis for **faith** produces good **feelings**.

TODAY SOME DISTORT THIS CONCEPT

Faith becomes the basis for **fact** producing good **feelings**.

“I believe it to be true (or good), so it is.”

“I believe God would not let any good person go to hell.”--so all good saved!

“I believe God accepts all religions.”--so it is so!

“I don’t think baptism is necessary”.--so it isn’t!

Jews thought they had eternal life. Joh.5:39-40

Paul believed the Pharisees’ teaching that Jesus was an imposter. Act.26:9

“My preacher said it was true and I believe him.”

“I have faith in [supply the basis] and that’s good enough for me.”

Distortion: “I think”--so it is good or true!

Feelings become the basis for **faith** which upholds **facts**.

“I feel as long as one is sincere.” (cf. Act.23:1)

“I wouldn’t trade all that’s in the Bible for what’s in my heart.”

“I must be right because so many people can’t be wrong.”

“I don’t feel [.....].”

Distortion: “I feel, therefore I believe it is true.”

These perversions distort Bible truth; tragically missing the mark!

2Pe.3:14-18

Hope based on feelings will not avail. cf. Act.26:9-11

Faith based on anything other than facts of Gospel will not stand. Mat.7:24-27

Believing in ignorance will not save. 1Ti.1:13

THE PROPER ORDER IS

Facts of the gospel: basis for faith.

Faith (implicit trust) in the facts: basis for hope.

Feelings based on **faith** which is based on solid **facts**.