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FAITH ONLY

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PROPOSITION ON FAITH ONLY

The Scriptures teach that faith in Christ procures salvation before and without further acts of obedience.

AFFIRMATIVE ARGUMENTS

1. The afflicted woman.

1. "Thy faith hath made thee whole." (Mt. 9:22; Mk. 5:34; Lk. 8:48)

ANSWER:

1. "Made whole" of a physical ailment.

2. Even this not by "faith only" - "she touched the hem of his garment."
(Mt. 9:20; Mk. 5:29; Lk. 8:44)

2. The palsied man.

1. Forgave his sins on faith. Mt. 9:2; Mk. 2:5; Lk. 5:20.

ANSWER:

1. But it was the faith of his friends - "Seeing their faith."

2. Will not ratified. Heb. 9:16,17.

3. The blind man, Bartimaeus.

1. "Thy faith hath made thee whole." Mk. 10:52; Lk. 18:42.

ANSWER:

1. "Made whole" of blindness.

2. Not "faith only for at the call of Jesus, "he, casting away his garments, rose and came to Jesus." Mk. 10:50.

4. Sinful woman at Simon's house.

1. "Thy faith hath saved thee." Lk. 7:50.

ANSWER:

1. Not "Faith only" - she washed his feet, anointed his head, etc.
v. 44-46.

2. Sins forgiven "for she loved much." v. 47.

3. Will not ratified. Heb. 9:16-17.

5. The ruler of Synagogue.

1. "Only believe" Mk. 5:36 ~ "Believe only." Lk. 8:50.

ANSWER:

1. Raising his dead daughter - not salvation. Mk. 5:35; Lk. 8:49.
2. The "Faith" on part of the father - not the one made whole."

6. Parable of the sower.

1. "Lest they should believe and be saved."

ANSWER:

1. Not said to be by "faith only"; other things implied. cf. Repentance only thing mentioned in 2 Cor. 7:10.
2. The good ground hearer: "Having heard the word keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience." v.14
3. Some for a while believe - fall away." v. 13.

7. The leper

1. "Thy faith hath made thee whole." Lk. 17:19.

ANSWER:

1. Healed of leprosy - not sin.
2. Not "faith only". Jesus said: "Go show yourselves unto the priest... As they went they were cleansed." v. 14.

8. Believers not perish.

1. "Whosoever believeth...not perish...have everlasting life." Jn.3:15-16.

ANSWER:

1. Doesn't say "believeth only."
2. To be saved "through him". vs. 17. C.F. 2Tim. 2:10.
3. "None perish who come to repentance." 2 Pet. 3:9 - Does this mean "Without further acts of obedience"?
4. Notice v. 15 in A.S.V. "May IN him have eternal life."

9. Believer not condemned.

1. "He that believeth on him is not condemned." Jn. 3:18.

ANSWER:

1. Does not say "believeth only."

2. "No condemnation is in Christ," for those "who walk not after flesh... but Spirit." Rom. 8:1.

3. It takes a "further" act to put "into Christ." Gal. 3:27.

10. Believer has everlasting life.

1. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." Jn. 3:36.

2. "Believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life." Jn. 5:24.

3. "Believeth on him may have everlasting life." Jn. 6:40.

4. "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." Jn. 6:47.

ANSWER:

1. None of these mention "believe only".

2. All refer to obedient believer. cf. Jn. 8:30, 31, 44.

3. Everlasting life depends on "further acts of obedience."

a. "Labor for....life." Jn. 6:27.

b. "By patient continuance in well doing." Rom. 2:7.

c. Good profession (confession) made unto eternal life. 1 Tim. 6:12.

4. Jn. 3:36 says: "He that obeyeth not shall not see life." (R.V.)

5. If John 5:24 contains whole plan, no faith in Christ.

6. "This life is in his son." 1 Jn. 5:10-11; Gal. 3:27.

11. Believer never thirst.

1. "He that believeth on me shall never thirst." Jn. 6:35.

ANSWER:

1. Not "believeth only."

2. Obedient, believers meant. Jn. 3:36; 8:30,31,44.

3. Parallel statement: "He that cometh to me shall never hunger."
(same verse)

4. More than faith necessary to come to Christ. "Believed and turned to the Lord." Acts 11:21.

OBJECTION: No. 3. But do you believe the first statement?

REPLY: I believe both. Do You?

12. Believers receive Spirit.

1. "Spake of Spirit which they that believe on him should receive."
Jn. 7:38-39.

ANSWER:

1. Primarily refers to baptism of Spirit - "Not yet given." v.39.
2. Those who received baptism of Spirit already baptized. Acts 1:5-BLR
3. Otherwise, Spirit given "to them that OBEY Him." Acts 5:32.
4. Obedience involves "further acts" besides faith. Acts 2:38.

13. Believer shall never die.

1. "He that believeth in me shall never die." Jn. 11:26.

ANSWER:

1. Further acts - "Liveth and believeth in me." Same verse
2. "If ye...mortify the deeds of body, ye shall live." Rom. 8:13.

14. Believers not abide in darkness.

1. "Whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." Jn. 12:46

ANSWER:

1. What of the cowardly rulers who believed on him? vs. 42,43.
2. Further act: "He that loveth his brother abideth in the light."
1 Jn. 2:10.

OBJECTION: Love here means faith.

REPLY: "Now abides these THREE: "Faith, hope and love."
1 Cor. 13:13.

3. "Hereby we know that we love the Children of God if...keep commandments." 1 Jn. 5:2; Acts 10:48.

15. Believers might have life.

1. "And that believing ye might have life through his name." Jn. 20:31

ANSWER:

1. Repentance, in addition to faith, is "unto life." Acts 11:18.
 2. "The promise of life which is in Christ Jesus." 2 Tim. 1:1.
cf. Gal. 3:27.
 3. "Through his name." Mt. 28:19; Acts 19:6.
16. Believers receive remission.
1. "Whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sin." Acts 10:43.

ANSWER:

1. But this is "through his name." Acts 8:16; 10:48.
 2. Remission also depends on repentance. Lk. 24:47.
 3. "Repent and be converted that your sins may be blotted out."
Acts 3:19.
17. All believers justified.
1. "All that believe are justified." Acts 13:39.

ANSWER:

1. Refers to all obedient believers for disobedient believers are not justified. Jn. 8:30,31,44; 12:42-43.
 2. By works - not faith only. Jas. 2:24.
 3. "Through this man is proclaimed remission of sins."
 4. "By (Gr. "in") him everyone that believeth is justified."
18. Hearts purified by faith.
1. "Purifying their hearts by faith." Acts 15:9.
 2. But "Pure in heart" shall see God. Mt. 5:8.

ANSWER:

1. Not "by faith only".
 - a. "Repented unto life." Acts 11:18.
 - b. They were baptized. Acts 10:48.
2. Souls purified in "obeying the truth." 1 Pet. 1:22.

19. The Philippian Jailer.

1. "Believe...thou shall be saved." Acts 16:31.

ANSWER:

1. Doesn't say "believe only".
2. Further, "spoke unto him the word of the Lord." v.32. Why, if faith was all?
3. Baptized the same hour. v.33. Acts 22:16.

20. Sanctified by faith.

1. "Sanctified by faith that is in me." Acts 26:18.

ANSWER:

1. "By faith" doesn't mean "faith only". Cf. Rom. 1:17; 2 Cor. 5:7.
2. "Sanctified by the Holy Ghost." Rom. 15:16.
 - a. Does this mean "Holy Ghost only" - excluding Father and Son?
3. "Sanctify...with washing of water." Further act. Eph. 5:26.

21. Gospel saves believer.

1. "Power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 1:16

ANSWER:

1. If gospel is God's power to save believer, believer not already saved.
2. Repentance is "to salvation". (Rom. 10:10) (2 Cor. 7:10)
3. Confession is "unto salvation". (Rom. 10:10)
4. "Salvation unto all of them that obey him." (Heb. 5:9)

22. God's righteousness by faith.

1. "Righteousness of God which is by faith unto all and upon all that believe." Rom. 3:22.

ANSWER:

1. "Righteousness which is of faith" says "If thou shalt confess.... shalt be saved." Rom. 10:6-9.
2. Hence, obedient believers are meant. Cf. Jn. 12:42,43.

23. Propitiation through faith.

1. "Set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood." Rom. 3:25.

ANSWER:

1. "Through faith" does not mean "faith only." "Through faith subdued kingdoms." Heb. 11:33.
2. Nothing but repentance is mentioned in Acts 11:18. Does that mean "repentance only"?

24. Justifier of believer.

1. "That he might be justifier of him that hath faith."

ANSWER:

1. Is not the justifier of those who believe only. Jas. 2:24.
2. Obedient believer meant. Jn. 8:30,31,44.
3. "Justifier of believer" - "Justifieth ungodly." (Rom. 4:5) Hence, believer

25. Without deeds of the Law.

1. "A man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Rom. 3:28

ANSWER:

1. By works a man is justified...not by faith only." Jas. 2:24.
2. "By faith" does not mean "faith only." Jas. 2:24.
3. Does "by works" mean "works only"??
4. "Deeds of the law" does not mean "obedience to the gospel."
 - 1) No man justified by "The deeds of the law." (Rom. 3:20)
 - 2) But men are justified "by faith (gospel) of Christ. Gal. 2:16.

26. Circumcision and uncircumcision.

1. "Justify circumcision by faith...uncircumcision through faith." Rom. 3:30.

ANSWER:

1. "By faith" and "Through faith" do not mean "faith only".
2. "Circumcision" were Jews. They were commanded "further acts of obedience." Acts 2:38.
3. "Uncircumcision" were Gentiles. "Further acts" for them. Acts 11:18; Acts 10:48.

27. Justification of Abraham.

1. Not "justified by works." Rom. 4:2.
2. Scriptures said: "Abraham believed God...counted for righteousness. v.3
3. "They which are of faith are children of Abraham." Gal. 3:5,6.

ANSWER:

1. Works of Rom. 4 refers to works of law of Moses. Vs. 13-16.
2. Scripture referred to is Gen. 15:2-6, but Abraham had an obedient faith before this. Heb. 11:8; Gen. 12:1-4.
3. Hence, "justified" does not mean "become a child of God," but obtained divine favor.
4. Gen. 15:5,6 not fulfilled till offered Isaac. Jas. 2:20-23.
5. "The father of all them that believe" who walk in the steps of his faith. Rom. 4:11,12.

28. Peace with God

1. "Being justified by faith we have peace with God." Rom. 5:1

ANSWER:

1. "Not justified by faith only." Jas. 2:24.
2. If "by faith" means "faith only", why doesn't "by works" mean "by works only"??
3. Rom. 5:9 says, "justified by his blood." Is this "blood only"??
4. Verse 10 says "saved by his life." Is this "life only."??
5. Rom. 8:24 says "Saved by hope." Is this "hope only"???
6. In Rom. 5:1 Paul included himself, but "peace" did not come by "Faith only." Acts 9:5-9,18,19; 22:16.

29. Believer not ashamed-confounded.

1. "Whosoever believeth shall not be ashamed." Rom. 9:33; 10:11.
2. "He that believeth shall not be confounded." 1 Pet. 2:6

ANSWER:

1. Rom. 10:9,10 (Between Rom. 9:33 and 10:11) makes confession necessary.
2. In 1 Pet. 2:6, "believe" is used in sense of "obedient believer." Note contrast of "Believe" and disobedient in v.7.

30. God pleased to save believer.

1. "It pleased God...to save them that believe." 1 Cor. 1:21.

ANSWER:

1. Not them that believe only.

2. He saves those who repent. 2 Cor. 7:10.

3. Author of salvation to them that obey him. Heb. 5:9 - hence obedient believer the one that pleases him.

4. Saves "them that believe." Saves "that which lost." Lk. 19:10 hence believer lost.

5. Saves "them that believe." Saves "Sinners." 1 Tim. 1:15 - hence believer a sinner.

31. Not by works of Law.

1. "We have believed in Jesus Christ that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law." Gal. 2:16.

ANSWER:

1. "Works of the law" refers to law of Moses. Acts 13:39; Rom. 3:20.

2. No reference to "works of the gospel." Jn. 6:29; Acts 10:34-35; Jas. 2:24.

3. "Justified by the faith of Christ" means "The Gospel". Gal. 1:23; Jude 3

32. Heathen justified through faith.

1. "Foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith." Gen. 3:8.

ANSWER:

1. "By faith" is not "faith only." Heb. 11:30.

2. "Further acts" required of Gentiles. Acts 11:18; 10:48.

3. "In thy seed shall all nations be blessed." - "seed which is Christ." vs. 16; Rom. 6:3.

33. Promise of Spirit through faith.

1. "That we might receive promise of the Spirit through faith. Gal. 3:14

ANSWER:

1. "Through faith" is not "faith only". Heb. 11:33.
 2. Spirit promised to them that obey. Acts 2:38; 5:32.
 3. These "in Christ" (4:29) to receive Spirit by faith.
34. Promise by faith.
1. "Promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." Gal. 3:22.

ANSWER:

1. "By faith" is not "faith only." Rom. 1:17.
 2. "Inherit the promise...through faith and patience." Heb. 6:12.
35. "Schoolmaster...might be justified by faith."
1. "That we might be justified by faith." Gal. 3:24.

ANSWER:

1. "By faith" is not "faith only." Rom. 1:17; Jas. 2:24.
 2. Verse 27 teaches how justified by faith. Mk. 16:16.
36. Children of God by faith.
1. "Ye all are children of God by faith." Gal. 3:26.

ANSWER:

1. Verse 27 tells why they were the Children of God by faith.
 2. "For" (Greek "Gar"): "To introduce the reason."
37. Hope of righteousness.
1. "We wait for the hope of righteousness by faith." Gal. 5:5.

ANSWER:

1. Refers to Christians waiting for future reward. Paul included himself. v. 14. "Wait by faith."
2. Hence, "By faith" is not faith only.
3. And this faith works by love. Gal. 5:6.

38. Sealed with Holy Spirit.

1. "After that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise." Eph. 1:13.

ANSWER:

1. This says, "after that ye believed" - not "as soon as ye believed."

39. By grace through faith.

1. "By grace are ye saved through faith." Eph. 2:8.
2. "Not of works lest any man should boast." v.9.
3. "Created unto good works." v.10 - Follow creation.

ANSWER:

1. Not by works that would give ground for boasting as:
 - a. The works of the law. Rom. 3:27-28.
 - b. Or works of our own devising. 2 Tim. 1:9.
2. Has no reference to gospel obedience. Acts 10:34; Jas. 2
3. If all works eliminated, then faith not necessary. Jn. 6:29.
4. If no works precede creation, salvation unconditional.
5. "By grace" includes all God does. "By faith" includes all we do.
6. Where is Grace located? IN CHRIST. 2 Tim. 2:1.

Rom. 6:3

BAPTIZED

GRACE



40. Christ dwells by faith.

1. "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith." Eph. 3:17.

ANSWER:

1. Refers to saints. (v.18) "Christ may dwell."
2. Hence, "by faith" means more than "faith only."
3. Divine indwelling depends also on confession. 1 Jn. 4:15.
4. Also on "loving another." 1 Jn. 4:12.

41. Righteousness by faith.

1. "Having...righteousness which is of God by faith." Phil. 3:9

ANSWER:

1. But this is "through the faith (Gospel) of Christ." same verse.
2. And the righteousness which is revealed in the Gospel (Rom. 1:17) requires works. Acts 10:34,35.

42. Savior of Believers.

1. "Savior of all men, especially of those that believe." 1 Tim. 4:10

ANSWER:

1. Doesn't say "believe only".
2. Savior of the body, Eph. 5:23. Takes "further acts" to put into the body. 1 Cor. 12:13.

43. Wise unto salvation.

1. "Scriptures...able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith." 2 Tim. 3:15.

ANSWER:

1. "Through faith" is not "faith only". Heb. 11:33
2. Salvation is through obedience.
3. "Have access by faith into grace." Rom. 5:2.

44. Believer born of God.

1. "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God." 1 Jn. 5:1.

ANSWER:

1. "Further acts" necessary to birth:
 - a. "Every one that loveth is born of God." 1 Jn. 4:7
 - b. "Every one that doeth righteousness is born of him." 1 Jn. 2:29
2. Hence, the believer is the obedient believer. Jn. 8:30,31,44
3. Faith...works...love. Gal. 5:6

45. Believer hath witness.

1. "He that believeth on the Son...hath the witness in himself."
1 Jn. 5:10.

ANSWER:

1. Doesn't say "believeth only."
2. Life is in his Son. v.11. Gal. 3:27

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PROPOSITION ON FAITH ONLY

The Scriptures teach that faith in Christ procures salvation before and without further acts of obedience.

NEGATIVE ARGUMENTS

1. Something required in addition to faith.
 1. "Can that faith (without works) save him?" Jas. 2:14.
 2. Faith without works is dead. Jas. 2:17,20,26.
 3. Justified by works, not by faith only. Jas. 2:24.
 4. Believers given power or right to become sons of God. Jn. 1:12.
 5. Many chief rulers believed on him but loved man's praises. Jn. 12:42,43.
 6. Jews believed on Christ, yet children of the devil. Jn. 8:30,31,44.
 7. "Great number believed and turned unto the Lord." Acts 11:21.
 8. Compare Acts 26:20, "Repent and turn to God."
 9. "Faith which worketh by love avails." Gal. 5:6

OBJECTION: This refers to works done by Christian.

- REPLY:
1. Suppose he never works. Will his faith save anyway?
 2. If his faith cannot fail to work, how could he "believe in vain"? 1 Cor. 15:2.

10. After you believed. Eph. 1:13
 - a. Trusted in Christ "after that ye heard."
 - b. Sealed with Spirit "after that ye believed."
11. "All faith" without love, makes a man nothing. 1 Cor. 13:2

OBJECTION: This is miracle working faith, not "saving faith."

REPLY: It includes both: "all faith."

2. Salvation depends on repentance.
 1. Except ye repent....perish. Lk. 13:3,5.
 2. Repent that sins may be blotted out. Acts 3:19.
 3. All men commanded to repent. Acts 17:30
 4. Repentance unto life. Acts 11:10

5. Repent and turn to God. Acts 26:20

NOTE: If repentance and faith are inseparable, this proves definitely that faith only will not save. Isa. 55:7

6. Repentance to salvation. 2 Cor. 7:10.

7. Not willing any perish...all come to repentance. 2 Pet. 3:9

3. Confession necessary to salvation.

1. Must confess to be confessed. Mt. 10:32

2. "If thou shalt confess...shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

3. "Confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:10

4. Good confession unto eternal life. 1 Tim. 6:12.

4. Something we must do.

1. Must do the will of the Father. Mt. 7:21

a. To enter the kingdom. Mt. 7:21.

b. Doeth the will abideth forever. 1 Jn. 2:17

c. Might receive the promise. Heb. 10:36

OBJECTION: Will to believer. Jn. 6:40

REPLY: This not all of his will. 2 Pet. 3:9; 1 Pet. 2:15

2. Doing sayings of Christ make difference between wisdom and folly. Mt. 7:24-27.

3. Friends of Christ if we "do whatsoever" commands. Jn. 15:14.

4. Pentecostians asked: "What shall we do?"

a. Were already believers - "know assuredly." v.36

b. Already "pricked in the heart." v.37

c. Were told something in addition to faith. v. 38

5. Saul asked, "What wilt thou have me to do Lord?" Acts 22:10

a. Already a believer (9:5)

b. Would be told in Damascus what he MUST do. v. 6

c. Was not told in Damascus to believe.

6. Must do commandments. Rev. 22:14

a. To "have right to tree of life."

b. And to "enter into the City."

c. But commandments (plural) mean more than faith.

7. Doeth righteousness....born of God. 1 Jn. 2:29

OBJECTION: "IS born" - already

REPLY: "Believeth. IS born." 1 Jn. 5:1 - Already????

5. Works of Gospel necessary.

1. Fear God...work righteousness. Acts 10:34,35

2. Justified by works...not faith only. Jas. 2:24

3. Must labor for everlasting life. Jn. 6:21

4. Must labor to enter that rest. Heb. 4:11

6. Must obey the gospel.

1. Made free from sin when obey form of doctrine. Rom. 6:17,18

2. Salvation to them that obey. Heb. 5:8,9

3. Purified souls in obeying the truth. 1 Pet. 1:22

4. "He that obeyeth not the Son shall not see life." Jn. 3:36

5. Indignation and wrath to them that "do not the truth." Rom. 2:8,9

6. What the end of them that "obey not the gospel?" 1 Pet. 4:17,18

7. Punishment and vengeance for them "that obey not the gospel."
2 Thes. 1:8-9

7. "By faith" and "through faith" do not mean "faith only."

1. "We walk by faith." 2 Cor. 5:7

2. "Just shall live by faith." Rom. 1:17

3. "By faith Abel offered sacrifices." Heb. 11:4

4. "By faith Noah prepared ark." Heb. 11:7

5. "By faith Abraham obeyed...went out." Heb. 11:8

6. "By faith he sojourned in land of promise." v. 17

7. "By faith Abraham offered Isaac." Heb. 11:23

8. "By faith Moses was hid three months." 11:27

9. "By faith forsook Egypt." Heb. 11:27

10. "Through faith he kept the passover." 11:28

11. "By faith passed through Red Sea." 11:29
12. "By faith kept passover." Geb. 11:28
13. "By faith subdued kingdoms ." Heb. 11:33
14. "By faith walls of Jericho fell down." 11:30

15. Compared with similar expressions:

- a. "By works" - Works only? Jas. 2:24
- b. "By hope" - Hope only? Rom. 8:24
- c. "By blood" - Does this mean blood only? Rom. 5:8
- d. "By life" - Life only? Rom. 5:10
- e. "By Holy Ghost" - Holy Ghost only??? Rom. 15:16
- f. Hence, by faith does not mean "faith only".

8. Justification "by faith" and "by works".

1. Abraham justified by faith (Rom. 4:3) yet by works. (Jas. 3:21-23)
2. Rahab justified by faith (Heb. 11:31) yet by works. (Jas. 2:25)
3. We are justified by faith (Rom. 5:1) yet by works. (Jas. 24)

9. What kind or degree of faith justified?? Jas. 2:14

1. Is it a living faith or a dead faith? Jas. 2:20; Jas. 2:26; Gal 5:6
2. Is it an imperfect or a perfect faith? Jas. 2:28
3. Is it an obedient faith or a disobedient faith? Heb. 11:8; Jn. 8:30, 31,41,44
4. These questions may be applied to all Scriptures that ascribe salvation to faith.

10. Jesus- Savior of Lost, ungodly sinner.

1. Jesus came "to seek and save that which was lost." Lk. 19:10
But Jesus saved "them that believe." (1 Cor. 1:21). Therefore, the believer is LOST.

2. Jesus came into the world to "save sinners". 1 Tim. 1:15

But Jesus saves "them that believe." (1 Cor. 1:21). Therefore, the believer is a SINNER.

3. God "Justified ungodly." Rom. 4:5

But God justified "him that hath faith in Jesus." (Rom. 3:26) Therefore, "him that hath faith is ungodly still.

4. The word "saves" carries with it the implication of something being lost.