

The Faith That Fits

Did you know that the modern slant on faith will not fit with Romans?

Yet, the Bible's view of faith fits perfectly.

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I. Verses in Romans that seem to support the modern slant that faith gets us to heaven

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Rom 3:28 ...we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Rom 5:1 ...being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

II. God's way of getting us to heaven—God, and God alone—Grace, and grace alone

A. Early in the book—Paul proved that sin would keep any and all out of heaven

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men...

Rom 3:9 What then? are we better *than they*? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;

Rom 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

B. Later in the book—Paul proved that God’s grace gets God’s children to heaven

Rom 3:3-4 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid...

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved...

Rom 5:19 ...by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Rom 8:1 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus...

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate...

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

Rom 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom 9:11 (For *the children* being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Rom 9:16 So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

Rom 9:21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

Rom 9:22 *What* if God, willing to shew *his* wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

Rom 9:23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

III. If preachers were ‘*rightly dividing*’—Christianity would not be so divided

A. ‘*Rightly dividing*’ is not ignoring and sidestepping unwanted and disliked sections

Act 20:27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

B. ‘*Rightly dividing*’ is to take each part and use the scriptures to fit it with the whole

2Pe 1:20 ...no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

C. The word ‘save’ is perhaps the classic example of the necessity for ‘*rightly dividing*’
Mat 14:30 ...and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, **save** me.

Mat 1:21 ...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall **save** his people from their sins.

Act 2:40 ...**Save** yourselves from this untoward generation.

D. ‘*Rightly dividing*’ is of paramount importance in the Book of Romans

1. The word ‘call’ shows us the need for ‘*rightly dividing*’ in Romans

Rom 1:6 Among whom are ye also the **called of Jesus Christ**:

Rom 1:7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, **called to be saints...**

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also **called...**

Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall **call** upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

2. The idea of ‘justify’ shows us the need for ‘*rightly dividing*’ in Romans

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now **justified by his blood**, we shall be saved...

Rom 5:1 ...being **justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus...

3. If our foundation is ‘*Heaven-by-Man’s-Faith*’ —We must divide by discarding

4. If our foundation is ‘*Heaven-by-Grace-Alone*’ —Romans will fit with Romans

IV. How can what Paul said about faith in Romans fit with what he said about grace?

A. At the very start of Romans—Paul stated the two ideas that he would develop

Rom 1:6 Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:

Rom 1:7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints...

B. Paul’s proposition— ‘*Faith in grace will save us to live our lives with faith in grace*’

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

1. Faith doesn’t get us to heaven—It’s God’s miracle so we know there is a heaven

Heb 11:1 ...faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2. Faith is God’s gift that lets us live and die with the promise of a waiting heaven

Heb 11:8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Heb 11:9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Heb 11:14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

Heb 11:16 But now they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

C. Faith in grace gives God's child peace toward God and peace about going to heaven

Rom 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

D. Faith in grace saves God's children from fears about getting themselves to heaven

Rom 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

Rom 10:2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

Rom 10:3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Rom 10:4 For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Rom 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Rom 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

E. Faith in grace demands works—Saves God's child to live life with (and for) Jesus

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Rom 11:33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable *are* his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

Rom 11:36 For of him, and through him, and to him, *are* all things: to whom *be* glory for ever. Amen.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Rom 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Rom 16:25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

Rom 16:26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

Rom 16:27 To God only wise, *be* glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.