

~FAITH (739)

[Greek, *pi'stis*]

- Faith Is Based On Concrete Evidence
- So Faith Is Not Credulity
- Ancient Examples Of Faith
- Christian Faith

- The word faith is translated from the Greek *pi'stis*, primarily conveying the thought of confidence, trust, firm persuasion. Depending on the context, the Greek word may also be understood to mean faithfulness or fidelity.
- That is why, brothers, we have been comforted over you in all our necessity and tribulation through the **faithfulness** you show. (**1 Thessalonians 3:7**)
- Not committing theft, but exhibiting **good fidelity** to the full, so that they may adorn the teaching of our Savior, God, in all things. (**Titus 2:10**)
- The Scriptures tell us,
- **Faith** is the assured expectation of things hoped for, the evident demonstration of realities though not beheld. (**Hebrews 11:1**)
- Assured expectation translates the Greek word *hy-po'sta-sis*. This term is common in ancient papyrus business documents. It conveys the idea of something that underlies visible conditions and guarantees a future possession.
- In view of this, Moulton and Milligan suggest the rendering: **Faith is the title deed of things hoped for.** [Vocabulary of the Greek Testament, 1963, p. 660]
- The Greek word *e'leg-khos*, rendered **evident demonstration**, conveys the idea of bringing forth evidence that demonstrates something, particularly something contrary to what appears to be the case.
- Thereby this evidence makes clear what has not been discerned before and so refutes what has only appeared to be the case. The

evident demonstration, or evidence for conviction, is so positive or powerful that faith is said to be it.

- **Faith** is, therefore, **the basis for hope and the evidence for conviction concerning unseen realities**. The entire body of truths delivered by Jesus Christ and his inspired disciples constitutes the true Christian **faith**.

- Therefore Pilate said to him; Well, then, are you a king? Jesus answered; You yourself are saying that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone that is on the side of the truth listens to my voice. (**John 18:37**)

- But it is not another, only there are certain ones who are causing you trouble and wanting to pervert the Good News about the Christ. (**Galatians 1:7**)

- However, even if we or an angel out of heaven were to declare to you as Good News something beyond what we declared to you as Good News, let him be accursed. (**Galatians 1:8**)

- As we have said above, I also now say again, whoever it is that is declaring to you as Good News something beyond what you accepted, let him be accursed. (**Galatians 1:9**)

- Consequently the word of God went on growing, and the number of the disciples kept multiplying in Jerusalem very much, and a great crowd of priests began to be obedient to the **faith**. (**Acts of Apostles 6:7**)

- Certainly if anyone does not provide for those who are his own, and especially for those who are members of his household, he has disowned the **faith** and is worse than a person without faith. (**1 Timothy 5:8**)

- Christian **faith** is based on the complete Word of God, including the Hebrew Scriptures, to which Jesus and the writers of the **Christian Greek Scriptures** frequently referred in support of their statements.

•• **Faith Is Based On Concrete Evidence**

- The visible creative works testify to the existence of an invisible Creator.

- For his invisible qualities are clearly seen from the world's creation onward, because they are perceived by the things made, even his eternal power and godship, so that they are inexcusable. **(Romans 1:20)**
- The actual occurrences taking place during the ministry and earthly life of Jesus Christ identify him as the Son of God.
- But the army officer and those with him watching over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things happening, grew very much afraid, saying; Certainly this was God's Son. **(Matthew 27:54)**
- God's record of providing for his earthly creatures serves as a valid basis for believing that he will surely provide for his servants, and his record as a Giver and Restorer of life lends ample evidence to the credibility of the resurrection hope.
- Observe intently the birds of heaven, because they do not sow seed or reap or gather into storehouses, still your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth more than they are? **(Matthew 6:26)**
- If, now, God thus clothes the vegetation of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much rather clothe you, you with little **faith?** **(Matthew 6:30)**
- Keep on, then, seeking first the kingdom and his righteousness, and all these other things will be added to you. **(Matthew 6:33)**
- Because he has set a day in which he purposes to judge the inhabited earth in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and he has furnished a guarantee to all men in that he has resurrected him from the dead. **(Acts of Apostles 17:31)**
- For I handed on to you, among the first things, that which I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. **(1 Corinthians 15:3)**
- And that he was buried, yes, that he has been raised up the third day according to the Scriptures. **(1 Corinthians 15:4)**
- And that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. **(1**

Corinthians 15:5)

- **After that he appeared to upward of five hundred brothers at one time, the most of whom remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep in death. (1 Corinthians 15:6)**
- **After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. (1 Corinthians 15:7)**
- **But last of all he appeared also to me as if to one born prematurely. (1 Corinthians 15:8)**
- **However, now Christ has been raised up from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep in death. (1 Corinthians 15:20)**
- **For since death is through a man, resurrection of the dead is also through a man. (1 Corinthians 15:21)**
- **Furthermore, the reliability of God's Word and the accurate fulfillment of its prophecies instill confidence in the realization of **all** of His promises.**
- **Now, look! I am going today in the way of all the earth, and you well know with all your hearts and with all your souls that not one word out of all the good words that Yehowah your God has spoken to you has failed. They have all come true for you. Not one word of them has failed. (Joshua 23:14)**
- **Thus, in these many ways, **faith** follows the thing heard.**
- **So **faith** follows the thing heard. In turn the thing heard is through the word about Christ. (Romans 10:17)**
- **A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her: Give me a drink. (John 4:7)**
- **For his disciples had gone off into the city to buy foodstuffs. (John 4:8)**
- **Therefore the Samaritan woman said to him; How is it that you, despite being a Jew, ask me for a drink, when I am a Samaritan woman? For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. (John 4:9)**

- **In answer Jesus said to her; If you had known the free gift of God and who it is that says to you; Give me a drink. You would have asked him, and he would have given you living water. (John 4:10)**
- **She said to him; Sir, you have not even a bucket for drawing water, and the well is deep. From what source, therefore, do you have this living water? (John 4:11)**
- **You are not greater than our forefather Jacob, who gave us the well and who himself together with his sons and his cattle drank out of it, are you? (John 4:12)**
- **In answer Jesus said to her; Everyone drinking from this water will get thirsty again. (John 4:13)**
- **Whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty at all, but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water bubbling up to impart everlasting life. (John 4:14)**
- **The woman said to him; Sir, give me this water, so that I may neither thirst nor keep coming over to this place to draw water. (John 4:15)**
- **He said to her; Go, call your husband and come to this place. (John 4:16)**
- **In answer the woman said; I do not have a husband. Jesus said to her; You said well, a husband I do not have. (John 4:17)**
- **For you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. This you have said truthfully. (John 4:18)**
- **The woman said to him; Sir, I perceive you are a prophet. (John 4:19)**
- **Our forefathers worshiped in this mountain, but you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where persons ought to worship. (John 4:20)**
- **Jesus said to her; Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you people worship the Father. (John 4:21)**

- **You worship what you do not know. We worship what we know, because salvation originates with the Jews. (John 4:22)**
- **Nevertheless, the hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshipers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for, indeed, the Father is looking for suchlike ones to worship him. (John 4:23)**
- **God is a Spirit, and those worshiping him must worship with spirit and truth. (John 4:24)**
- **The woman said to him; I know that Messiah is coming, who is called Christ. Whenever that one arrives, he will declare all things to us openly. (John 4:25)**
- **Jesus said to her; I who am speaking to you am he. (John 4:26)**
- **Now at this point his disciples arrived, and they began to wonder because he was speaking with a woman. Of course, no one said, What are you looking for? Or; Why do you talk with her? (John 4:27)**
- **The woman, therefore, left her water jar and went off into the city and told the men: (John 4:28)**
- **Come here, see a man that told me all the things I did. This is not perhaps the Christ, is it? (John 4:29)**
- **They went out of the city and began coming to him. (John 4:30)**
- **Now many of the Samaritans out of that city put **faith** in him on account of the word of the woman who said in witness; He told me all the things I did. (John 4:39)**
- **Therefore when the Samaritans came to him, they began asking him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. (John 4:40)**
- **Consequently many more believed on account of what he said; (John 4:41)**
- **And they began to say to the woman; We do not believe any longer on account of your talk, for we have heard for ourselves and we know that this man is for a certainty the savior of the**

world. (John 4:42)

- Now in Lystra there was sitting a certain man disabled in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, and he had never walked at all. (Acts of Apostles 14:8)
- This man was listening to Paul speak, who, on looking at him intently and seeing he had **faith** to be made well. (Acts of Apostles 14:9)
- Said with a loud voice: Stand up erect on your feet. And he leaped up and began walking. (Acts of Apostles 14:10)

See Also JESUS CHRIST

· So Faith Is Not Credulity

- The person who may ridicule **faith** usually has **faith** himself in tried and trusted friends. The scientist has **faith** in the principles of his branch of science. He bases new experiments on past discoveries and looks for new discoveries on the basis of those things already established as true.
- Likewise, the farmer prepares his soil and sows the seed, expecting, as in previous years, that the seed will sprout and that the plants will grow as they receive the needed moisture and sunshine. Therefore **faith** in the stability of the natural laws governing the universe actually constitutes a foundation for man's plans and activities.
- Such stability is alluded to by the wise writer of Ecclesiastes. The sun also has flashed forth, and the sun has set, and it is coming panting to its place where it is going to flash forth. The wind is going to the south, and it is circling around to the north.
- Round and round it is continually circling, and right back to its circlings the wind is returning. All the winter torrents are going forth to the sea, yet the sea itself is not full. To the place where the winter torrents are going forth, there they are returning so as to go forth.
- And the sun also has flashed forth, and the sun has set, and it is coming panting to its place where it is going to flash forth. (Ecclesiastes 1:5)

- The wind is going to the south, and it is circling around to the north. Round and round it is continually circling, and right back to its circlings the wind is returning. (**Ecclesiastes 1:6**)
- All the winter torrents are going forth to the sea, yet the sea itself is not full. To the place where the winter torrents are going forth, there they are returning so as to go forth. (**Ecclesiastes 1:7**)
- In the Scriptures, the **Hebrew** word *'a-man'* and other words closely related convey the sense of trustworthiness, **faithfulness**, steadiness, steadfastness, being firmly established, long-lasting.
- When the hands of Moses were heavy, then they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat upon it, and Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on this side and the other on that side, so that his hands held steady until the sun set. (**Exodus 17:12**)
- Yehowah also will certainly make your plagues and the plagues of your offspring especially severe, great and long-lasting plagues, and malignant and long-lasting sicknesses. (**Deuteronomy 28:59**)
- And I shall certainly raise up for myself a **faithful** priest. In harmony with what is in my heart and in my soul he will do, and I shall certainly build for him a lasting house, and he will certainly walk before my anointed one always. (**1 Samuel 2:35**)
- And your house and your kingdom will certainly be steadfast to time indefinite before you, your very throne will become one firmly established to time indefinite. (**2 Samuel 7:16**)
- Trust in Yehowah and do good. Reside in the earth, and deal with **faithfulness**. (**Psalms 37:3**)
- One related **Hebrew** noun, *'emeth'*, usually denotes **truth**, but also **faithfulness** or **trustworthiness**.
- And many were the days that Israel had been without a true God and without a priest teaching and without Law. (**2 Chronicles 15:3**) Footnote
- Yesterday was when you came and today shall I make you wander with us, to go when I am going wherever I am going?

Go back and take your brothers back with you, and may Yehowah exercise toward you loving-kindness and **trustworthiness!** (2 Samuel 15:20)

- And I went on to put in command of Jerusalem Hanani my brother and Hananiah the prince of the Castle, for he was such a trustworthy man and feared the true God more than many others. (Nehemiah 7:2) Footnote

- The familiar term, Amen, Hebrew, *'a-men'*, also comes from *'a-man'*

See Also AMEN

•• Ancient Examples Of Faith

- Each one of the so great a cloud of witnesses mentioned by Paul;
- So, then, because we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also put off every weight and the sin that easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. (Hebrews 12:1)
- Had a valid basis for **faith**. For example, Abel certainly knew about God's promise concerning a seed that would bruise the serpent in the head. And he saw tangible evidences of the fulfillment of the sentence Yehowah pronounced upon his parents in Eden.
- Outside Eden, Adam and his family ate bread in the sweat of their face because the ground was cursed and, therefore, produced thorns and thistles. Likely Abel observed that Eves craving was for her husband and that Adam dominated his wife.
- Undoubtedly his mother commented about the pain attending her pregnancy. Then, too, the entrance to the garden of Eden was being guarded by cherubs and the flaming blade of a sword.
- And Yehowah God proceeded to say to the serpent; Because you have done this thing, you are the cursed one out of all the domestic animals and out of all the wild beasts of the field. Upon your belly you will go and dust is what you will eat all the days of your life. (Genesis 3:14)
- And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between

- your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. (**Genesis 3:15**)
- To the woman he said; I shall greatly increase the pain of your pregnancy, in birth pangs you will bring forth children, and your craving will be for your husband, and he will dominate you. (**Genesis 3:16**)
 - And to Adam he said; Because you listened to your wife's voice and took to eating from the tree concerning which I gave you this command; You must not eat from it. Cursed is the ground on your account. In pain you will eat its produce all the days of your life. (**Genesis 3:17**)
 - And thorns and thistles it will grow for you, and you must eat the vegetation of the field. (**Genesis 3:18**)
 - In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return. (**Genesis 3:19**)
 - And so he drove the man out and posted at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubs and the flaming blade of a sword that was turning itself continually to guard the way to the tree of life. (**Genesis 3:24**)
 - All of this constituted an **evident demonstration**, giving Abel the assurance that deliverance would come through the seed of promise. Therefore, prompted by **faith**, he offered God a sacrifice, one that proved to be of greater worth than that of Cain.
 - **Faith** is the assured expectation of things hoped for, the evident demonstration of realities though not beheld. (**Hebrews 11:1**)
 - By **faith** Abel offered God a sacrifice of greater worth than Cain, through which faith he had witness borne to him that he was righteous, God bearing witness respecting his gifts, and through it he, although he died, yet speaks. (**Hebrews 11:4**)
 - Abraham had a firm basis for **faith** in a resurrection, for he and Sarah had experienced the miraculous restoration of their reproductive powers, which was, in a sense, comparable to a resurrection, allowing Abraham's family line to continue through Sarah.

- Isaac was born as the result of this miracle. When told to offer up Isaac, Abraham had faith that God would resurrect his son. He based such faith on God's promise; It is by means of Isaac that what will be called your seed will be.
- Then God said to Abraham; Do not let anything that Sarah keeps saying to you be displeasing to you about the boy and about your slave girl. Listen to her voice, because it is by means of Isaac that what will be called your seed will be. ([Genesis 21:12](#))
- By **faith** also Sarah herself received power to conceive seed, even when she was past the age limit, since she esteemed him faithful who had promised. ([Hebrews 11:11](#))
- Hence also from one man, and him as good as dead, there were born children just as the stars of heaven for multitude and as the sands that are by the seaside, innumerable. ([Hebrews 11:12](#))
- By **faith** Abraham, when he was tested, as good as offered up Isaac, and the man that had gladly received the promises attempted to offer up his only-begotten son. ([Hebrews 11:17](#))
- Although it had been said to him; What will be called your seed will be through Isaac. ([Hebrews 11:18](#))
- But he reckoned that God was able to raise him up even from the dead, and from there he did receive him also in an illustrative way. ([Hebrews 11:19](#))
- Evidence for genuine conviction was also involved in the case of those who came to or who were brought to Jesus to be healed. Even if not eyewitnesses personally, they at least had heard about Jesus powerful works. Then, on the basis of what they saw or heard, they concluded that Jesus could heal them also.
- Moreover, they were acquainted with God's Word and thus were familiar with the miracles performed by the prophets in times past. Upon hearing Jesus, some concluded that he was The Prophet, and others that he was the Christ.
- In view of this, it was most fitting for Jesus on occasion to say to those who were healed, Your **faith** has made you well. Had those persons not exercised **faith** in Jesus, they would not have approached

him in the first place and, therefore, would not have received healing for themselves.

- Therefore some of the crowd that heard these words began saying; This is for a certainty The Prophet. ([John 7:40](#))
- Others were saying; This is the Christ. But some were saying, The Christ is not actually coming out of Galilee, is he? ([John 7:41](#))
- Jesus turned around and, noticing her, said; Take courage, daughter, your **faith** has made you well. And from that hour the woman became well. ([Matthew 9:22](#))
- And he said to him; Rise and be on your way. Your **faith** has made you well. ([Luke 17:19](#))
- Likewise, the great **faith** of the army officer who entreated Jesus in behalf of his manservant rested on evidence, on the basis of which he concluded that Jesus merely saying the word would result in the healing of his manservant.
- When he entered into Capernaum, an army officer came to him, entreating him ([Matthew 8:5](#))
- And saying; Sir, my manservant is laid up in the house with paralysis, being terribly tormented. ([Matthew 8:6](#))
- He said to him; When I get there I will cure him. ([Matthew 8:7](#))
- In reply the army officer said; Sir, I am not a fit man for you to enter under my roof, but just say the word and my manservant will be healed. ([Matthew 8:8](#))
- For I too am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me, and I say to this one; Be on your way! And he is on his way. And to another; Come! And he comes, and to my slave; Do this! And he does it. ([Matthew 8:9](#))
- Hearing that, Jesus became amazed and said to those following him, I tell you the truth, with no one in Israel have I found so great a **faith**. ([Matthew 8:10](#))
- Then Jesus said to the army officer; Go. Just as it has been your

faith, so let it come to pass for you. And the manservant was healed in that hour. ([Matthew 8:13](#))

- However, we note that Jesus healed **all** who came to him, not requiring **faith** greater or less according to their disease, nor failing to heal any of these with the excuse that he could not do it because their faith was not strong enough.
- Jesus performed these healings as a witness, to establish faith. In his home territory, where much **unfaithfulness** was expressed, he chose not to perform many powerful works, not because of inability, but because the people refused to listen and were unworthy.
- And he did not do many powerful works there on account of their lack of **faith**. ([Matthew 13:58](#))

·· Christian Faith

- To be acceptable to God, it is now necessary for one to exercise **faith** in Jesus Christ, and this makes possible a righteous standing with God.
- Knowing as we do that a man is declared righteous, not due to works of law, but only through **faith** toward Christ Jesus, even we have put our **faith** in Christ Jesus, that we may be declared righteous due to **faith** toward Christ, and not due to works of law, because due to works of Law no flesh will be declared righteous. ([Galatians 2:16](#))
- Those lacking such **faith** are rejected by Yehowah.
- He that exercises **faith** in the Son has everlasting life, he that disobeys the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains upon him. ([John 3:36](#))
- Moreover, without **faith** it is impossible to please him well, for he that approaches God must believe that he is and that he becomes the rewarder of those earnestly seeking him. ([Hebrews 11:6](#))
- **Faith** is not the possession of all persons, as it is a fruit of God's spirit.
- And that we may be delivered from harmful and wicked men, for **faith** is not a possession of all people. ([2 Thessalonians 3:2](#))

- On the other hand, the fruitage of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, **faith**. ([Galatians 5:22](#))
- And a Christians **faith** is not static, but it grows.
- We are obligated to give God thanks always for you, brothers, as it is fitting, because your **faith** is growing exceedingly and the love of each and all of you is increasing one toward the other. ([2 Thessalonians 1:3](#))
- Hence, the request of Jesus disciples, Give us more **faith**, was very appropriate, and he did provide them the foundation for increased **faith**. He supplied them with greater evidence and understanding on which to base their **faith**.
- Now the apostles said to the Lord; Give us more **faith**. ([Luke 17:5](#))
- The entire life course of a Christian is actually governed by **faith**, enabling him to overcome mountain-like obstacles that would hinder his service to God.
- For we are walking by **faith**, not by sight. ([2 Corinthians 5:7](#))
- In answer Jesus said to them; Truly I say to you, if only you have **faith** and do not doubt, not only will you do what I did to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain; Be lifted up and cast into the sea. It will happen. ([Matthew 21:21](#))
- And all the things you ask in prayer, having **faith**, you will receive. ([Matthew 21:22](#))
- Additionally, there must be works consistent with and in display of **faith**, but works of the Mosaic Law are not required.
- Was not Abraham our father declared righteous by works after he had offered up Isaac his son upon the altar? ([James 2:21](#))
- You behold that his **faith** worked along with his works and by his works his faith was perfected. ([James 2:22](#))
- And the scripture was fulfilled which says; Abraham put **faith** in Yehowah, and it was counted to him as righteousness, and he

came to be called Yehowah's friend. (James 2:23)

- You see that a man is to be declared righteous by works, and not by **faith** alone. (James 2:24)
- In the same manner was not also Rahab the harlot declared righteous by works, after she had received the messengers hospitably and sent them out by another way? (James 2:25)
- Indeed, as the body without spirit is dead, so also **faith** without works is dead. (James 2:26)
- Therefore by works of Law no flesh will be declared righteous before him, for by Law is the accurate knowledge of sin. (Romans 3:20)
- Trials can strengthen **faith**. **Faith** serves as a protective shield in the Christians spiritual warfare, helping him to overcome the Devil and be a conqueror of the world.
- In this fact you are greatly rejoicing, though for a little while at present, if it must be, you have been grieved by various trials. (1 Peter 1:6)
- In order, that the tested quality of your **faith**, of much greater value than gold that perishes despite its being proved by fire, may be found a cause for praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:7)
- Above all things, take up the large shield of **faith**, with which you will be able to quench all the wicked ones burning missiles. (Ephesians 6:16)
- But take your stand against him, solid in the **faith**, knowing that the same things in the way of sufferings are being accomplished in the entire association of your brothers in the world. (1 Peter 5:9)
- Because everything that has been born from God conquers the world. And this is the conquest that has conquered the world, our **faith**. (1 John 5:4)
- But **faith** cannot be taken for granted, because lack of **faith** is the sin that so easily entangles one. To maintain a firm **faith** requires

putting up a hard fight for it, resisting men who could plunge one into immorality, combating the works of the flesh, avoiding the snare of materialism, shunning **faith**-destroying philosophies and traditions of men, and, above all, looking intently at the Chief Agent and Perfecter of our **faith**, Jesus.

- So, then, because we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also put off every weight and the sin that easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. (**Hebrews 12:1**)
- As we look intently at the Chief Agent and Perfecter of our **faith**, Jesus. For the joy that was set before him he endured a torture stake, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (**Hebrews 12:2**)
- Beloved ones, though I was making every effort to write you about the salvation we hold in common, I found it necessary to write you to exhort you to put up a hard fight for the **faith** that was once for all time delivered to the holy ones. (**Jude 1:3**)
- My reason is that certain men have slipped in who have long ago been appointed by the Scriptures to this judgment, ungodly men, turning the undeserved kindness of our God into an excuse for loose conduct and proving false to our only Owner and Lord, Jesus Christ. (**Jude 1:4**)
- Now the works of the flesh are manifest, and they are fornication, uncleanness, loose conduct. (**Galatians 5:19**)
- Idolatry, practice of spiritism, enmities, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, contentions, divisions, sects. (**Galatians 5:20**)
- Envy, drunken bouts, revelries, and things like these. As to these things I am forewarning you, the same way as I did forewarn you, that those who practice such things will not inherit God's kingdom. (**Galatians 5:21**)
- However, those who are determined to be rich fall into temptation and a snare and many senseless and hurtful desires, which plunge men into destruction and ruin. (**1 Timothy 6:9**)
- For the love of money is a root of all sorts of injurious things, and by reaching out for this love some have been led astray from the

faith and have stabbed themselves all over with many pains. (**1 Timothy 6:10**)

- **Look out: perhaps there may be someone who will carry you off as his prey through the philosophy and empty deception according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary things of the world and not according to Christ. (Colossians 2:8)**