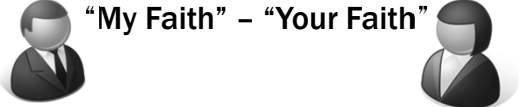



## Topics

- ✓ **Tuesday:** *Things that Encourage*
- ✓ **Wednesday:** *The Peace of God*
- ✓ **Thursday:** *Settled in Complacency*
- ✓ **Friday:** *The Earnest Cry of Bartimaeus*

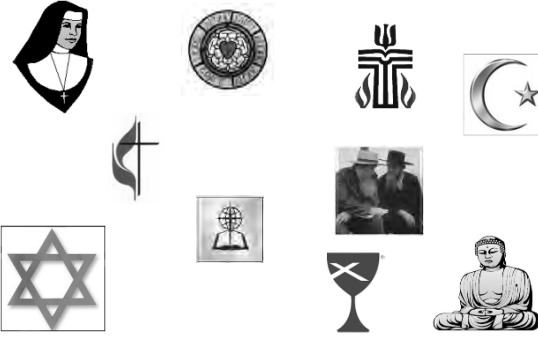
## “My Faith” – “Your Faith”




### “People of Different Faiths”



## “Different Faiths”





## “Different Faiths”






# Is One Faith As Good As Another?

## Very Common Concept

- One faith is as good as another
- Doesn't make any difference what one believes
- Sincerity is all that matters
- Attend / Join the church of your choice



## Implies

- Contradictory beliefs
- Contradictory doctrines
- Contradictory practices
- Contradictory churches

# Is One Faith As Good As Another?

## Is One Faith As Good As Another?

**I. There Is One Faith**

**I. There Is One Faith**

A. Bible speaks of "one faith" – not "faiths"

**Eph 4:4-6**

4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

**I. There Is One Faith**

A. Bible speaks of "one faith" – not "faiths"

B. "One faith" means "only one faith"

**Eph 4:4-6**

4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

"One Spirit" - Many spirits?  
- Only one Spirit?

"One Lord" - Many Lords?  
- Only one Lord?

"One God" - Many gods?  
- Only one God?

"One Faith" - Many faiths?  
- Only one faith?

**I. There Is One Faith**

A. Bible speaks of "one faith" – not "faiths"

B. "One faith" means "only one faith"

C. Context of unity

**Eph. 4:1-6**

1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,  
 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,  
 3 endeavoring to **keep the unity** of the Spirit in the bond of peace.  
 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;  
 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;  
 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

- “One faith” is essential to unity!
- “Many faiths” – creates division

## Is One Faith As Good As Another?

**I. There Is One Faith**

**II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong**

**II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong**



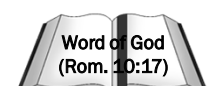
A. Cain's offering was not accepted

**Gen 4:3-5**

3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.

4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  <p><b><u>Cain</u></b><br/>Offering:<br/>“Fruit of ground”</p>              |  <p><b><u>Abel</u></b><br/>Offering:<br/>“firstborn of his flock”</p>            |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%;"> <p><b>Lord<br/>Did Not Respect</b></p> </div> <p><b>Not: “By Faith”</b></p> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%;"> <p><b>Lord<br/>Respected</b></p> </div> <p><b>“By Faith”</b><br/>(Heb. 11:4)</p> |
|  <p><b>Word of God<br/>(Rom. 10:17)</b></p>                                 |   |

**II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong**

A. Cain's offering was not accepted  
 B. Nadab & Abihu's sacrifice did not please God



**Lev 10:1-2**

1 Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them.

2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

“...offered unauthorized fire...” (NIV)

**II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong**

- A. Cain's offering was not accepted
- B. Nadab & Abihu's sacrifice did not please God
- C. Uzzah's attempt to "help" the ark angered the Lord



**2 Samuel 6:1-11**

2 And David arose and went with all the people who were with him from Baale Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, whose name is called by the Name, the LORD of Hosts, who dwells between the cherubim.

3 So they set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart.

6 And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled.

7 Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God.

**II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong**

- A. Cain's offering was not accepted
- B. Nadab & Abihu's sacrifice did not please God
- C. Uzzah's attempt to "help" the ark angered the Lord
- D. Believers in Christ can be wrong

**Matt. 7:21-23**

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

**Is One Faith  
As Good As Another?**

**I. There Is One Faith**

**II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong**

**III. Warning About False Teachers**

**III. Warning About False Teachers**

- A. False prophets come in sheep's clothing (Matt. 7:15-20)
- B. Blind lead the blind & both fall (Matt. 15:14)
- C. Many deceived by false prophets (Matt. 24:11)
- D. False teachers today - as were false prophets of old (2 Pet. 2:1-3)
- E. Many false prophets in world (1 John 4:1)

*If there is such a thing as false prophets  
Then, one faith is not as good as another!*

**Is One Faith  
As Good As Another?**

- I. There Is One Faith
- II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong
- III. Warning About False Teachers
- IV. Truth Is Contrasted To Error

**IV. Truth Is Contrasted To Error**

- A. Truth is essential:
  1. To be free (John 8:32)
  2. To be saved (2 Thess. 2:10-12)
  3. To be purified (1 Pet. 1:22)
- B. Error is not of God - destroys
  1. Contrasted to truth (1 John 4:1, 6)
  2. Leads astray (2 Pet. 3:17)

**Is One Faith  
As Good As Another?**

- I. There Is One Faith
- II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong
- III. Warning About False Teachers
- IV. Truth Is Contrasted To Error
- V. Sincerity Is Not Enough

**V. Sincerity Is Not Enough**

- A. Possible to believe a lie
  1. Young prophet believe lie - punished (1 Kings 13)

**Believing A Lie**


**1 Kings 13**

Truth:

Do not eat bread  
Do not drink water  
Do not return  
by the same way

Lie:

"Bring him back to your house, that he may eat bread and drink water."



**V. Sincerity Is Not Enough**

A. Possible to believe a lie

1. Young prophet believe lie – punished (1 Kings 13)
2. Those who believe a lie – perish (2 Thess. 2:10-12)

**2 THESS. 2:10-12**

| Lie   | Truth  |
|---|--|
| <p>Deceived (v.10) ✓<br/>                     Not love truth (v. 10) ✓<br/>                     Deluded (v. 11) ✓<br/>                     Believe lie (v. 11) ✓<br/>                     Not believe truth (v. 12) ✓<br/>                     Pleasure in unright. (v. 12) ✓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Perish (v. 10) ✓<br/>                     Condemned (v. 12) ✓</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Love truth (v. 10) ✓<br/>                     Believe truth (v. 12) ✓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saved (v. 10) ✓</p> |

**V. Sincerity Is Not Enough**

A. Possible to believe a lie

1. Young prophet believe lie – punished (1 Kings 13)
2. Those who believe a lie – perish (2 Thess. 2:10-12)

B. Paul was sincere – but wrong (Acts 23:1)

C. Way seems right – but is wrong (Prov. 14:12)

**Is One Faith As Good As Another?**

- I. There Is One Faith
- II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong
- III. Warning About False Teachers
- IV. Truth Is Contrasted To Error
- V. Sincerity Is Not Enough
- VI. Absurdity Of One Being As Good As Another

**VI. Absurdity Of One Being As Good As Another**

A. God is divided (cf. 1 Cor. 1:12-13)

B. If 50 people can have different faiths, then 1 person can have different faiths

C. Direct opposite doctrines / practices are equal

D. We can do anything we want in religion

**Is One Faith As Good As Another?**

- I. There Is One Faith
- II. One Can Be Religious & Be Wrong
- III. Warning About False Teachers
- IV. Truth Is Contrasted To Error
- V. Sincerity Is Not Enough
- VI. Absurdity Of One Being As Good As Another