

LESSON 8

CHAPTER 14. “Of Saving Faith”

Faith has two aspects: 1) Belief in the Gospel, 2) Resting in Christ

Like belief, faith must have an object.

Faith is not assurance, but the substance of it.

I. Paragraph 1: Faith is a gift of God

- A. Faith is a Grace conferred at conversion by the Holy Spirit.
- B. Except in special cases, faith comes by hearing the Word.
- C. Saving faith grows by use of the means of Grace.

II. Paragraph 2: Faith believes in and submits to the Word

- A. Saving faith rests in the Word, believing that it is God speaking.
- B. Saving faith cleaves to Scripture for all guidance.
- C. The principle demonstration of saving faith is complete trust in Christ.

III. Paragraph 3: Faith grows into assurance

- A. Even the weakest saving faith is different from the greatest zeal of “temporary believers.”
 - 1. Temporary believers being self-deceived.
- B. Saving faith, although assailed at times, CANNOT FAIL.
- C. Saving faith grows to full assurance.

Discussion Questions:

1. How much must a person’s faith understand (comprehend) for it to be saving faith?
2. Does God test a person’s faith to find out if it is real?
3. Why would God account faith for righteousness?

Suggested Reading:

Thomas Manton, *By Faith* (his commentary on Hebrews 11)