

Biblical Faith # 7

Biblical Vs Non-Biblical

Given July 22, 2001

by **Hal Molloy** at

Holly Hills Bible Church

2400 South Holly Street
Denver, Colorado 80222

Edition: November 30, 2017

Content was transcribed from edited recorded delivery,
and includes Bible texts and overheads used by the teacher.

© 2001, 2006, 2017 Holly Hills Bible Church, Inc.

May be copied as long as no charges are made for the copies

Published on the web, along with many other studies, at
<http://www.HollyHillsBibleChurch.org/messages>

For the **web menu** of all the recordings, handouts, movies, & overheads
that the teacher used in this series, plus info about Hal Molloy, etc, use;

<http://HollyHillsBibleChurch.org>

and select > Messages & Audio > Archived Series > [Biblical Faith](#)

Faith - Biblical Vs Non-Biblical - Biblical Faith # 7 - July 22, 2001

Last week we looked at the *principle* of faith, and we defined it as *the way something functions or operates*. And God has set up a system as to how we function with Him. As to how we operate with Him, by the principle of faith.

Personal faith = resting in the facts presented by the Holy Spirit, it's believing in the Person and Work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The principle of faith includes that we walk by personal faith, personal trust, rest in what is revealed to us in terms of the essence of faith, the reality which God reveals to us. And that reality is in the Person of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And we also saw that the things of God are the things of the Lord Jesus Christ. We walk by faith in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ, and Who He is. He is the object of our personal faith.

And so the principle of Faith is walking that way; personally by faith in the essence of faith which God reveals to us.

We looked at an example of walking by the principle of faith, in Colossians chapter two where it says, as ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord so walk the same way.

Colossians 2:6

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him.

OUR WALK BY FAITH (PRINCIPLE) COL 2:6

I. WE RECEIVED CHRIST BY FAITH -- IN HIS PERSON -- IN HIS WORK ACTIVE VOICE – YOU PARTICIPATED (BELIEVED VIA THE HOLY SPIRIT) AORIST TENSE – JUSTIFICATION - FACT

Here **personal faith** is “ye received”, you believed -- indicative, aorist, active – fact
We receive His life by resting in what God reveals about Himself and His Work on the Cross.

We received Christ Jesus the Lord by faith, the principle of faith. It involved personal faith, it involved the essence of faith, and we received Christ that way. The key thing we tried to point out last week is that; this is in the active voice, you participated in that.

II. SO WALK IN CHRIST BY FAITH -- IN WHO CHRIST IS -- IN WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST ACTIVE VOICE – YOU KEEP ON RESTING IN CHRIST (WHO IS YOUR LIFE) PRESENT TENSE – SANCTIFICATION – PROCESS

In the same way, “walk ye”, you be walking -- imperative, present, active – process
We walk in His life by resting in Who Christ is and who we are in Christ.

And then it goes on to say, as you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him. You walk the same way. The same way you received Him, you walk by faith. Again this is the active voice. You participate in this walk, and you do it. You do it by faith.

Colossians 2:7

Rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

We looked then at verse seven of Colossians chapter two, where it makes these four statements, and it talks about these four aspects.

4 participles tell what you were “taught” -- aorist, passive -- fact

1. “rooted” in Him = planted, have been identified in Him -- perfect, passive -- position
2. “built up” in Him = are being edified spiritually in Him -- present, passive -- purpose
3. “established” in the faith = are being fixed, stabilized -- present, passive -- result
4. “abounding” therein with thanksgiving = overflowing -- present, active -- response

And the first one says that, by having been rooted or firmly planted in Him. It's talking about our position and our walk. We looked at how we got firmly planted or rooted in the Lord Jesus Christ by our identification with Christ.

And as you look at Romans chapter six, it says that we're rooted, that we have been firmly planted in the death of our Lord Jesus Christ. And there is a purpose to that, so that we can grow in His resurrection. That gets to the purpose of our walk in terms of being edified and being built up in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:3

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection:

How do we do that? By beholding Him. Beholding the Lord Jesus Christ through the Word of God is the only way that we can behold the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. As we behold Him through the word, we are built up, we are edified, and in that whole process, God is then forming Christ in us, Conforming us to the very image of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Cor 3:18
But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord.

The walk is a process, and there is a result of this walk. And we saw last week that we're firmly established. We're fixed in the faith. We get fixed in the essence of faith, the total revelation from the Word of God. And so when some false doctrine comes along, we're not tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine that comes at us. That we know what the Word of God says. So that's the process.

We walk by the principle of faith, God does the rest

What God desires of us is simply to walk by faith. That's His desire of us. And then He does all of the rest. In terms of rooting us, firmly planting us, so that we grow together with the Lord Jesus Christ, being built up and edified in Him, being established, fixed in the faith. It's all passive voice, we are acted upon. As we walk by the principle of faith, God does the rest. So He desires that we just do that, walk by faith, He does the rest.

And then there's only one thing that we can possibly do as we see what God is doing in our lives through the Lord Jesus Christ. Our only response can be that we abound with thanksgiving, that we are just joyful in terms of what He's doing in our lives. And there is nothing in the world so precious to our Father as a heart that appreciates His Son. And that's where this thanksgiving comes in from a heart that is filled with gratitude toward the Lord Jesus Christ.

Can we walk by a principle of faith, which is non-Biblical?

Ok, I've got a question for you today. Do we, can we walk by a principle of faith, which is non-Biblical?

The interesting thing is this. We live our entire life on a principle of faith. You went to bed last night, and by faith you knew you would get up this morning. And by faith you knew that your heart would keep on beating and your lungs functioning. That was a principle of faith that you operate on. You operate on the principle of faith in that the food you eat is not poisoned, and the water that you drink, you drink it by faith. But you do that all by faith.

Personal Biblical faith versus personal non-Biblical faith

What I'd like to do is just make the contrast: Personal Biblical faith versus personal non-Biblical faith. Now I'm defining a term here, personal non-Biblical faith, Scripture calls it unbelief. It's unbelief in the essence of faith, which is revealed through the word. But never the less, you still believe something. You operate by faith.

QUESTION: WHAT IS PERSONAL BIBLICAL FAITH?

- **IT IS THE SUBJECTIVE TRUST & REST IN THE OBJECTIVE TRUTH FROM THE WORD OF GOD, WHICH IS REALITY.**
- **THE OBJECT OF THIS FAITH IS JESUS CHRIST.**

So personal Biblical faith: it is the subjective trust and rest in the objective truth from the Word of God. We saw that faith is the substance of things hoped for; faith is the reality of the things of God, the things of Christ, which are an absolute certainty, revealed from the Word of God. The object of this faith is the Lord Jesus Christ.



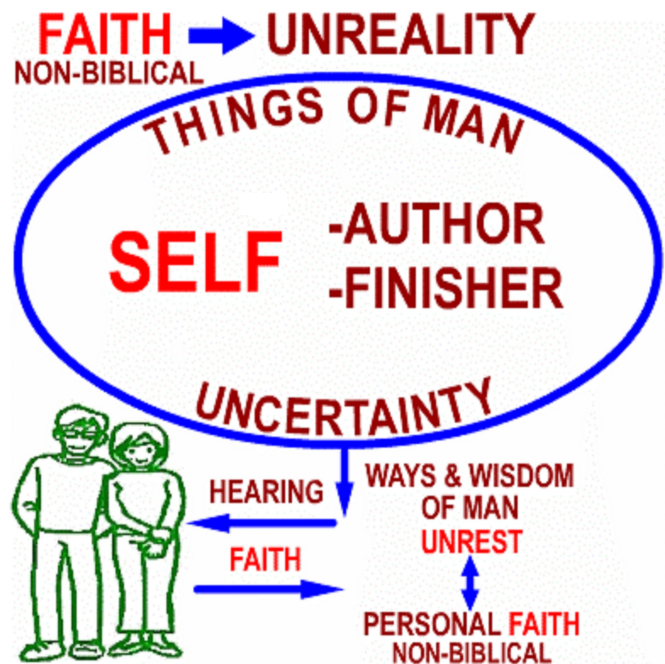
QUESTION: WHAT IS PERSONAL NON-BIBLICAL FAITH?

- IT IS THE SUBJECTIVE TRUST OR FAITH IN THE WAYS AND WISDOM OF MAN, WHICH IS ASSUMED REALITY AND IS UNCERTAINTY, RESULTING IN MAN'S UNREST.
- THE OBJECT OF THIS FAITH IS SELF.

Now as we look at non-Biblical faith: non-Biblical faith is the subjective trust or faith in the ways and wisdom of man, which is assumed reality. Man assumes that it's reality, but in truth it's uncertainty. It is uncertainty. It is not absolute certainty like Biblical faith. And it results in one thing, man's unrest. Man never rests. If we walk in non-Biblical faith, we are not at rest. We haven't entered into His rest. And the object of this faith is self.

THINGS OF MAN	
THINGS OF THE EARTH	SELF ASSURENCE
EXPECTATIONS	SELF WORTH
PERFORMANCE	SELF AWARENESS
HOPE	SELF CONFIDENCE
WISDOM	SELF CONTROL
SELF ESTEEM	SELF WORTH
SELF IMAGE	SELF RELIANCE

All right, what does it look like? Faith which is non-Biblical by definition is unreality. Faith, non-Biblical, is unreality. It defines the things of man, which are uncertainty, total uncertainty. And the source of this non-Biblical faith is self. Self is the author, it is the finisher. Self is the originator and completer of non-Biblical faith. So then coming at us, and coming at everyone are the ways and wisdom of man.



The ways and wisdom of man

We were at a party, and I spent about an hour talking to this psychologist. And I was asking him the kinds of problems that he runs into with people. And he started explaining to me what the problems were. And so I asked him what is your approach in solving peoples problems.

And he says, my approach for the last 32 years, has been to change their behavior. How do you do that? And he works primarily with kids. He said well I've got all these little formulas, all these little things, tricks that I use.

That's the ways and wisdom of man. And when man hears that he responds by personal faith. This psychologist believed what he was taught. He's got his bachelors degree, he's got his masters, he's got his PHD. And he was taught the ways and wisdom of man, and he has put his personal faith in that which is unbiblical, and for the last 32 years, he's been operating that way. But there is no rest in his life. The only response is unrest.

So, we're going to walk moment by moment either in faith which is unreality, non-Biblical, or else we're going to walk in faith which is Biblical which is a reality. And the object of that Biblical faith is the Person of Jesus Christ, the object of non-Biblical faith is self. But we're going to walk by faith in one of these two.

How do we transition, from walking by the principle of Biblical faith to walking by non-Biblical faith? And do we walk here in non-Biblical faith? Can I tell you, you walk here. You know how I know you walk there? It's not because I've been observing you. It's because I walk there.

And remember we read in first Corinthians chapter two, that the spirit of man knows the spirit of man. And I know the spirit of man because I have the same spirit that you do, and I know how you walk because I walk the same way.

1 Cor 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?

We do walk here in non-Biblical faith. How do we get there? What's that transition, and I thank the Lord for revealing to us what this is all about.

You know when you think of the Apostle Paul. You think here's a man who walked strictly by Biblical faith, the principle of Biblical faith. His entire life was characterized by that walk. Was it?

I just thank the Lord for revealing to us that Paul walked here in non-Biblical faith, and he revealed that to us to tell us what it's all about and where it leads.

Turn to Romans chapter seven. I'm going to start with verse seven. And Paul asks the question. What shall we say then, is the law sin? Answer, God forbid! May it never be so! It's impossible that the law is sin.

And then he goes on to say, ..no, I had not known sin.. and by the way, there's a definite article there. So, when there's a definite article I'm going to translate it "the" sin, "the" sin nature.

So, ..no, I had not known the sin nature but by the law. For I had not known coveting or desiring, except the law had said, thou shalt not covet or thou shalt not desire.

But, in verse eight, but the sin taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of coveting or desiring, for apart from the law sin is dead. For I was alive apart from the law once, but when the commandment came the sin nature revived and I died.

Romans 7

7 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law:

for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. 9 For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

The law is not sin, but by the law we know about the sin nature

Now, he's saying that the law is not sin, because Paul tells us that the law is holy, it's righteous, and it's just, and the commandments are the same way, holy and righteous and just. But he had not known about the sin nature, except that the commandment was given.

And then in verse eight he says, but the sin nature taking occasion by the commandment, or the sin nature using the commandment as a spring board, or as a starting point, wrought in me all manner of coveting.

So here comes the commandment. It says, thou shalt not covet. Well until the commandment came, the sin nature didn't react, but when the commandment came, and the commandment said thou shalt not covet, or thou shalt not desire, the sin nature says, what do you mean? I want to desire. I've got the right to desire. I want to desire. You have the right to desire. So it was the commandment that caused the sin nature to spring into action.

In verse nine, Paul says, for I was alive apart from the law once.

Paul was living, he was in fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ

Now, the word alive, is in the imperfect tense, and he says, I was alive.. imperfect tense, which says continuous action in the past. But then it terminated. So, I was alive.

Often times you'll read some bible expositor and they'll tell you that Romans chapter seven occurred when Paul was an unbeliever. That he wasn't a believer, that Romans chapter seven was when Paul didn't know Christ. Not so.

Paul says, I was alive. Imperfect tense, time, before the present time, continuous action, and then he says, he died.

Paul was alive but the sin nature used the law to kill Paul, he died

Back to verse nine, I was alive and was apart from the law once in the past, but when the commandment came, look what happened. The sin nature revived. It sprang back into activity, and Paul died.

So, the sin nature came to Paul and said, here's the law.. you can do it, you can fulfill the commandment. And so Paul took the bait and Paul died.

Death means separation, here it is loss of fellowship with God

Death means what? Separation. And so what is Paul separated from? Well, he was separated from the fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

So, Paul thought that he could live the Christian life in his own sufficiency by keeping the law. Result? Death. Separation, loss of fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, how do we fall into the same pit that Paul fell into? And we do. How do we do that? And how do we get seduced, like Paul got seduced?

If you would think about what you hear and about what you read in terms of how to live the Christian life. And here's the problem. Today, the totality of the essence of Biblical faith is often not taught, nor clearly presented. And how is that evident. It's evident by exhortations to Christian living.

And there's challenges that are given. To pray more, to study more, to give more, to witness more, to surrender more, to minister more, to consecrate more, to commit more, and to feel sorry about your sin. And you hear that over and over. In summary, these exhortations come at you, that you have to be more Christ like.

And how do you get more Christ like? You start thinking about the situation that you're in, and asking the question, what would Jesus do in this situation? And you should do the same thing.

Really? Is that what the Christian life is all about? Is it that we should be thinking what Jesus would do in the situation, and try to imitate Him?

Is the Christian life imitating Christ? NO! Because imitation turns our focus toward self

That's not the Christian life. Where should our focus be?

When you think of all these things, where is the focus? Isn't the focus here, on self? Versus the object of our faith being the Lord Jesus Christ. The focus is on self.

Now, there's nothing wrong with praying, there's nothing wrong with giving, there's nothing wrong with studying. There's nothing wrong with some of these things I've mentioned.

But they will be a fall out in our walking by faith, and the object of our faith is the Lord Jesus Christ. And they don't precede the walk, they are the result of the walk.

But we always put it backwards. We always interchange them. And that's our problem.

The sin nature is confident it can imitate Christ's life, and loves to be told what to do

So with these exhortations, the sin nature says, well I can do that, I can pray more, and give more, and minister more, and learn more, and commit more, and consecrate more.. and the sin nature loves that! Because the sin nature is always there saying, you just tell me what to do and I'll do it! The sin nature loves that! It says, yep, I can live the Christian life! Well, we take that bait.

We take the bait hook line and sinker, it's so subtle, that we take that bait, and we go from walking by the principle of faith, and the object of our Lord Jesus Christ, to walking with the object of self. That we can live the Christian life.

The Christian life is Christ

The Christian life is Christ! And He's the One that lives the life through us.

We come to that point, when we take that bait, that we think that we have sufficiency in and of ourselves to walk the walk. That somehow there's some sufficiency, something in us that we can walk the walk. And if we do that, boy, God is going to be pleased with me. I'm going to be more acceptable in His sight if I do these wonderful things.

And we never stop to think, what does the essence of faith tell us.

All the acceptance there is, we have, His acceptance

That God is pleased, how? With His Son! And if we're in His Son, identified with His Son, is He pleased with us? You bet He is! Can we be more acceptable to God than we already are? I mean, we're accepted in the Beloved One.

The scripture tells us that we're accepted in Him. And all the acceptance there is, we have, His acceptance. There's nothing more we can do to make ourselves more acceptable to Him.

Look at verse ten, Romans seven. And the commandment, or in our case, the exhortations that come at us, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death.

And in verse eleven. Because the sin nature taking occasion, using the exhortations that come at us as a spring board, deceives us and slays us.

We take that bait, we try to fulfill all these exhortations. And thinking that our Christian life is going to be enhanced, we're going to be more acceptable, more pleasing to God, but we find out that it becomes a struggle. And we start struggling. And what we thought would be enhancement to life in Christ, we find it to be death. Which is separation from the fellowship of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So these exhortations are used to deceive us and slay us. And we're living in a state of carnality. We are living here with self as our focus.

And Paul then in verse fourteen, look what he says, for we know that the law is spiritual but I am carnal, essence verb, the state in which he is existing after he took the bait. He's existing in the state of carnality.

Ephesians 1:6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Romans 7:10 And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death.
11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me

Romans 7:14

14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

We walk in the sin nature or in the Spirit

And either we're carnal or we're spiritual. We're in either one of the two states.

And he goes on to say that he's sold under the sin nature. We're sold out to our sin nature, and we become slaves. We become slaves to the very nature that the Lord freed us from.

The sin nature's control leads to constant unrest

As we attempt to live the Christian life, out from the flesh, we find it to be a constant struggle.

And Paul describes this struggle as we go on into Romans chapter 7.

To summarize it, he says this, the things that I know that I should be doing, those are the very things that I'm not doing. The things that I know that I shouldn't be doing, those are the very things that I'm doing.

And you've got this struggle going on, and it's a constant struggle, and you get worn down, and you get depressed, because you can't hack it, you can't live this life.

The sin nature's answer to failure is you can do it, try harder

We see failure in our lives, and the sin nature, when it sees failure, it says, here's the correction. The correction is, you've got to redouble your efforts. And we try harder.

We come to see that we do not have sufficiency

And guess what? The most wonderful thing happens. It's that we fail again, we come to the point, where we see that we don't have sufficiency in and of ourselves.

And that's the most wonderful thing that has ever happened in my life. To know that I don't have sufficiency! It can't get any better than that! That's the best. To know that we don't have sufficiency because then we have to look to the One Who does have sufficiency. And it's not us!

Look at Romans 7 verse 24. And here's the point we get to. And this is a wonderful place to be.

O wretched man that I am. Wonderful insight, wonderful place to be, wretched man that I am.

What other thing shall deliver me from the body of death? Oh I'm sorry, I misread that.. What does it say?

Romans 7:24
O wretched man that I am!
Who shall deliver me from the body
of this death?

Not what but Who shall deliver us!

Who shall deliver me from this body of death?

The answer? I thank God, **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

So then, with the mind, I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of the sin.

The answer is the **Who!** The Person of the **Lord Jesus Christ!**

Amen? Amen.

Romans 7:25
I thank God through Jesus Christ our
Lord.
So then with the mind I myself serve
the law of God; but with the flesh the
law of sin.

God's principle (law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus) is to focus our faith on Christ Jesus alone

**We walk in the Spirit by the principle of faith in Christ Jesus
Who has set us free from the sin nature, to live His life in us**