

WHY HAVE FAITH IN GOD?

By. Anthony Coleman

Why does God want you to have faith in Him? Because faith is a statement that you yearn for perfect peace for all people throughout all time. (*Perfect peace includes perfect love, goodness, righteousness, justice, fairness, and unity.*)

Perfect peace means you DO NOT tolerate any violation of what's right, honest and fair. The way we, as humanity, treat ourselves and each other should be with absolute respect and consideration with NO exceptions!

Now, you might say that's impossible, but that's the point! We have faith in God because we know ONLY God can give perfect peace.

That's why God is strongly against those who reject faith in Him. If we reject having faith in God while living in this unjust world, we are basically saying "**we reject perfect peace and we accept this unjust world!**"

Allow me to explain...

In our world, so many unjust acts were/are committed. Acts such as murder, lying, rape, theft, torture, violence, verbal abuse, etc. Now, let's say you stand against those acts. You might believe in peace, but if you don't have faith in God, then the peace you believe in is flawed. Why? Because regardless if you believe in peace, those unjust acts have already happened and will continue to happen. No amount of good that you do or experience will make up for all the injustice in this world. You have to come to terms with that fact if you want to enjoy your life without having faith in God.

So, do you enjoy your life while rejecting faith in God? If so, then you're someone who rejects perfect peace and you accept this unjust world. *Really think about that.*

But how does having faith in God make a difference?

1. When we have faith in God, we know that we don't belong to this world anymore, but belong to God. (*John 17:9*)
2. Because of our faith, we become foreigners and strangers of this world. (*1 Peter 2:11*)
3. We're to focus on God while living in this world. (*Colossians 3:2*)

When we have faith in God, we are basically saying "**we DO NOT accept this unjust world!**"

Why do you think there are many verses in the Bible about rejecting this world? Because this world is unjust and we're meant to embrace perfect peace!

"Don't love **the world** or anything that belongs to **the world**. If you love **the world**, you cannot love God. Our foolish pride comes from **this world**, and so do our selfish desires and our desire to have everything we see. None of this comes from God. **The world** and the desires it causes are disappearing. But if we obey God, we will live forever." - *1 John 2:15-17*

"You people aren't faithful to God! Don't you know that if you love **the world**, you are God's enemies? And if you decide to be a friend of **the world**, you make yourself an enemy of God." - *James 4:4*

"If you give your life to **this world**, you will lose it. If you give your life to God, you will be given eternal life." - *John 12:25*

"Jesus said, 'I am the light that has come into **the world**. No one who has faith in me will stay in **this world's** darkness.'" - *John 12:46*

"Don't be like the people of **this world**, but let God change the way you think." - *Romans 12:2*

As you can see, we are not meant to conform to this unjust world. We are to reject this world. To deny this world. To defeat this world!

"Every child of God can defeat **the world**, and our faith is what gives us this victory. No one can defeat **the world** without having faith in Jesus as the Son of God." - *1 John 5:4-5*

Am I saying it's wrong to enjoy life in this world? Of course not! There are obviously good qualities in life, but to have those qualities blind you to all the injustice in the world isn't right. Do not allow your enjoyment of life to distract you from what's most important. What's most important? To have perfect peace, which only God/Jesus can give!

"Jesus said, 'I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give. It isn't like the peace that **this world** can give. My peace is far beyond human understanding.'" - *John 14:27, Philippians 4:7*

Speaking of Jesus, why should we specifically have faith in Him? Because He gave us a chance to be forgiven of ALL our violations (*Sins*) of perfect peace! Right now, let's humble ourselves and acknowledge this simple truth: We have done wrong in our lives which has contributed to the injustice in this world, and if we yearn for perfect peace, we will feel convicted of that truth. But here's the good news! Read verse:

"Jesus said, 'I promise you that any of the sinful things you say or do can be forgiven, no matter how terrible those things are.'" - *Mark 3:28*

Like I said before, it's not wrong to enjoy life, but are we here to solely enjoy ourselves? Not at all! We are here on a mission from God. We are to have faith in God's light and to shine His light on those who are lost (*And looking for hope*) in the darkness.

"You used to be like people living in the dark, but now you are people of the light because you belong to God. So act like people of the light and make your light shine. Be good, honest, and fair." - *Ephesians 5:8-9*

"You live among people who are in the dark, but you must not do what they do. Try to shine your light among the people of this world, as you hold firmly to the good news that gives life." - *Philippians 2:15-16*

"You're to be a guide for the blind and a light for all who are in the dark." - *Romans 2:19*

"God is offering peace and forgiveness (*Light*) to the people of this world, and He has given those who have faith in Him the work of sharing His message about peace." - *2 Corinthians 5:19*

To conclude, there's one question I want to answer, and that question is:

Why doesn't God just reveal Himself to all of us for we wouldn't have to rely on faith?

The answer: Because God wants to show all of Heaven and Earth that there are those of us who will seek His perfect peace instead of conforming to an unjust world! And guess what? The moment when we choose God will be the moment when we become His chosen ones, and He promised to share His glory with us for eternity! (*Romans 8:28-30, Romans 9:23-24*)

P.S. - A warning from one of God's messengers:

"God's messenger said, 'I often warned you that many people have rejected God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Now with tears in my eyes, I warn you again that they are headed for Hell! They only care about satisfying their worldly desires. All they can think about are the things of this world. So, I tell you, if you don't have faith in God, then give up your worldly desires now and do what's right! *Find and follow the road that leads to (perfect) peace.*'" - *Philippians 3:18-19, 1 Peter 3:11*

Atheist: "I'm someone who values peace!"

Believer: "Oh really? Then what about those like Anne Frank and Emmitt Till? Anne Frank was a 15 year old girl who was killed during the Holocaust and Emmitt Till was a 14 year old boy who was killed because of racism. Where was their opportunity of peace?"

Atheist: "What happened to them was really messed up, but that's the past. We can't do anything about that now."

Believer: "Of course we can't, but if you truly value peace, you would have faith in the One who can!"