

FAITH IN ACTION

The nature of Biblical faith is such that it cannot be separated from action, works, obedience. James reminds us that “faith without works is dead, being alone” (James 2:24). Many in the religious world think of faith as some subjective experience, some “better felt than told” enlightenment. The prevalent idea of faith is that faith is a leap in the dark, an abandonment of reason in favor of feeling or emotionalism. Such could not be further from the truth of God’s word. “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Heb.11:1). Take note that faith is based upon evidence, credible testimony revealed through God’s inspired word. Faith is not merely assenting to some set of facts. Many think that simply believing (acknowledging as true) that Jesus is the Son of God is faith sufficient to save the soul. But “even the devils believe, and tremble,” (James 2:19) yet are not saved.

True, saving, Biblical faith is a whole-hearted trust in the God of heaven and His promises conjoined with obedience to those truths and commands He has revealed to us by His word. We are told that which has strength (“avails”) in Christ Jesus is “faith which worketh by love” (Gal.5:6). Faith that does not prompt its possessor to act is no faith at all. A faith that is not shown is a faith that is not known. “Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works” (James 2:17). Many claim to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ, but do not exhibit that faith in any tangible way. As the old adage goes, the proof is in the pudding.

Numerous opportunities abound here at Sixth Avenue to put one’s faith into action. We could always use more Bible class teachers, song leaders, worship leaders, etc. One great way to show your faith is by getting involved in our Faith in Action program. This program serves to encourage those who stand in need of such, to visit and warmly greet those who are visitors to our services or those who may be new members, to extend well-wishes and see to the needs of those who are sick, recovering from surgery, etc. The Faith in Action program could always use more dedicated volunteers. Will you not answer the call to action? We

can, and Lord willing will, build up the cause of Christ in this place when all of us “have a mind to work” (Neh.4:6).