

IF FAITH IS FROM GOD THEN ITS INFALLIBLE

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of him" 1 John 5:14,15.

This text speaks of knowing God is listening to you and knowing that he gives you what you ask. This implies that you know by divine revelation that God exists and that when you get what you want from prayer it means that prayer worked and was no coincidence.

The Bible says that faith is a supernatural gift from God. The word grace means supernatural gift.

Suppose you believe in Jesus Christ and have evidence for it and it is true that your faith is caused by grace. Suppose that Jesus is inspiring you to believe the evidence. If you have made a mistake and believe something that contradicts the message of Jesus Christ, though you think it is a part of it, then you think the evidence, which here is the divine testimony, is telling you that it is true. It is impossible to believe that Jesus would help you to believe error by opening your mind to false evidence. He would be telling you that the lie is true. Your reason will tell you that he is wrong and cannot be trusted. You will find out.

What use are miracles as credentials for the true religion if faith, God's magic gift, is so often wrong and misleads? Religion says that faith is a gift from God meaning that miracles do not get you to have faith unless God works within you to give you the gift of faith.

If you believe one error then you believe in a God who is not really good. You believe that without knowing it. God is goodness so it follows that a mistake means that you don't believe in God but in a mockery of God.

It would be a sign that you believe not because of grace but because of something else.

If the solution offered is that error arises from false faith and the rest from true faith, the whole faith package is spoiled for the error is taken for a part of the true faith. All believe they may have erred in the evidence so nobody can trust their Jesus.

Religious beliefs are really a belief, a single belief. For example, to believe that the Virgin never sinned and that priests pardon sins is to say that the Roman Church is inspired by God. Everything is able to imply everything else directly or indirectly. The individual doctrines are just part of the one belief and that belief is that the Church speaks for God and is authorised by him and doesn't err.

If you believed by the grace of God you would be infallible.

It follows then that only infallible Christians, that would mean at most one in every hundred million, can be saved according to the Bible for only they have opened themselves up to the saving faith that is necessary according to the Bible. The Churches then are largely scams for money and power.

Religion advocates irrational faith and encourage people to lie to themselves that its rational. Religious faith is all based on self-deception. And the real purpose of self-deception is to deceive others by being a convincing liar. The secret fruit of faith will be a kind of intellectual snobbery. "O God has made me so clever by giving me this infallible faith!"

BOOKS CONSULTED

- A Catechism of Christian Doctrine, Catholic Truth Society, London, 1985
- A Common Faith, John Dewey, Yale University Press, Connecticut, 1968
- A Primer of Necessary Belief, Dawson Jackson, Victor Gollancz Ltd, London, 1957
- Apologetics and Catholic Doctrine, M H Gill and Son Ltd, Dublin, 1954
- Faith and Ambiguity, Stewart R Sutherland, SCM Press, London, 1984
- God and Philosophy, Antony Flew, Hutchinson, London, 1966
- In Defence of the Faith, Dave Hunt, Harvest House, Eugene Oregon, 1996
- On Being a Christian, Hans Kung, Collins/Fount Paperbacks, Glasgow, 1978
- Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy, Simon Blackburn, Oxford University Press, 1996
- Reason and Belief, Bland Blanshard, London, George Allen and Unwin Ltd, 1974
- Reason and Religion, Anthony Kenny, Basil Blackwell Ltd, Oxford, 1987
- The Balance of Truth, EI Watkin, Hollis & Carter, London, 1943
- The Case Against Christ, John Young, Falcon Books, London, 1971

The End of Faith, Religion, Terror And The Future Of Reason, Sam Harris, Free Press, London, 2005
The Faith of a Subaltern, Alec de Candole, Cambridge University Press, 1919
The Fundamental Questions of Philosophy, A.C. Ewing, Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, 1985
The Future of Belief Debate, Ed Gregory Baum, Herder and Herder, New York, 1967
The Student's Catholic Doctrine, Rev Charles Hart BA, Burns & Oates, London, 1961
Unblind Faith, Michael J Langford, SCM, London, 1982
What is Christianity? Very Rev W Moran DD, Catholic Truth Society of Ireland, Dublin, 1940
What is Faith? Anthony Kenny, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1992