

Key Teachings of the Christian Faith

Vision: Strengthen our faith by examining key teachings of Christianity

Holy Scripture – Word of God

Key Teaching #1

The content of our faith must be built upon the Word of God, illuminated by the Holy Spirit.

1. Christian faith has a content
2. Christian faith is built, constructed with materials: facts, evidences, reasoning
3. Christian faith requires supernatural, divine illumination

Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. John 17:17

And Jesus answering said unto them, Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God? Mark 12:24

; **9** but just as it is written,

“THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,
AND *which* HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN,
ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.”

10 For to us God revealed *them* through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. **11** For who among men knows the *thoughts* of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the *thoughts* of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. **12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, **13** which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual *thoughts* with spiritual *words*.

14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. **15** But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. **16** For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Cor 2:9-16

Key Teaching #2

The inward work of the Holy Spirit is absolutely vital. (No exceptions.)

Key Teaching #3

Everything we need to know for salvation is contained in Holy Scripture.

[12] 2TI 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are **able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith** which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Key Teaching #4

The vast majority of people can understand the key beliefs needed for salvation as revealed within Holy Scripture.

Key Teaching #5

Compare scripture with scripture when studying scripture. Interpret more obscure passages or implicit meanings in light of the plain and clear, explicit teaching of other Holy Scripture.

Key Teaching #6

The authority of the Holy Scripture does not depend upon the Church of God or any man.

Key Teaching #7

Look to scripture when attempting to resolve conflicts and disagreements. Pursue the unity of the faith.

11 And He gave some *as* apostles, and some *as* prophets, and some *as* evangelists, and some *as* pastors and teachers, **12** for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the **building up of the body of Christ**; **13** until we all attain to the **unity of the faith**, and of the **knowledge of the Son of God**, to a **mature man**, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the **fullness of Christ**. **14** As a result, we **are no longer to be children**, tossed **here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine**, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; **15** but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ, **16** from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love. Eph 4:11-16