THE QUESTION

What did the early Christians believe about faith?

Asked by a THF member on May 21, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 15 numbered quotations · the 50 early Christian passages and 315 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/what-did-the-early-christians-believe-about-faith

The short answer *From the text: says what the passages say*

Early Christian writers taught that faith is trusting God and his promises, and that God justifies people through faith, as he did Abraham. They saw faith as the start of the Christian life and love as its goal. True faith shows in good conduct and must be kept to the end.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 8

God justifies people through faith

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Irenaeus says faith toward God is what justifies a person, pointing to Abraham. Clement of Rome says we are not justified by our own wisdom or works but by faith.

1 "This is why it was counted to him by the Lord as righteousness. For faith towards God justifies a man; that is why Abraham said, "I will stretch forth my hand to the most high God, who made the heaven and the earth.""

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 20, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

2 "And we, too, being called by His will in Christ Jesus, are not justified by ourselves, nor by our own wisdom, or understanding, or godliness, or works we have accomplished in holiness of heart; but by that faith through which, from the beginning, Almighty God has justified all people; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Source 47, page 9** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

Our faith is the same as Abraham's

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Irenaeus calls Abraham the father of believing Gentiles. Abraham trusted God's promise about things still to come, and Christians trust the same God for the coming kingdom.

3 "For these reasons, the apostle declared that this man was not only the prophet of faith but also the father of those who believe in Jesus Christ among the Gentiles, because his faith and ours are the same: he believed in future things as if they were already accomplished, because of the promise of God; and similarly, we also, because of the promise of God, see through faith that inheritance stored up for us in the future kingdom."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 21, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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POINT 3 OF 8

Faith trusts a God worthy of belief

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Clement of Alexandria says God is faithful, meaning he can be believed whenever he speaks, so we place our confidence in him. Origen says faith in its full sense means accepting with the whole soul what is confessed at baptism.

4 “And when it is said, "God is faithful," it means that He is worthy to be believed whenever He declares anything.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Stromata* 2.6 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 30, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

5 “For faith in its full sense is the act of the person who accepts with his whole soul what is confessed at baptism.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Commentary on John* 10 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 36, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

Faith is the beginning and love the end

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Ignatius says faith and love belong together and come from God, with every other part of a holy life following them. Polycarp likewise ties the faith given to believers to hope and love.

6 “For the beginning is faith, and the end is love. Now these two, being inseparably connected, are of God, while all other things necessary for a holy life follow after them.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 9, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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7 “And when he was absent from you, he wrote you a letter, which, if you study carefully, you will find to be a means of building you up in the faith that has been given to you, and which, being followed by hope, and preceded by love towards God, and Jesus, and our neighbor, "is the mother of us all."”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Polycarp,** *Epistle to the Philippians* (c. 100–155 AD) **Source 17, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 8

True faith is seen in how we live

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Ignatius says a tree is known by its fruit, so Christians are known by their conduct. Clement of Alexandria warns that the words your faith has saved you do not mean any kind of belief saves without works following.

8 “The tree is made manifest by its fruit; so those who profess to be Christians shall be recognized by their conduct.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 9, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

9 “So when we hear, "Your faith has saved you," we should not understand Him to mean, without qualification, that those who have believed in any way at all will be saved, unless works also follow.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Stromata* 6.14 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 27, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 8

Faith works through love

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian quotes Paul that the faith that matters in Christ is the faith that works by love. Irenaeus says that without love for God, even faith is of no benefit.

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10 “It is also the faith which, he says, "works by love,"”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *Against Marcion* 40 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 33, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

11 “He emphasizes that without the love of God, neither knowledge, the understanding of mysteries, faith, nor prophecy is beneficial, and without love, all are empty and meaningless.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 22, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 8

Faith must be kept to the end

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Ignatius says what matters is not a mere profession but continuing in faith to the end. Cyprian says faith gives life by being kept, not only by being received.

12 “For there is not now a demand for mere profession, but that a man be found continuing in the power of faith to the end.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 9, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

13 “In the same way, faith itself and saving birth give life, not by being received, but by being preserved.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Epistles* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 40, page 9** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 8 OF 8

Doubt and double-mindedness weaken faith

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Hermas urges believers to put away doubt, because those complete in faith trust the Lord and ask without being double-minded. He also warns about people who have the Lord on their lips but not in their heart.

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14 “But those who are complete in faith ask for everything, trusting in the Lord, and they receive it, because they ask without doubting and are not double-minded.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hermas,** *Shepherd* (c. 90–150 AD) **Source 2, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

15 “And from the fourth mountain, which had much grass, with the tops of the plants green but the parts around the roots dried up, and some also scorched by the sun, these are the people who believed: the doubtful, and those who have the Lord on their lips but do not have Him in their heart.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hermas,** *Shepherd* (c. 90–150 AD) **Source 7, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not give one complete definition of faith.
- They do not settle later debates about whether faith alone saves.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 50 early Christian passages and 315 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–50, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 51–168, in Bible order), then 197 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF’s updated English unless marked “1885 English” (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). “… [continues online]” marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *50 passages from 14 writers*

Mathetes, *c. 80–200 AD · source 1*

1 *Epistle to Diognetus* (on point 3) “He has manifested Himself through faith, to which alone it is given to behold God… [continues online] **read ›**

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Hermas, *c. 90–150 AD · sources 2–7*

2 *Shepherd* **Quote 14, page 6** "God are double-minded, and they receive none of their requests. But those who are complete in faith ask for everything, trusting in the Lord, and they receive it, because… [continues online] **read ›**

3 *Shepherd* (1885 English; on point 5) "did not, however, depart from God, but remained in the faith, although not working the works of faith… [continues online] **read ›**

4 *Shepherd* listen," he said, "about faith. There are two angels with a person. One is of righteousness, and the other is of iniquity." And I said to him, "How, sir, am… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *Shepherd* (1885 English; on point 4) from Faith arises Self-restraint; from Self-restraint, Simplicity; from Simplicity, Guilelessness; from Guilelessness, Chastity; from Chastity, Intelligence; and from Intelligence, Love… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Shepherd* (1885 English; on point 5) "commandment exhibits the deeds of faith, that you may trust the works of the angel of righteousness, and doing them you may live to God… [continues online] **read ›**

7 *Shepherd* (1885 English) **Quote 15, page 6** "their words alone live, while their works are dead… [continues online] **read ›**

Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · sources 8–15*

8 *Epistles of Ignatius* Mindful of your love and zeal in Christ, which you have shown towards us, we thought it appropriate to write to you, who display such a godly and spiritual love… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* **Quotes 6, 8, 12, pages 3, 4, 5** "the beginning is faith, and the end is love… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (on point 5) "as faith cannot do the works of unbelief, nor unbelief the works of faith… [continues online] **read ›**

11 *Epistles of Ignatius* (1885 English; on point 1) be ye steadfast, "for the just shall live by faith;" be ye… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (on point 5) "as faith cannot do the works of unbelief, nor unbelief the works of faith… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *Epistle to the Ephesians* 14 (1885 English; on point 7) "work is not of promise, unless a man be found in the power of faith, even to the end… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *Epistle to the Ephesians* 9 (1885 English; on point 4) "your pulley is your faith, and your love is the way which leadeth up on high to God… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (on point 5) It is better for a man to be silent and be [a Christian], than to talk and not be one. It is good to teach if the speaker also acts. … [continues online] **read ›**

Polycarp, *c. 100–155 AD · sources 16–17*

16 *Epistle to the Philippians* (1885 English; on point 1) which joy many desire to enter, knowing that "by grace ye are saved, not of works… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Epistle to the Philippians* (1885 English) **Quote 7, page 4** "when absent from you, he wrote you a letter, which, if you carefully study, you will find to be the means of building you up in that faith which has… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 18–22*

18 *Against Heresies: Book II* (1885 English; on point 4) "the apostle has said on this point, that, when other things have been done away, then these three, "faith, hope, and charity, shall endure." For faith, which has respect to… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Against Heresies: Book III* (on point 1) but not a different god, because truly there is but "one God, who justifies the circumcision by faith and the uncircumcision through faith." Zacharias, prophesying, exclaimed, "Blessed be the Lord… [continues online] **read ›**

20 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (1885 English) **Quote 1, page 2** "it was accounted to him by the Lord for righteousness… [continues online] **read ›**

21 *Against Heresies: Book IV* **Quote 3, page 2** our faith was also prefigured in Abraham, and he was the patriarch of our faith and, in a way, its prophet, as the apostle clearly taught when he says in… [continues online] **read ›**

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22 *Against Heresies: Book IV* **Quote 11, page 5** Love is the fulfillment of the law," and he states that when all other things are gone, "faith, hope, and love" will remain, and the greatest of these is love… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 23–30*

23 *Stromata* 2.6 (on point 1) “this husband, who is the Word, formerly desolate of the bridegroom. Now "the just shall live by faith," which is according to the covenant and the commandments, since these, which… [continues online] **read ›**

24 *Instructor* 1.6 (on point 3) But both have reference to the same thing, and one and the same person is concerned in both. Faith, so to speak, is the attempt produced in time. The final… [continues online] **read ›**

25 *Stromata* 2.2 (1885 English; on point 3) “faith, which the Greeks disparage, deeming it futile and barbarous, is a voluntary preconception, the assent of piety— the subject of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen… [continues online] **read ›**

26 *Stromata* 4.16 Therefore Scripture says, "Whoever believes in Him shall not be ashamed." That is the word of faith that we preach. For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is… [continues online] **read ›**

27 *Stromata* 6.14 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 4** “that when we hear, Your faith has saved you, we do not understand Him to say absolutely that those who have believed in any way whatever shall be saved, unless… [continues online] **read ›**

28 *Stromata* 2.12 (1885 English; on point 3) “faith is power in order to salvation, and strength to eternal life… [continues online] **read ›**

29 *Stromata* 4.6 (on point 5) is torn away. But in losing it, he will find it, according to the obedience that lives again to faith, but dies to sin. This, then, is what it means… [continues online] **read ›**

30 *Stromata* 2.6 (1885 English) **Quote 4, page 3** “too, is based on faith. Accordingly the followers of Basilides define faith to be, the assent of the soul to any of those things, that do not affect the senses… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 31–34*

31 *Against Marcion* 8 (on point 1) “was once the law; now it is the righteousness of God which is by the faith of Jesus Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

32 *Against Marcion* 40 (on point 2) of whose faith, if not Abraham's? For since Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness, Galatians 3:6, and since for that reason he deserved… [continues online] **read ›**

33 *Against Marcion* 40 (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 5** “42:4 — of that faith which, he says works by love… [continues online] **read ›**

34 *On Prescription Against Heretics* 7 (on point 3) “our faith, we desire no further belief… [continues online] **read ›**

Hippolytus, *c. 200–236 AD · source 35*

35 *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (1885 English; on point 5) “in like manner, the Gentiles by faith in Christ prepare for themselves eternal life through good works… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 36–38*

36 *Commentary on John* 10 (1885 English) **Quote 5, page 3** “one of these others is faith. Now I believe in part, we may say, but when that which is perfect has come, then the faith which is in part will… [continues online] **read ›**

37 *Commentary on Matthew* 10 “not,” but “He could not,” as if the power, when it was working, received cooperation from the faith of the person on whom the power was working, and this cooperation… [continues online] **read ›**

38 *Against Celsus* 13 (1885 English) “the third— seeing that even the more simple class of men who adhere to the service of God, so far as they can, must be saved — is faith… [continues online] **read ›**

Gregory Thaumaturgus, *c. 240–270 AD · source 39*

39 *Twelve Topics on the Faith* 1 (1885 English; on point 6) “rather let us work the work of faith, let us love peace, let us exhibit concord, let us preserve unity, let us cultivate love, with which God is well pleased… [continues online] **read ›**

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Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 40–44*

40 *Epistles* (1885 English) **Quote 13, page 5** “as faith itself and saving birth makes alive, not by being received, but by being preserved… [continues online] **read ›**

41 *Treatises* (1885 English; on point 7) “is the praise of faith, by trust in the future, to suffer the adversity of the world… [continues online] **read ›**

42 *Epistles* (on point 7) His servants stood with unfettered voice, with unyielding mind, with divine strength. They were without the weapons of this world, but they believed and were armed with the weapons of… [continues online] **read ›**

43 *Treatises* (on point 1) “For it is written that the just lives by faith… [continues online] **read ›**

44 *Treatises* (on point 5) is frequently prescribed everywhere in Holy Scripture, and the whole foundation of religion and faith comes from obedience and fear, what is more fitting for us to earnestly desire? What… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · source 45*

45 *Apostolic Constitutions* “again, "By acts of righteousness and faith iniquities are purged… [continues online] **read ›**

Arnobius, *c. 290–330 AD · source 46*

46 *Against the Heathen* 2 (on point 3) you read from time to time about matters placed beyond human knowledge? Does not each person trust one author or another? If someone persuades himself that another person has spoken… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Rome · *sources 47–50*

47 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Quote 2, page 2** “by that faith through which, from the beginning, Almighty… [continues online] **read ›**

48 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English; on point 2) “it not because he wrought righteousness and truth through faith… [continues online] **read ›**

49 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English; on point 5) shall we do, then, brethren? Shall we become slothful in well-doing, and cease from the practice of… [continues online] **read ›**

50 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (on point 2) known as "the friend," was found faithful because he obeyed the words of God. In his act of obedience, he left his own country, his relatives, and his father's… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *118 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

51 **Genesis 15:6** Abram believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness. **read ›**

52 **Genesis 49:18** waiting for the salvation of the Lord. **read ›**

53 **1 Samuel 12:24** Only fear the Lord, and serve him in truth and with all your heart; for you see what great things he has done with you. **read ›**

54 **Psalms 12:8** The ungodly walk all around; according to your loftiness you have greatly cared for the sons of men. (Septuagint Psalm 11:9 (Psalm 12:8 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

55 **Song of Solomon 2:11** For behold, the winter is past, the rain is over, it has gone its way. **read ›**

56 **Song of Solomon 3:5** I have charged you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the powers and by the strengths of the field, that you not stir up or awaken love until it pleases. **read ›**

57 **Isaiah 7:19** and they shall all come into the valleys of the land, and into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves, and into every crevice. **read ›**

58 **Isaiah 7:21** And it shall be in that day that a man shall rear a young cow and two sheep; **read ›**

59 **Isaiah 13:3** I am giving command, and I bring them; giants are coming to fulfill my wrath, rejoicing and insulting together. **read ›**

60 **Isaiah 15:3** Wrap yourselves in sackcloth in her squares, and lament on her rooftops and in her lanes; all of you, wail with weeping. **read ›**

61 **Isaiah 17:4** In that day the glory of Jacob will fail, and the rich things of his glory will be shaken. **read ›**

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62 **Jeremiah 10:7** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

63 **Ezekiel 27:8** And your rulers who dwell in Sidon, and the Arvadites, became your rowers; your wise men, O Tyre, who were in you, these were your pilots. **read ›**

64 **Daniel 3:5** at the hour you hear the sound of the trumpet, pipe, lyre, trigon, psaltery, and every kind of music, you shall fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up. **read ›**

65 **Daniel 11:5** And the king of the south shall grow strong; and one of their rulers shall grow strong against him and shall rule with great dominion. **read ›**

66 **Daniel 11:18** And he shall turn his face to the islands and capture many, and he shall make rulers cease from their taunts; but his own taunts shall return upon him. **read ›**

67 **Daniel 11:31** And seeds from him shall arise, and they shall profane the sanctuary of might, and remove the continual offering, and set up an abomination made desolate. **read ›**

68 **Amos 1:15** and its kings shall go into captivity, their priests and their rulers together, says the Lord. **read ›**

69 **Amos 3:9** Proclaim it to the regions among the Assyrians, and to the regions of Egypt, and say, “Gather yourselves on the mountain of Samaria, and see the many marvels in her midst, and the oppression that is in her.” **read ›**

70 **Amos 3:14** For in the day when I avenge the ungodly deeds of Israel upon him, I will also take vengeance on the altars of Bethel; and the horns of the altar shall be broken off, and they shall fall to the ground. **read ›**

71 **Amos 5:14** Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord God Almighty shall be with you, as you have said: **read ›**

72 **Habakkuk 3:5** Before his face a word will go, and it will go out into the plains; **read ›**

73 **Malachi 2:4** And you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, that my covenant might be with the Levites, says the Lord Almighty. **read ›**

74 **1 Esdras 1:23** And the works of Josiah were upright before his Lord, with a heart full of godliness. **read ›**

75 **1 Esdras 8:94** as has been decided by you and by all who obey the law of the Lord. **read ›**

76 **Tobit 12:8** Prayer is good with fasting and alms and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with unrighteousness. It is better to give alms than to lay up gold. **read ›**

77 **Wisdom of Solomon 1:15** For righteousness is immortal. **read ›**

78 **Wisdom of Solomon 2:22** and they did not know the mysteries of God, nor did they hope for the wages of holiness, nor discern the prize for blameless souls. **read ›**

79 **Wisdom of Solomon 3:9** Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will stay with him in love, for grace and mercy are for his chosen ones. **read ›**

80 **Wisdom of Solomon 3:14** And blessed is the eunuch who has done no lawless deed with his hand, nor devised evil things against the Lord; for to him will be given the choice grace of faith, and a more delightful lot in the temple of the Lord. **read ›**

81 **Wisdom of Solomon 4:16** The righteous man who has died will condemn the ungodly who are living, and youth quickly made perfect will condemn the many years of the unrighteous man’s old age. **read ›**

82 **Wisdom of Solomon 5:14** For the hope of the ungodly is like dust carried by the wind, like fine frost driven away by a whirlwind; it is scattered like smoke before the wind, and passes away like the remembrance of a guest who stays a single day. **read ›**

83 **Wisdom of Solomon 6:18** and love is the keeping of her laws, and attention to her laws is the assurance of incorruption, **read ›**

84 **Wisdom of Solomon 14:7** For blessed is the wood through which righteousness comes. **read ›**

85 **Wisdom of Solomon 15:17** But being mortal, he makes a dead thing with lawless hands; for he is better than the objects he worships, since he lived, but they never did. **read ›**

86 **Wisdom of Solomon 16:7** For the one who turned toward it was saved, not by what he saw, but by you, the Savior of all. **read ›**

87 **Wisdom of Sirach 2:6** Trust in him, and he will help you; make your ways straight and hope in him. **read ›**

88 **Wisdom of Sirach 2:8** You who fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will by no means fail. **read ›**

89 **Wisdom of Sirach 2:13** Woe to the slack heart, for it does not trust; therefore it will not be sheltered. **read ›**

90 **Wisdom of Sirach 15:15** If you are willing, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is of your own good will. **read ›**

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91 **Wisdom of Sirach 16:14** He will make room for every act of mercy; each one will find according to his works. **read ›**

92 **Wisdom of Sirach 18:2** The Lord alone will be justified. **read ›**

93 **Wisdom of Sirach 22:23** Gain the trust of your neighbor in his poverty, so that you may be filled together with him in his good things; stand by him in a time of trouble, so that you may share his inheritance with him. **read ›**

94 **Wisdom of Sirach 25:1** In three things I was made beautiful, and I stood up in beauty before the Lord and men: harmony among brothers, and friendship among neighbors, and a wife and husband who suit each other. **read ›**

95 **Wisdom of Sirach 25:11** The fear of the Lord surpasses everything; to whom shall the one who holds it be compared? **read ›**

96 **Wisdom of Sirach 27:8** If you pursue what is right, you will obtain it, and put it on like a full-length robe of glory. **read ›**

97 **Wisdom of Sirach 31:13** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

98 **Wisdom of Sirach 35:23** In every work trust your own soul, for this too is the keeping of the commandments. **read ›**

99 **Wisdom of Sirach 35:24** He who believes the law pays attention to the commandments, and he who trusts in the Lord will not suffer loss. **read ›**

100 **Wisdom of Sirach 36:3** A man of understanding will trust in the law, and the law is faithful to him like the inquiry of the righteous. **read ›**

101 **Wisdom of Sirach 42:2** of the law of the Most High and of the covenant, and of judgment, to justify the ungodly; **read ›**

102 **Wisdom of Sirach 46:15** By his faithfulness he was proved a prophet, and by his faithfulness he was known to be faithful in vision. **read ›**

103 **Baruch 2:17** Open your eyes and see; for it is not the dead in Hades, whose spirit has been taken from their inward parts, who will give glory and justice to the Lord; **read ›**

104 **Baruch 4:22** For I have set my hope on the Everlasting for your salvation, and joy has come to me from the Holy One because of the mercy that will soon come to you from the Everlasting, your Savior. **read ›**

105 **1 Maccabees 2:52** Was not Abraham found faithful in trial, and it was counted to him for righteousness? **read ›**

106 **1 Maccabees 2:59** Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael, by believing, were saved from the flame. **read ›**

107 **2 Maccabees 12:44** For if he had not expected that those who had fallen would rise again, it would have been needless and foolish to pray for the dead. **read ›**

108 **3 Maccabees 2:11** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

109 **3 Maccabees 3:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

110 **4 Maccabees 7:19** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

111 **4 Maccabees 7:21** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

112 **4 Maccabees 13:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

113 **4 Maccabees 15:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

114 **4 Maccabees 16:22** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

115 **4 Maccabees 17:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

116 **1 Enoch 39:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

117 **1 Enoch 39:7** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

118 **1 Enoch 50:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

119 **1 Enoch 61:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

120 **1 Enoch 69:11** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

121 **1 Enoch 92:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

122 **1 Enoch 92:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

123 **1 Enoch 98:15** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

124 **1 Enoch 108:8** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

125 **1 Enoch 108:12** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

126 **1 Enoch 108:14** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

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127 **Mark 16:16** He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who disbelieves will be condemned. **read ›**

128 **Luke 18:42** Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight. Your faith has made you well.” **read ›**

129 **Acts 5:23** “We found the prison shut and locked, and the guards standing before the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside!” **read ›**

130 **Acts 11:5** “I was praying in the city of Joppa, and in a trance I saw a vision: something like a great sheet descending, lowered from heaven by its four corners. It came down to me. **read ›**

131 **Acts 12:2** He killed James, the brother of John, with the sword. **read ›**

132 **Acts 26:3** especially because you are expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews. Therefore I beg you to hear me patiently. **read ›**

133 **Acts 26:4** All the Jews know my way of life from my youth, lived from the beginning among my own nation in Jerusalem. **read ›**

134 **Romans 1:17** For in it God’s righteousness is revealed from faithfulness to faithfulness. As it is written: But the righteous will live by faithfulness. **read ›**

135 **Romans 3:22** even the righteousness of God through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, to all and upon all who believe. For there is no distinction, **read ›**

136 **Romans 3:24** being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, **read ›**

137 **Romans 3:26** in God’s forbearance; to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so that he is just and justifies the one on the basis of Jesus’ faithfulness. **read ›**

138 **Romans 3:28** We maintain therefore that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. **read ›**

139 **Romans 4:5** But to him who does not work, but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness. **read ›**

140 **Romans 10:9** that if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **read ›**

141 **Romans 10:10** For with the heart one believes resulting in righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made resulting in salvation. **read ›**

142 **1 Corinthians 15:2** by which also you are saved, if you hold firmly the word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. **read ›**

143 **2 Corinthians 4:13** But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, I believed, therefore I spoke; we also believe, and therefore we also speak, **read ›**

144 **Galatians 2:16** yet knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, even we believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by the faithfulness of Christ and not by works of the law, because no flesh will be justified by works of the law. **read ›**

145 **Galatians 3:5** Therefore, he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you—does he do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith? **read ›**

146 **Galatians 3:11** Now it is evident that no one is justified by the law before God, for the righteous will live by faithfulness. **read ›**

147 **Galatians 5:5** For we, through the Spirit, by faithfulness eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. **read ›**

148 **Galatians 5:6** For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any force, but faithfulness working through love. **read ›**

149 **Ephesians 2:8** for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, **read ›**

150 **Ephesians 4:5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **read ›**

151 **Philippians 3:9** and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, that which is from the law, but that which is through the faithfulness of Christ, the righteousness from God that rests on faith, **read ›**

152 **1 Thessalonians 1:3** remembering without ceasing your work of faithfulness and labor of love and perseverance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ before our God and Father, **read ›**

153 **1 Timothy 1:19** holding faithfulness and a good conscience, which some have thrust away and so made shipwreck concerning the faith, **read ›**

154 **1 Timothy 3:9** holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. **read ›**

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155 **Philemon 1:5** hearing of your love and of the faithfulness which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, **read ›**

156 **Hebrews 10:23** let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering; for he who promised is faithful. **read ›**

157 **Hebrews 11:1** Now faith is assurance of things hoped for, proof of things not seen. **read ›**

158 **James 2:14** What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but has no works? Can that faith save him? **read ›**

159 **James 2:17** Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead in itself. **read ›**

160 **James 2:18** But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith by your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. **read ›**

161 **James 2:20** But do you want to know, O empty man, that faith apart from works is dead? **read ›**

162 **James 2:22** Do you see that faithfulness was working with his works, and by works faithfulness was made perfect? **read ›**

163 **James 2:24** You see then that by works a man is justified, and not only by faith. **read ›**

164 **James 2:26** For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, even so faith apart from works is dead. **read ›**

165 **1 Peter 1:5** who by the power of God are guarded through faithfulness for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **read ›**

166 **1 Peter 1:9** receiving the goal of your faithfulness, the salvation of your souls. **read ›**

167 **2 Peter 1:5** And for this very reason, bringing all diligence, supply virtue in your faithfulness, and knowledge in virtue, **read ›**

168 **Jude 1:3** Beloved, while making every effort to write to you about the common salvation, I found it necessary to write and urge you to contend earnestly for the faith delivered once for all to the saints. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *197 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Genesis 9:18

Exodus 32:34

Deuteronomy 32:10 · 32:23

1 Kings 11:31

Psalms 18:26

Isaiah 29:14

Jeremiah 5:8 · 9:23 · 24:1 · 29:12

Daniel 6:16

Matthew 4:9 · 5:3 · 5:10 · 5:16 · 5:19 · 5:20 · 6:6 · 6:9 · 6:32 · 7:7 · 9:29 · 10:32 · 10:39 · 11:27 · 12:33 · 13:12 · 13:16 · 13:58 · 14:31 · 15:13 · 17:19 · 17:20 · 19:17 · 21:22

Mark 1:24 · 5:34 · 6:5 · 7:27

Luke 2:29 · 4:34 · 7:37 · 8:45 · 10:19 · 10:21 · 10:22 · 10:27 · 14:11 · 18:1 · 22:32

John 1:3 · 1:12 · 1:14 · 1:17 · 3:7 · 3:18 · 3:36 · 4:4 · 4:14 · 4:16 · 6:40 · 10:16 · 10:27 · 12:25 · 13:33 · 16:13 · 19:34 · 20:28 · 20:29

Acts 2:24 · 3:5 · 10:40 · 13:15 · 13:48 · 17:3 · 20:24

Romans 1:16 · 1:18 · 2:2 · 2:12 · 2:16 · 2:21 · 2:24 · 2:28 · 2:29 · 3:19 · 3:21 · 4:3 · 4:11 · 5:1 · 5:20 · 5:21 · 7:4 · 7:7 · 7:8 · 7:13 · 7:14 · 8:5 · 8:17 · 9:5 · 12:14 · 15:29 · 16:17 · 16:18

1 Corinthians 1:9 · 2:10 · 3:12 · 3:18 · 4:13 · 4:20 · 5:11 · 6:19 · 7:35 · 8:6 · 9:22 · 10:4 · 10:13 · 12:8 · 12:11 · 12:13 · 13:8 · 13:11 · 13:12 · 13:13 · 14:20 · 15:32 · 16:13

2 Corinthians 1:12 · 3:14

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Galatians 1:1 · 1:6 · 2:2 · 2:19 · 3:6 · 3:7 · 3:13 · 3:22 · 3:23 · 3:26 · 3:28 · 4:7 · 4:26 · 5:10 · 5:14 · 5:17 · 5:22 · 6:2 · 6:7 · 6:9 · 6:10 · 6:14 · 6:17

Ephesians 4:8 · 5:8 · 6:14

Philippians 1:4 · 1:5 · 2:3 · 3:18 · 4:11

Colossians 2:8

1 Timothy 1:1 · 1:4 · 1:5 · 1:18 · 4:1 · 4:12

2 Timothy 2:17 · 4:6

Titus 3:9

Hebrews 10:32 · 10:39 · 11:17 · 11:26 · 11:36 · 12:1

James 1:5 · 1:6 · 1:8 · 2:21 · 2:23

1 Peter 1:2 · 1:8 · 1:23 · 2:21

2 Peter 3:15

1 John 3:7 · 3:15 · 3:18 · 4:4 · 4:16 · 4:18 · 5:7 · 5:14

Jude 1:2 · 1:11

Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “What did the early Christians believe about faith?” on May 21, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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