

MAY

THE GOD OF ISRAEL AND THE FAITH OF KING DAVID

Much has been said throughout history concerning personal faith in God. There are those who feel that a person should keep his or her faith to himself or herself and not share it with others. They feel this is a private matter and should be left to the individual alone. Yes, our relationship with God is a personal matter, but many people know little or nothing of what Almighty God has said to us in His Word, the Bible, about where we can find real peace and joy in this life and after we die. Many people know nothing about what happens after death, and they would like to know. Death brings fear, for people fear the unknown. God has given us the answer to be free from fear, and we share this with you.

Let us see what the Almighty God of Israel gives to us in the Bible about this matter of faith. Should Bible-believers tell others about what the Bible says? God is the author and source of true faith, because this determines our relationship to Him for this life and eternity. The will of God is given to us in the Bible; let us see what God says. One of the greatest examples in the Jewish Bible (Old Testament) about sharing one's faith in the living, true God is found in the life of King David of Israel in Psalm 71. Let us see what King David said about sharing his faith in God.

Verse 1: ***“In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.”***
King David put his trust, or faith, in the God of Israel, the God of Creation. By faith in the living God, David knew that he would have answers to the questions of life and would not be living in confusion by what other people said.

Verse 5: ***“For thou art my hope, O Lord God: thou art my trust from my youth.”***
Even in his youth, King David trusted in God. Many young people and teenagers are troubled today; problems overwhelm them and they turn to drugs, etc., to try to find peace or escape. David's trust and hope was in the unchangeable God. From his youth he put his faith in God into action. He knew God was true and faithful to those who trusted in Him.

Verse 8: ***“Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honor all the day.”***
As a result of his faith in God, and for what the Lord God had done in his life, David desired to praise God all day long. This faith and praise found expression in his sharing with others what the Lord God meant to him.

Verse 14: ***“But I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more.”***
David would hope, or trust in God always and would praise Him. The events in his life were committed to God in whom David trusted. The result was a life that would praise; a life of joy.

Verse 15: ***“My mouth shall show forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof.”*** Knowing the brevity of life, and that no one knows how long he or she is going to live, King David determined to share with others the righteousness of God and how people can have salvation from the sin in their lives. God will bring deliverance from problems, disappointments, worry, fear, etc., or give the patience needed to endure until deliverance comes. Bible believers can, with confidence, commit everything to God and Messiah and rest in God’s promises.

Verse 16: ***“I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.”*** God would give strength to David to share his faith in the Lord. David’s testimony would be of how men and women can know God and His righteousness in their lives. People would not obtain forgiveness of their sins according to human philosophy or teaching but only by trusting in God’s way of righteousness.

Verse 17: ***“O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.”*** Young people who have a personal relationship with Almighty God should share their faith as King David did when he was in his youth. From his youth on, David had made known to others God’s plan of redemption. He was not ashamed to testify nor was he told not to share his faith in God. Our testimony is not of what we have accomplished but of what God and Messiah Jesus have done in our lives to give fulfillment, peace and joy. We share the wonderful works of God.

Verse 18: ***“Now also when I am old and grey headed, O God, forsake me not; until I have showed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to everyone that is to come.”*** King David was well on in years when he wrote this Psalm. As an older man, he was still going to show God’s strength and power to his generation and to generations to come. What joy King David had in sharing his faith in the God of Israel. He knew that as others believed and trusted God, they would in turn tell others and so God’s plan of salvation would be given to generations to come. This verse is especially real to me, for as I type this (in the year 2010), I am a mature man of 82 years of age. I have been a Jewish Bible believer from my youth and have shared God’s plan of how to be forgiven of sin through Messiah Jesus for over 62 years. (George died in 2014 at the age of 86 and, until the day he died, continued to share God’s plan to be forgiven of sin through Messiah Jesus.) What a joyful life! I praise God for His love and provision for me and pray that you will experience the same peace as you put your trust in God and Messiah Jesus and share His plan of redemption with others.

Verse 23: ***“My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul which thou hast redeemed.”*** There is no question about what David would share with others. His soul had been redeemed, his sin was forgiven, and David could greatly rejoice and sing!

Verse 24: ***“My tongue shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long...”*** King David of Israel did not share his faith in God and God’s Word occasionally, but he did so all the day long! We must do the same as God gives us opportunity to let others know

God's plan of redemption in Messiah Jesus. Please read articles and listen to the audio on this website that give the details of how we know that Jesus is our Jewish Messiah and Redeemer who has provided the blood of atonement for us to be forgiven of our sins. If you have questions or need help to share God's Word, contact us.

King David also stated clearly in Psalm 51 why he would share the Word of God with others. We read in verses 1-2, 10 and 12-13: ***“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions...cleanse me from my sin...Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted (brought back to a right relationship with God) unto thee.”***

Since it is the will of God, and it was right for David, the King of Israel, to trust in the God of Israel's plan of how to be forgiven of sin, and then to share that way of redemption with his Jewish people and all people, it is certainly right for us to do so today. Shalom!