

## Your Faith Is Vain - cont.

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Our faith must be in what is true, real, and factual (1 Corinthians 15:14-17). This means that, as Christians, we need a faith based upon the sound evidence that comes from history, scripture, design, etc. Faith in fantasies, fairytales, and fiction is vain.

### 5. Faith Without Works is Vain

Our faith must show itself in active obedience to God's word, otherwise it is vain (1 Corinthians 15:10; Galatians 5:6; James 1:26-27; 2:14ff). Faith that "talks", but does not "walk", is vain. "Faith only" is also vain and dead.

### 6. Faith That Does Not Continue is Vain

Our faith must continue being faithful, enduring throughout our life, otherwise it is vain (Luke 8:13; 1 Corinthians 15:2; Hebrews 10:38). Faith that stops serving the Lord is vain.

### Faith That Is Vain

Faith that falls short of each of these things is vain. Much of our world is built upon fantasy (non-reality). Let us all have a faith that is real and genuine based upon the truth of God's word (1 Timothy 1:5; 2 Timothy 1:5).

- Chris Reeves -

## - Word of the Week -

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"Grace" (Gr. *charis*) means a "blessing", "favor", or "loving-kindness" shown to others. We are the recipients of God's grace (Romans 5:15) and we are to show our grace to others. Our words (Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 4:6), our thoughts, and actions always need to be gracious to others. Let's go out this week and show others our blessing and favor.

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# THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

*and if Christ hath not been raised, then is our preaching vain, your faith also is vain - 1 Corinthians 15:14 -*

*and if Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins - 1 Corinthians 15:17 -*

## **We Live in a Vain World**

*For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the vainglory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world - 1 John 2:16 -*

“Vain”, or “vanity”, means empty, fruitless, worthless. The world that we live in today is characterized by vanity in many ways. Because people do not live by God and his word, they tend to live empty lives based upon their own human wisdom. They live a shallow, surface life based upon that which is not true. They don’t live meaningful, substantive lives grounded in the word of God.

Our world emphasizes the vanity of words (Exodus 20:7). They take the Lord’s name in vain and they say other things that are vain and untrue.

Our world emphasizes the vanity of outward beauty (Proverbs 31:30). They put an emphasis on outward looks that slowly fades with time, instead of on the inward character that lasts and that is important to the Lord.

Our world emphasizes the vanity of sinful activities (2 Kings 17:15). They reject the commandments of the Lord and engage in the sinful activities of the world around them.

Our world emphasizes the vanity of human help to solve their problems (Psalm 60:11; 108:12). They turn to human might and human wisdom to solve the world’s problems, but all that does is cause more problems. They refuse to turn to the Lord for help.

## **Faith That Is Vain**

The apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:14, 17, that if Jesus did not actually rise from the dead, then the faith of these Christians is vain. He actually mentioned 7 negative consequences of denying a resurrection: 1) Christ has not been raised; 2) the apostles’ preaching is vain; 3) the Christians’ faith is vain; 4) the apostles are false witnesses; 5) Christians are yet in their sins; 6) Christians who have already died are perished; and, 7) our hope in

Christ is most pitiable. Let us consider then how that one’s faith can be vain.

### *1. Faith In the Wrong Person is Vain*

Our faith must be in God and Jesus alone, otherwise it will be vain (John 8:24; Acts 4:25; 14:15; Romans 1:21; Ephesians 4:17; 1 Peter 1:18; 1 John 2:16). Faith in Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, paganism, humanism, atheism, etc., is vain.

### *2. Faith In the Wrong Doctrine is Vain*

Our faith must be in the sound doctrine of the NT gospel, otherwise it will be vain (Matthew 15:9; 1 Corinthians 3:20; Colossians 2:8; 1 Timothy 1:3,6; Titus 1:10; 3:9; 2 Peter 2:18). Faith in human tradition and human error, though honestly believed, is vain.

### *3. Faith Without Purity is Vain*

Our faith must be joined with a pure life before our worship can be acceptable to God (Isaiah 1:14; Malachi 1:10). Faith joined with sinful living is vain and so one’s worship is also vain.

### *4. Faith Without Evidence is Vain*

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