

The Christian Triad: Faith, Hope, Love

1 Thessalonians 1:2-5

The Three Legged Stool of Christianity

Galatians 5:5-6, 1 Thessalonians 5:8, 1 Corinthians 13:13

² WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD ALWAYS FOR YOU ALL, MAKING MENTION OF YOU IN OUR PRAYERS, ³ REMEMBERING WITHOUT CEASING YOUR **WORK OF FAITH**, **LABOR OF LOVE**, AND **PATIENCE OF HOPE** IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE SIGHT OF OUR GOD AND FATHER, 1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-3

I. The Work of Faith, The Action of Christianity

- A. Faith is accepting God's testimony and doing what he requires, Heb 11:1, Rm 10:17
- B. Faith is illustrated in
 - 1. The life of Abel who walked with God, Heb. 11:4
 - 2. Salvation of Noah who built the ark Heb. 11:7 3, Heb. 11:8-9
 - 3. The lives of Israel, Heb. 11:30
- C. Faith without works is dead, James 2:26. Some teach this, some do this
- D. What does faith do? Gal. 5:6
 - It proclaims the gospel, 1 Thess. 1:6-7
 - It restores those overtaken in fault, Gal. 6:1-2
 - It supports the teaching of the word, Gal. 6:6
 - It does good to all, Gal. 6:10

II. Labor of Love, The Attitude of Christianity

- A. Christianity is a life of service
 - 1. We are to abound in service, 1 Cor. 15:58
 - 2. We are saved to do good works, Eph. 2:10
 - 3. Our work is proof of our discipleship, John 15:8
- B. We must keep motivated
 - 1. Work without love is meaningless, 1 Cor. 13:1-3
 - 2. If we love the Lord service is not meaningless, 1 John 5:3
- C. We served because God's love for us, 1 John 4:19
 - 1. God loved and gave, John 3:16, 1 John 4:10
 - 2. We love and serve, John 14:15, John 15:1-8

III. The Patience of Hope: Attainment of Christianity

- A. Patience is one of the Christian graces, 2 Peter 1:5-6
- B. Patience is the active endurance in serving God
 - 1. Regardless of the sufferings of life, 1 Ths. 1:6-10, 2 Ths 1:7-9
 - 2. Regardless of many years in christian service, Gal. 6:9
 - 3. Regardless of evil times we reliving in, 1 Thess. 4:2-7
- C. An Active love, loving labor, and patient endurance gives hope.
 - 1. Hope is desire mixed with anticipation
 - 2. Christians are saved in hope, Rom. 8:24
 - 3. Hope is the anchor of the soul, Heb. 6:19-20