

Habakkuk # 19

“To Know Jesus Christ, We Must Know and Believe What the Bible says About Him.”

Habakkuk 2:4; John 11

Faith is a non-meritorious system of learning based on confidence in the authority and integrity of another.

Faith is not based on someone's own knowledge or intelligence as is rationalism or empiricism.

But faith is actually behind all other systems of learning.

In rationalism, faith has independent human reason as its object and in empiricism, faith has man's ability to interpret his experience correctly, as its object.

The issue in faith is to believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins.

And faith is a thought process activated by our free-will.

So, faith is not an expression of emotion but of reason based on what we believe with our minds and we do not believe directly in a person or come to salvation through a relationship with Jesus.

We must first believe the explanation in Scripture that informs us about Jesus Christ and His saving work on the cross.

Martha spent too much time in the house cleaning and not enough time with the Word of God.

She should have applied the biblical truth of God's Essence to the situation.

She recognized Jesus as God, calling Him Lord or Kurios in Greek but turned around and rebuked Him for not being there when He was needed.

If we're living our Christian lives bogged down in legalism, human good and the details of life, we'll react exactly as Martha did in a disaster!

Here is the great tragedy: disorientation to grace: “Lord, why did You let this happen to me?”

This is being impressed with nice unbelievers over the Lord!

Jesus wanted to show her that while Lazarus would be resuscitated, her source of comfort must be from the doctrine of resurrection which is permanent, not from resuscitation, which is temporary.

Whether it's worshipping, weeping or complaining, Mary constantly finds herself at the feet of Jesus.

As a temporary failure, Mary came with the same bitterness as Martha, a sin that had short-circuited the biblical truth in her heart.

When Martha made the remark, Jesus taught her biblical truth; when Mary made the remark, Jesus was silent because her need at this time was not to learn the Word of God but to apply it.

Even greater than that which Jesus Christ did in this passage to resuscitate Lazarus is that which He can do for us now!

He doesn't bring our loved ones back from the grave but He has given us something better; His mind to handle any crisis!

And no matter what the problem or how great the disaster, this is the only answer.

