Faith Wasn't The Question

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

When we look back at Israel in the bible we see a from slavery in Egypt by the Lord and led through the wilderness. Their every need was provided for by God, and victory was given over larger and better armed armies. For all of the years of wanderwear out and even their food, manna, was given by the Lord. There was not a person in the thousands of Israel who would have said that they didn't times, both in Egypt, and in the years after.

they worshipped the true God and not the idols of "so called gods" of the nations around them to such a degree that God said that they did worse than the lips; but their heart is far from me," Matthew 15:8. nations that were there before them. So Manasseh and to do worse than the heathen, whom the LORD had destroyed before the children of Israel.

tween believing in God and believing his word.

nation that was favored of God. Israel was delivered on the Jews and they were defeated by their en- Lord in truth. If Satan can trick folks into thinking emies that they thought on the Lord. As long as they lived in sinful pleasures they were content to be like the people around them. It is a shame that it took We having the same spirit of faith, according as it a lot of suffering to make them think of God. They is written, "I believed, and therefore have I spoken; ing in the wilderness, their clothes and shoes didn't wanted the blessings of God, but they didn't want we also believe, and therefore speak," **2 Corinthi**the God of the blessings. Sounds like many of the **ans 4:13**. This, and other scriptures, show that we people of today, doesn't it?

Many folks that I've talked to are willing to say believe in God. They saw his hand at work many that they believe in God. Few will come right out and inside. say that they don't believe in him. Yet, the majority The nation of Israel was a chosen nation and of those who say they are believers are missing from tion of faith, but of obedience if we do not serve people. They were to show the other nations that his service. They don't come to church even though the Lord with our lives. Satan doesn't mind if you they say that they are believers. Likewise they don't say that you believe in God as long as that is all you other peoples. Generally speaking they, Israel, didn't support the Lord's work or do anything but say that do. In such a case it is only empty words, words obey God and walk in his laws. They went after the they believe in God. "This people draweth nigh unto without substance, or value. Jesus knew that there me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their

made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to err, there is some tragedy such as sickness, accident, was a valid question then, just as it is today. What is or death; then they often will say, "Why did God let the purpose of saying, "I believe," if there is no faith this happen?" Just as those throughout the centu- to obey and follow the Lord?

2 Chronicles 33:9 says Israel believed in God ries have offered cheap lip service rather than reso faith was not in question, the problem was that ally serving the Lord, many of today have the same they didn't <u>believe</u> God. There's a big difference be-standards. That is not saving faith, but some phony thing that the devil has placed in the hearts and It was only when the Lord brought punishment minds of people to keep them from coming to the that just saying they believe is good enough, then he keeps them in darkness and away from God. speak, and act, according to what we believe. Our words and actions show what we truly are on the

Then, if we truly believe, then it is not a queswere those who offered such words in the days he walked among men. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, Like Israel of old, many people forget God until and do not the things which I say?" **Luke 6:46**. It

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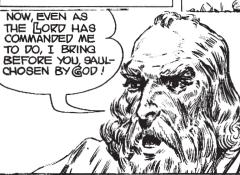


This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of I Samuel intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

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SAMUEL AND SAUL

SAUL BEFORE THE ASSEMBLED TRIBES OF ISRAEL TO ANOINT HIM KING, AS THE LORD HAS DIRECTED....







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