

FAITH

"There must be more than this"

Faith necessarily refers us to something beyond ourselves.

CH Dodd

Faith "is the confidence that reality is not the same as what is being felt at any given moment".

Rowan Williams

The act of faith is not a leap from darkness into light. It is an affirmation that light exists beyond the darkness

Morris West

It is only through risking it in actual life situations that we give substance to our belief. (Gerald May)
As we risk, we survive, and so we learn, and faith becomes trust. Real faith in a real world!

Faith should be a protective garment for the pilgrimage. Instead, it becomes a superficial cloak to protect us from the very realities within which we claim to be living.

Alan Jones

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said faith is "the participation in the being of Jesus".

Jurgen Moltmann says faith is "rising out of indolence and joylessness, and participating in the Resurrection process".

In other words: the place of Jesus is our place. Living as if that is true is faith. Seeing with Jesus' eyes, feeling with Jesus' heart: here is an imaginative way forward - where we open ourselves to the possibility, like Jesus, of perceiving. "another dimension to absolutely everything in this world".

The life of faith "is a learning how to live here and now in freedom from fear and self-concern".

What factors can you identify which work against you living by faith?

Can you name what would help?

I cry out in complaint that the world is as it is, and I am sometimes comforted by believing in a pain-bearing, long-suffering love-making God. But I believe only by the narrowest of squeaks, and mainly (because) any other interpretation of life seems even more perplexing and awful.

Jim Cotter

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