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THE CREED OF THE CHURCH.

The word *faith*, like the word *religion*, is not unfrequently used in three different senses, or at least with three different shades of meaning, in the Bible.

I. *It is sometimes used by metonymy in an objective sense, to denote that system of doctrine which is revealed to us in the Holy Scriptures.* Such is evidently its meaning in the following passages:—

1.—Acts vi. 7: "And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests became obedient to *the faith*."

2.—Acts xiii. 8: "But Elymas the sorcerer withstood them (Paul and Barnabus), seeking to turn away the Deputy from *the faith*."

3.—Gal. i. 23: "But they (the Churches in Judea) had only heard, that he (Paul) who persecuted us in times past, now preached *the faith* which he once destroyed."

4.—Gal. iii. 23: "But before *faith* came, we were kept under the law, shut up into *the faith* which should afterward be revealed."

5.—1 Tim. v. 8: "But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he has denied *the faith*, and is worse than an infidel."

6.—1 Tim. vi. 19: "For the love of money is a root of all evil; which while some coveted after, they have erred from *the faith*, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

7.—Jude 3: "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you and exhort you that ye should contend earnestly for *the faith* which was once delivered to the saints."

II. *Most frequently it is used subjectively, in its literal and proper sense, for that state of the understanding and the heart which causes a man to trust in Christ, and to obey all his commandments.* The following examples will suffice for illustration:—

1.—Matt. viii. 10: "When Jesus heard it (the remark of the centurion,) he marvelled, and said to them that followed him, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great *faith*, no, not in Israel."

2.—Matt. ix. 22: "But Jesus turned about; and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy *faith* hath made thee whole."

3.—Matt. xv. 28. "Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy *faith*; be it unto thee even as thou wilt."

4.—Acts vi. 3: "And Stephen, full of *faith* and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people."

5.—Rom. x. 17: "So then *faith*