

## True Faith Is Not Rooted In A Messenger

### I. Introduction:

A. It is certainly right to appreciate those who teach the truth (**I Thessalonians 5:12-13**).

1. The fact is, truth teachers often are not loved (**II Corinthians 12:15**).
2. So, for those being taught to communicate [fellowship; share] unto those teaching them is good (**Galatians 6:6**).
3. However, you cannot take that too far (**I Corinthians 1:10-13; 3:1-9; 4:6**).

B. Since messengers are sometimes sinfully exalted, people think attacking the messenger is the way to stop the message (**Acts 4:13-18**).

1. Not only physical violence, but attempts to discredit and other like tactics are often used (**Matthew 22:15, Mark 3:1-2, Luke 11:53-54, Acts 21:27-31**, etc.).
2. However, as Gamaliel stated, focusing on discrediting or even killing the messenger will not cause the truth to cease (**Acts 5:27-39**).

### II. Body: **I Corinthians 2:1-5**

A. Not faith in men (**Isaiah 2:22, Psalms 118:8-9, Jeremiah 17:5, Isaiah 30:1-7, and Acts 20:28-31**).

1. Man can disappoint, wherein God will not (**II Timothy 4:9-18**).
2. Even amongst the faithful messengers, they can fall away (**Acts 12:25-13:2, Acts 13:46, and Galatians 2:11-13**).
3. God is faithful [dependable; trustworthy; sure; true] (**Deuteronomy 7:9, I Corinthians 1:9, and I Peter 4:19**).
  - a. God has proven Himself (**Hebrews 6:13-20; cf. Galatians 3:8-9**).
  - b. Unlike the history of mankind, God's character is one that we can depend on because in Him there is no variableness (**James 1:17**).

B. Not separating faith in Christ from faith in the Father (**John 14:1**).

1. Honor to the Son as to the Father (**John 5:23; 6:40**).
2. Faith in Father through the Son (**I Peter 1:17-21**).

C. Man was/is part of God's design in how faith is obtained (**Romans 10:8; 10:14-17**).

1. Even though man is involved, the power is of God; not of men (**II Corinthians 4:7; cf. Romans 1:16**).
2. Seeing that the delivery system of the Gospel depends on man and we cannot trust man, it is always upon us to test what we hear (**Acts 17:10-11 and I Thessalonians 5:21**).
  - a. Remember the warnings and the solutions (**Matthew 7:15-20**).

- b. This is one reason why you have to continue to grow and learn how to reason on your own (**Hebrews 5:14**).
3. If the messenger fails, remember you are to “*continue in the faith*” (**Colossians 1:23**) rather than to continue following the messenger.

III. Conclusion: People can fail us. Messengers can fall or disappoint. The word of God will endure forever (**I Peter 1:25**)!