Faith vs Belief

Or Faithing vs Believing

English 101

Noun: a person, place or thing

 Verb: expresses an act, occurrence or mode of being

The Noun "Love"

An emotion felt toward someone or something

Examples:

- Love is a dangerous thing.
- There are many kinds of love.
- Love has a language all its own.

The Verb "Love"

Doing the action of the noun "love"

Examples:

- I love you.
- Michael loves his new bike.
- Jesus loves me, this I know.

Other Examples

Noun

- Creation
- Work
- Drive
- Belief
- Faith

Verb

- Create
- Work
- Drive
- Believe
- ?????

Greek for "Faith"

 In Greek, the noun means: assurance, conviction, trust

 In Greek, the verb means: to trust in, to commit to, to place confidence in

English Nouns – Belief and Faith Two Different Words

- According to Webster, in English, belief "may or may not imply certitude"
- According to Webster, in English, faith "almost always implies certitude even where there is no evidence or proof"

Faith and Belief are NOT equivalent terms

English Verbs – Believe and ????? The Missing Word

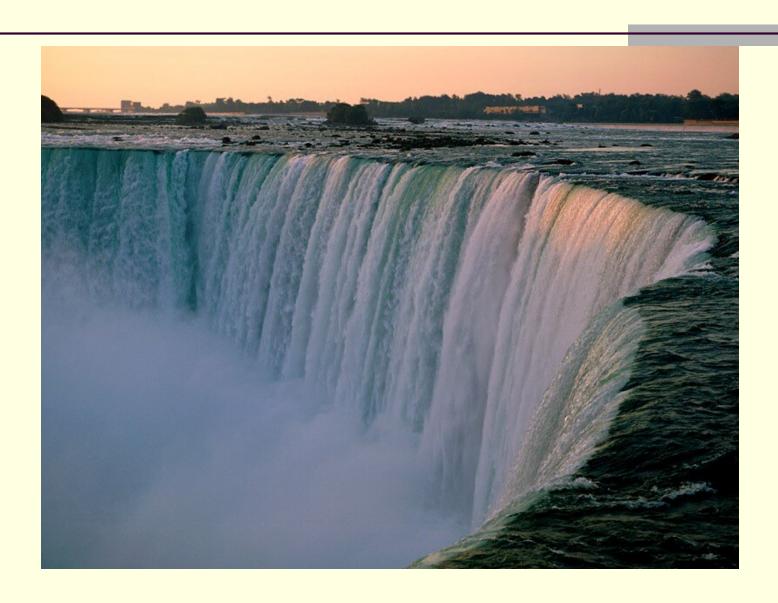
- According to Webster, in English, believe means "to accept as true, genuine, or real" or "to hold an opinion" (syn – think)
- There is no English verb which means the same as the Greek verb pisteuo. This Greek verb is usually translated as "believe", but the English verb "believe" does not carry the concept of conviction, trust or certitude

The Problem

 Greek has a noun for faith (pistis) and also a verb for faith (pisteuo)

 English has a noun for "faith", but no verb for "faith"

An Example



ABC's of Faith

Action

based on

• <u>B</u>elief

and sustained by

Confidence

in its

• Source

Summary

- The word Faith includes an element of certainty, trust or commitment that is absent from the word Belief
- Believe is the verb form of Belief and in English does not normally contain those elements of certainty, trust, or commitment in our understanding
- Because Believe is the verb form of Belief, it is very confusing when we see it also used as the verb form for Faith.

Conclusion

The verb form of Faith which we see translated in our Bibles as the word Believe, actually is an Action which contains the elements of trust, certainty, and commitment