

*“Behold, his soul (which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by **faith**” (Habakkuk 2:4).*

Faith. Faith is one of those words we use on a daily basis but many may not fully understand its meaning. Not only that but faith seems to be extensively used out of the context of what the Scriptures teach us. Families name their children faith; people say, “You need more faith” or “where is your faith”. Our Strong’s concordance defines it in many ways but various religions have their own take on faith in spite of what is written as defined in the Scriptures. Based on the 247 times the actual word faith is used in the Bible, it must have some relevance as to how we conduct our lives. Here is the key question, **“when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth”** (Luke 18:8)? This is a good question. Here, I must say that in the days of Christ’s earthly walk, he did find faith in a number of cases. As you delve into the New Covenant, you will find various kinds of faith such as no faith, little faith, and great faith.

“But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour” (Matthew 9:22).

“Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour” (Matthew 15:28). See also Mark 5:34, 10:52, Luke 8:52 and 17:19.

Habakkuk) states that, *“The just shall live by **faith**.”* Let us take a look at this word and get an understanding of what our creator meant when he breathed this word into existence. In the Hebrew language, there is one word that is the basis or foundation for several familiar terms that we frequently use. As you can see in the table below, the Hebrew root word for faith is **aman (אמן)**, **an action verb**, Strong’s #539. **Aman** is translated as: Assurance, faithful, sure, established, trusts, verified, steadfast, continuance, be nursed, etc.

Aman is the root word for faithfulness, **emunah (אמונה)**, Strong’s #530 as well as for the word **truth, emeth (אמת)**, Strong’s # 571. Interestingly, it also the root word for the word **amen (אמן)**, pronounced *ah-mayn*. The first occurrence of the root 'aman not only lays down an action to describe the word, but is very intriguing, as well. The first mention is in Genesis 15:6 where it states, *“And he **believed** in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness”*. In another interesting case, Moses is questioned the LORD concerned the burden that was laid upon him. In Numbers 11:11-12, he asked the LORD: *“Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? And wherefore have I not found favor in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me? Have I conceived all this people? Have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry them in thy bosom, as a **nursing father** beareth the nursing child, unto the land which thou didst swear to give unto their fathers?”¹*

¹*“And kings shall be thy **nursing fathers**, and their queens thy **nursing mothers**; they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me” (Isaiah*

Whatever the LORD assigns to us in this life, know of certainly that without faith, the Lord is not pleased with us. “But, without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

English word	# Times word occurs	Times in Scripture	Transliteration	Strong #	Part of Speech	Scripture reference	Meaning
Believe	44	108	Aman, אָמַן	539	Verb	Gen. 15:6	To Stay, sustain, support, one who carries a child
Faith	1	5	Emuwn, אֱמוּנָה	529	Masculine noun	Deut 22:20	Faithfulness, trusting
Faithfulness	18	49	Emuwnah, אֱמוּנָה	530	Feminine noun	Exod. 17:12	Firmness, security, faithfulness
Amen	27	30	Amen, אָמֵן	543	Adverb	Num. 5:22	Verily, truly, so be it
Truth	92	127	Emeth, אֱמֶת	571	Adverb, feminine noun	Gen. 24:27	Firmness, stability, perpetuity
Example #1. H539 --- Root word Believe, assurance, etc.							
AV – believe 44, assurance 1, faithful 20, sure 11, established 7, trust 5, verified 3, steadfast 2, continuance 2, father 2, bring up 4, nurse 2, be nursed 1, surely be 1, stand fast 1, fail 1, trusty 1							
Example #2. H530 --- Feminine noun							
AV – faithfulness 18, truth 13, faithfully 5, office 5, faithful 3, faith 1, stability 1, steady 1, truly 1, verily 1							

49:23). Here, the term nursing fathers and mothers are used; however, nursing mother is the Hebrew word yanaq, meaning, to suck, properly, a mother’s breast. So this adds a bit of clarity to the nursing father concept.