

SAVING FAITH

(Ephesians 2:8-9)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Defining saving faith has been one of the most important tasks in Christian history

THREE INGREDIENTS OF SAVING FAITH

(Based on the ideas of Augustine and formulated during the Protestant Reformation when the idea of faith was a central issue and *Sola Fide* a central affirmation)

1. **OBJECT** (*Lat. notitia*) – facts, data, content, the “Truth”

The OBJECT of our faith is *Truth*

- Person: Jesus (John 14:6)
- Propositions: Scripture (John 17:17)

2. **AFFIRMATION** (*Lat. assensus*) – assent, acknowledgement, acceptance, belief

AFFIRMATION is our *acceptance of the Truth*

- Intellectually (Romans 10:17)
- Holistically (Romans 10:9-10)

3. **TRUST** (*Lat. fiducia*) – action, response to, relying upon, resting in

TRUST is our *response to the Truth*

- Actively (John 10:27)
- Personally (Luke 9:23-24)

WHY ALL THE INGREDIENTS ARE NECESSARY

1 + 2 ≠ Saving Faith (James 2:19)

2 + 3 ≠ Saving Faith (Acts 19:23-41)

1 + 3 ≠ Saving Faith (#3 requires #2)