



Midweek Meditation



"You shall have no other gods before Me." Exodus 20:3

*What does it mean to have a god, or, what is God? I answer: a god is that from which we are to expect everything good and to which we are to take refuge in all times of need. Therefore to have a god is simply to trust and believe in him. It is, as I have often said, only the heart's confidence and faith that make both God and an idol. If your faith and confidence are right, your God will be right too. On the other hand, if your confidence is false and wrong, you do not have the true God; for these two, faith and God, are correlative concepts. Therefore I say that your god in reality is that around which you entwine your heart and on which you place your confidence. **Martin Luther***

Everyone has faith and trust in his heart. The difference between Christians and all others is both who this faith and trust is in, and where it comes from. Only Christians believe in the true God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This faith in a Christian's heart is a gift, as Ephesians 2:8-9 and other passages make clear to us. So, a Christian's faith is not of his own making, but is born of God within him. The opposite is true of all others. Since all false gods are merely idols, and not true, those who believe in such false gods create their own faith within their hearts.

Faith and God belong together. We can no more create our God than we can create faith in our heart to believe in Him. God is gracious to us, therefore, not only in revealing to us who He is, but also in granting us faith and confidence in Him within our hearts.

Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing, a cheerful trust maintain; for God, the source of everything, your portion shall remain. Amen.