

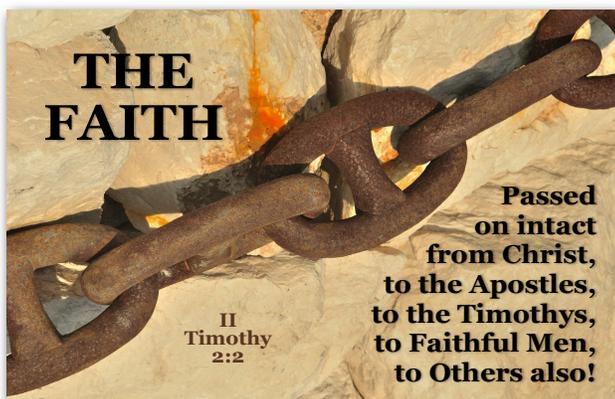
## Chain Reaction Christianity

We know where the twelve apostles received their teachings (including Matthias). Beginning with John the Baptist – under whom they were all saved, baptized, and initially discipled (Acts 1:21-22; 19:4) – the apostles were directed to the tutelage of Christ under whom they were further trained. **This process of maturation included instilling the passing on of what they learned.** Their converts were to be taught to also “**observe all things**” that Christ had taught them (Matthew 28:20). They were to learn it, love it, live it, and pass it on in the same way they received it, that others would do likewise. A chain of truth was to be built from generation to generation with each succeeding chain link looking the same.

The “all things” that Christ conveyed to the apostles were indeed referred to as the apostle’s doctrine, and the first church was said to have “continued steadfastly” in it (Acts 2:42). This “doctrine” is thoroughly given in the writings of the apostles, and of those who served under them, which writings the apostles endorsed. We know them of course to be the New Testament Scriptures (II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 3:1-2).

Luke said in the opening words of his Gospel, that his reason for writing it was “to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us.” That Theophilus, his immediate recipient, might “know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.” Luke 1:1-4. Paul, wrote to the believers in Rome, “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that **form of doctrine** which was delivered you.” Romans 6:17. To the Philippians he wrote: “Those things, which ye have both **learned**, and **received**, and **heard**, and **seen** in me, **do**” Philippians 4:9. When writing to Timothy, who was exemplary of the next generation of faithful preachers, Paul repeatedly stated in various ways, how he was to be committed to a **body of truth** and to pass it on just as they had received it (I Timothy 4:15-16; 6:20-21; **II Timothy 2:2**; 3:14). Peter wrote, shortly before his death, “For we have not followed cunningly devised fables...but were eye-witnesses of his majesty” II Peter 1:15-16.

**From  
CHRIST  
to  
the Apostles  
to  
the Timothys  
to  
Faithful Men  
to  
Others Also**



Man’s development of the first self-sustaining nuclear chain-reaction in 1942, resulted in the atomic bomb, and ultimate victory for the Allies in World War II. Far more dramatic though is the Christ directed, Spirit-sustaining New Testament chain reaction by which the first church, some 2,000 years ago, was activated to reproduce itself around the world (Matthew 28:18-20)! A process still going strong! Preachers who understand what Christ had in mind when He launched the Church Age, is yet the need of the hour!

In other words, the next generation of preachers need to know “the faith” – the certainty of it, and **react to it in the same manner** in which the apostles, Timothys, faithful men, and others have, throughout church history. **This is what the NBBS is about** – students catching a vision of “the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3) to the degree that they to become fervent and capable proponents of the chain of perpetual truth passed down through the centuries. **Accordingly, we seek to train the next generation of “others also” and not “uh ohs” who depart from the faith.**

## Important Dates

1<sup>st</sup> Day of Spring Semester – Tues., Jan. 12

## Great News!

1. The tuition of all full-time students (those taking at least four courses) **will be paid in full in the spring semester of the 2016 school year** by a long-time supporter of the school.
2. NBBS Representatives are ready to visit **your church!** Consider having Bro. Wiggins, Dr. Riggsby, or Bro. Stewart present NBBS to your people. We are always ready to share what it means to be a school of specialization.
3. The beginning of spring semester is Jan. 12, 2016. Week of Concentrated Study is Feb. 23-26. NBBS Sunday in IBFI churches is March 6. Spring Break is March 15-18. Founder's Week is April 26-29. The end of spring semester is May 13. Graduation is May 18.

## Favorite Sayings

### "Riggsbyisms"

"Crawl in, do not call in." Cited by Dr. Terry Riggsby (*Administrator of NBBS – 1984-1999*) as a tongue-in-cheek admonition to students to not miss unless they truly are too ill to come.

### *Our Heritage Speaks*

"I would do anything to keep a man out of hell." J. Frank Norris

## Alumni News!

Pastor Glen Anderson and the Pensacola Baptist Temple, Pensacola, FL, did a first-rate job of hosting, from start to finish, the semi-annual IBFI meeting of early October. Bro. Anderson, who is an alumnus and the current alumni president of the NBBS, is making a timely difference in the ongoing of the seminary. By way of ideas, support, time, leg work, directing of a student this way, even by hands on help with the furnishings – having recently handcrafted oak lecterns for the classrooms – he exemplifies that although 700 miles away (across five state lines) a church can still make a multifaceted investment in the training of men and women for church ministry.

## Visit Our Website!

[norrissenteminary.org](http://norrissenteminary.org)

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