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## Knowledge is a stairway (Saint Isaac the Syrian)

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Faith is a child-like concept in a simple heart. Knowledge examines and discusses whether something is true. Knowledge preserves the laws of nature and is followed

by fear, whereas faith is followed by hope. The knowledge we have as people is poor and deficient, but Heaven and Earth are not great enough to contain the treasures of faith. Those who depend on knowledge do not walk on the waters or on hot coals. But with the power of faith, many people have walked upon waters and hot coals without suffering any harm. Faith has inexhaustible treasures and fills the hearts of the faithful with pleasure. Knowledge is needed merely as a stairway so that we can attain to faith. Those who have been allowed to taste the sweetness of faith and have yet turned towards human knowledge are like someone who's exchanged a pearl of great price for a copper coin.