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## Viewpoints

*Observing events in our modern world from the viewpoint of our ascended Savior.*

### Study Star Wars or Scripture? ~ February 5, 2016

*Studying the details of Scripture is not a trivial matter.*

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The Star Wars series of movies came from the ingenious mind of film maker George Lucas. Because the series continues to garner cosmic success, there are some students of the silver screen who try to pry open the mind of the man behind it all. Some followers of George Lucas will explore minutia details, including Princess Leia's earmuff buns. I kid you not. People have spent good time and energy trying to figure out why Lucas outfitted the princess with an earmuff hairdo (see [here](#)).



I realize that it could be someone's hobby that provides relaxation. Or it could be someone's earnest pursuit of becoming the next George Lucas. But to dig into the minutia of the earmuff hairdo? Really?

I've met people who think that pastors spend too much time studying the details of the Bible. But this is exactly what God wants and why he tells us how the Bible is his inerrant truth, and how it's fully sufficient ([John 17:17](#) and [2 Timothy 3:16-17](#)).

Actually, it's not a trivial matter to know that God led the Bible writers to use the Greek word *dia* followed by the genitive form of the word "faith." When *dia* is followed with an accusative form, it means "because." But the Spirit didn't use the accusative form, he used the genitive form. The *dia* + genitive construction means that faith is a tool or instrument that God uses to bring salvation to us. The *dia* + genitive construction is always used to explain the role of faith, and is translated by the phrase "through faith."

- Romans 3:22 God's righteousness... comes through faith in Jesus Christ.
- Galatians 3:26 You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus,

But you don't need to know biblical Greek to receive such important insights. Actually, simply by reading and rereading the Bible, it will reveal to you that Jesus shed his blood to cleanse all people from sin, and because you have gained this truth through faith, you have peace with God ([Romans 5:1](#)).

If we're saved because of faith, then faith has become a good work that we must accomplish in order to earn salvation. Of course, further study of Scripture explains that a salvation that comes from works destroys the teaching that we are saved by grace ([Romans 11:5-6](#)).

*Not because of faith, but through faith* may at first seem trivial, but it's a cosmic truth that corresponds precisely to the rest of scripture. So there's no surprise when Ephesians 2:8-9 states, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast."

Studying Star Wars trivia could, I suppose, propel someone into a successful career in Hollywood. But never will the origins of the hairdo of a make-believe princess compare to the value of the saving truths coming to us through faith in the Prince of Peace. ✝

*By the way...Star Wars is considered by some to be a postmodern masterpiece. Not sure what postmodernism is and how it may influence your Christian faith? Check out the [sermon delivered on January 24, 2016](#).*

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*Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz*

