

FAITH

Hello. I'm Jim Fuller. I'd like to share a few thoughts and some scriptures with you about faith.

We have all been so schooled by this world to think that only what we can see, hear, feel, taste and touch is real. We've been taught that only what our senses can perceive is actually real. The statement that, I have to see it to believe it, seems to be universally accepted as the proper way to think.

In America when we talk about having faith it usually means: Do everything that you humanly can do to fix the problem or situation, then someone says, just have faith.

It implies that we've come to the end of our abilities and resources, and now we are at the edge of the cliff and we have to just jump off into some sort of fantasy realm and wish and hope and pray that God will come through on what He promised.

Well, HERE IS THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT.

The word translated as faith in the scriptures is the Greek word, *pistos*.

It means to be fully persuaded. As His children, it means being fully persuaded that

OUR FATHER GOD, WHO CANNOT LIE, WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES TO US.

Faith is not a Human effort. It is **DIVINE PERSUASION BY GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT.**

In 2 Peter 1.1, Peter writes, to those who he says, have received and obtained an equal privilege of the same kind of precious faith that we have through the righteousness of God and Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 11.1 amp. Explains that, Faith is **THE ASSURANCE, THE CONFIRMATION, THE TITLE DEED** of the things we hope for, **BEING THE PROOF OF THINGS WE DO NOT SEE AND THE CONVICTION OF THEIR REALITY. IT'S FAITH PERCEIVING AS REAL FACT WHAT IS NOT REVEALED TO THE SENSES.**

This world may think that faith is fantasy. But for us

IT'S THE ABILITY FROM GOD TO POSSESS EVERYTHING THAT HE HAS PROMISED US, AND MANIFEST IT TO THE WORLD.

Let's look at a few examples from the scriptures.

In Genesis 15 God made a covenant with Abraham. A covenant is a promise from God. God confirmed His Covenant to Abraham and his wife in Genesis 17. He told Abraham that he would have a son and that kings would come from his descendants. Then on top of His promise He also gave an oath to fulfill what he promised.

Hebrews 6.17+18 states that, God also, in His desire to show more convincingly and beyond doubt to those who were to inherit the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose and plan, intervened with an oath.

This was so that, by two unchangeable things [His promise and His oath] in which it is impossible for God ever to prove false *or* deceive us, we who have fled [to Him] for refuge might have mighty indwelling strength *and* strong encouragement to grasp *and* hold fast the hope appointed for us *and* set before [us].

Abraham was not ignorant of the impossibility of him having a son at a hundred years old and his barren wife being 90 years old. Abraham believed God's word. He waited 25 years for that son. And God came through for him as He promised.

Romans 4 records Abraham's response to God's word. He did not weaken in faith when he considered the [utter] impotence of his own body, which was as good as dead because he was about a hundred years old, or [when he

considered] the barrenness of Sarah's [deadened] womb. No unbelief *or* distrust made him waver (doubtfully question) concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong *and* was empowered by faith as he gave praise *and* glory to God, fully satisfied *and* assured that God was able *and* mighty to keep His word *and* to do what He had promised. Let's look at another example in the scriptures.

Do you remember the story of the centurion, in Matthew 8? His servant was sick and he went to Jesus to ask that Jesus would heal him. Jesus responded, I will come and heal him. The Centurion told Jesus, that I am a man under authority. When I exercise my authority, I can say to this one go and he goes and that one, come and he comes.

The Centurion said, I'm not worthy for you to come under my roof, just say the word and my servant will be healed. In other words, I know how authority works. Exercise your authority, give the command, and my servant will be healed. Jesus marveled afterwards, that he had not seen such great faith in all of Israel.

This Centurion submitted his emotions, his own thinking, his understanding of his servant's condition, and even his own authority to Jesus's word of healing. And he wasn't even saved!

It seems that in these days, just about everything that God ever spoke, has been perverted by men's carnal thinking with the help of Satan. Faith, the simple childlike trust and belief in God's promises, has been perverted by religion to mean that God wants to give you everything that you want. Just believe and it'll be yours.

Faith is not a tool to help us acquire everything that our flesh wants. It's not a magic key to give us everything that we desire. It's the empowering of God to acquire, possess, and manifest the eternal life that God's made available to us as our inheritance.

When we accepted Christ as our Savior and Lord, we put off our old un-fixable nature inherited from Adam and Eve, and received by grace, God's eternal life in exchange.

God never promised to give us a bunch of temporary things to please our flesh. He promised to be everything that we need to walk in His life and godliness in relationship with him.

2 Corinthians 4.18 says. We do not look at the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen, for the things that are seen are temporary, brief and fleeting, but the things that are invisible are deathless and everlasting.

Let's look at the real purpose of the faith that God gives us in 2 Peter 1.3+4.

For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him, Who called us by *and* to His own glory and excellence. By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.

Many people will say, didn't God made a promise in John 15, that we can ask whatever we will and he will do it.

This promise is tempered by the caveat in James 4.2+3. You do not have, because you do not ask. You do ask [God for them] and yet fail to receive, because you ask with wrong purpose and evil, selfish motives. Your intention is [when you get what you desire] to spend it in sensual pleasures.

Faith from God was given to us to accomplish and fulfill everything that we were originally created for. We were created to be the supreme creation of God to manifest His eternal life and establish His Kingdom on this earth. Faith empowers us to lay hold of and dispense everything that the Father has made available to us as His children, His heirs, and joint heirs with Christ. We've been made members of God's family and citizens of His Kingdom by His supernatural work of redemption and restoration through Christ's amazing sacrifice.

God is the only one who could redeem and recreate our fallen nature. We became new creations when God put us in Christ. And all of these things are from God. 2 Corinthians 5.17.

In closing, we must remember that faith isn't something that we work up in our flesh. It isn't our wishing, and hoping, and praying so that we can acquire what we want. It's us, as God's children, putting our trust in our Father's unshakable, and unchangeable covenant to be our eternal life.

Faith is THE ASSURANCE, THE CONFIRMATION, THE TITLE DEED of the things we hope for, BEING THE PROOF OF THINGS WE DO NOT SEE AND THE CONVICTION OF THEIR REALITY. IT'S FAITH PERCEIVING AS REAL FACT WHAT IS NOT REVEALED TO THE SENSES.

This world may think that faith is fantasy, but God is more real than anything seen in this natural realm. Faith for us IS THE ABILITY FROM GOD TO POSSESS EVERYTHING THAT HE HAS PROMISED US, AND MANIFEST IT TO THE WORLD.

BECAUSE,

As many as are the promises of God, and there are many of them, they are all yes in Christ, therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us. That promise is from 2 Corinthians 1.20

THE FATHER MAKES THE PROMISES AND THEN GIVES US THE FAITH TO SAY AMEN TO THEM.

IN AMERICA WE CALL THAT A NO BRAINER, AN EASY DECISION THAT IS COMPLETELY OBVIOUS TO EVERYONE.

God Bless You.

Jim Fuller

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