

Faith and the Gospel

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Scripture References

1 John 5:4	Ephesians 2:8
Romans 10:17	Matthew 17:20
Romans 1:16	2 Peter 1:3
Acts 20:24	Isaiah 55:11
Galatians 1:6, 7	Hebrews 1:3

Summary

There is a definite connection between what we believe and what the gospel says. When life throws challenges at us and worldly systems fail, faith in God's Word and knowing how to rightly divide it gives us victory over adversity. The kind of genuine trust we need goes beyond religion and gives us a way to be practical in applying the Word to everyday situations. Using precision in our application of the Gospel of Grace—which is also the gospel of Jesus Christ—gives us an ability to succeed on every level that the world doesn't have. Our faith is a powerful tool; however, for it to be effective we must use our words to put it to work. We do that by declaring the promises God made that apply to our specific situation. God already has a provision waiting for us that will address everything that happens to us; the finished works of Jesus have made available to us all the answers and solutions we will ever need.

A. It is essential to understand the specifics of how our faith and God's Word are connected.

1. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith (1 John 5:4).
 - a. To overcome everything going on in the world, we must know how to operate in precision where our faith is concerned.
 - b. When there are issues going on, we go to the Word and take the answer we need; the answer is our victory over the problem. Faith sees through the storm to the promise that has already been made.
 - c. If we do not get into the Word, we will not have the faith we need. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17).
2. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16).
 - a. In this context, "power" translates to "ability." The Greek word for "salvation" is "sozo," which contains our preservation, our healing, our deliverance, and our prosperity.
 - b. In the Old Testament, the gospel is referred to as good tidings or glad tidings. The gospel of Christ that Paul wrote about specifically refers to the good news that was prophesied.
 - c. The good news of Christ is that He became our ransom and our peace offering. He gave us the gift of forgiveness and the grace of God. The gospel of Christ is the Gospel of Grace.
 - d. This passage is significant because it was written by Paul, the apostle of grace. Despite his past, he still received God's grace and forgiveness.

- e. God's grace is defined as unmerited, abounding provision of the unrestrained operation of His infinite love; we get this only through Jesus Christ when we depend on Him. Properly applying the gospel gives us access to all the finished works of Christ.
- 3. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:24).
 - a. This was Paul's confession of what he had been called to do; specifically, to testify about the good news of God's favor.

B. Our faith in what grace made available enables us to receive what God wants us to have.

- 1. I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ (Galatians 1:6, 7).
 - a. There were other gospels preached during this time; however, Paul considered the gospel of the grace of Christ to be the *only* gospel that was true.
- 2. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8).
 - a. This grace gift includes our deliverance, our healing, our prosperity, our righteousness, our redemption, and everything else we need in life. We claim these things by our faith.
 - b. We release our faith by our words. Confessing God's Word makes *our* words spiritual containers that travel to the spiritual realm, collect the promises we need, bring them back to the physical realm, and cause manifestation in our lives.
 - c. We cannot focus on what we see or feel in the physical realm. The devil will attempt to deposit thoughts in our minds designed to plant unbelief; unbelief prevents our faith from working.
 - d. All we need to get the job done is just a little bit of faith the size of a mustard seed (Matthew 17:20).
 - e. We have been granted access to what we need. God has given us everything pertaining to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).
 - f. We guarantee success when we confess God's Word in faith.
 - g. So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it (Isaiah 55:11).
- 3. Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high (Hebrews 1:3).
 - a. We have been given great power. Our first move after trouble comes is to go to the Word and find the promise that fits our situation. The power of God is in the Word of God; specifically, the Word of grace.
 - b. Grace is something we do not have to work for or earn; we simply take hold of it by faith.

Category: faith

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