



FROM BROTHER HAYES

Greetings everyone!

This month's Trumpet Messenger is a lengthy article that I would normally spread over two months. However, I felt it best to combine these two issues into one.

Therefore, what you have in hand is for August and September.

This is a very special issue as it deals with a subject that is most important. As you will find when reading this article, "Faith" is the most necessary ingredient in anyone's life. We must have faith!

The outline also is somewhat different than usual as I felt some of you might want to use it as a study guide. The article is in no way a complete study on faith. I have chosen a few of verses that I felt best described what I wanted to impart to you. That is, "Why Faith Must Be Preached". If you need more copies of this Trumpet Messenger, please let us know.

We are excited about our upcoming Annual Camp Meeting here in Tennessee. We believe this Camp Meeting will be the best yet. We have been experiencing a powerful anointing in the recent meetings that we haven't felt in many years. God is about to do something spectacular! I am anticipating a great outpouring of the Holy Ghost!

Please make your plans to attend this year. There will be 6 Great Services, October 27 thru October 30. A Camp Meeting poster is also enclosed. I know the enemy will do all he can to hinder you from coming! Press on, fight through and be here!

-Brother Hayes

WHY FAITH MUST BE PREACHED

By: Phillip Hayes

The importance of having faith is being vastly overlooked or avoided by many of today's ministers of Jesus Christ. You may think that statement cannot be true as the message of the Gospel must be received by faith. However, never in my 50 years of serving the Lord have I witnessed such a lack of faith among professing Christians as I see today.

Born again, Holy Ghost filled Christians are physically, mentally and emotionally sick on a scale that is unbelievable and it seems to be growing day by day. Never have I found such fear of sickness as I see today! Many will blame this on the Covid 19 pandemic, but it started long before Covid began.

This is not just a problem in our church or ministry. Ministers everywhere are being bombarded with calls, texts, emails, etc., from men and women desperate for prayer. They're sick, bound and confused! If they are not sick, it's their children that are either sick or bound with drugs or alcohol. We might expect sinful people to be in such condition, but I'm not talking about the people of the world, I'm talking about God's people! You can say or believe what you want, but I don't believe this is the way it should be!

Pentecostal people once believed they could move mountains through faith. Old time Pentecostals didn't believe in doctors or taking drugs. Their faith was not in the arm of flesh but in the power of God. To find such people today, you have to go to the Bible Book stores and read about them. They're almost non-existent today! What has happened?

I believe the teaching of faith has been greatly perverted throughout Christianity. Most times when faith is taught, it is for material possessions. Many teach and believe their faith will produce carnal possessions; homes, cars, clothes, jobs and money. However, when attacked by sickness or disease it seems their faith cannot produce what is needed most; healing and miracles for their body. I say that because of the lack of physical healing and deliverance we witness today. Many are blessed financially and materially, but are desperately sick and diseased in their bodies.

Recently, I have noticed several ministers crying out against ministers that teach the "Word of Faith" accusing them of all kinds of false teachings. They declare that the "Word of Faith" is a false doctrine. Although it is evident some of these so called "Word of Faith" teachers may error in some of their teachings. But should we deny the teaching of the "Word of Faith" if the apostles taught it? Remember the old saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater".

It is my sincere hope that this article will help each reader rebuild their faith in the God of the Bible and the faith that He has graciously given every believer.

Remember, Satan comes to steal, kill and destroy. What better way to destroy born again Christians than rob them of their faith?! You are the target of Satan!

I felt led to prepare this article a little different than in the past. My hope is you will use it as a guide to further study the verses we will be commenting on. I believe these few verses prove that God has given us faith to overcome sin, sickness and the devil.

Faith is extremely important to the Christian! It may surprise you, but there are only 2 verses in the entire Old Testament that the word faith is found. The New Testament in comparison explodes with 229 verses where the word faith is used 245 times.

Space will not allow us to examine all 229 verses in this article. I will concentrate on verses that answer the many questions that have been asked about faith.

What is faith? The dictionary defines the word faith as, (1) the complete trust or confidence in someone or something. (2) a strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof.

But how does the Word of God define faith? "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" [Hebrews 11:1]. So, faith must begin with hope. We hope we will be healed! After hope begins in our heart, faith begins to be activated. The word faith is Biblically defined as two things. It is substance and evidence of things that is hoped for. Faith is more than hoping for something to happen. It is more than trusting or having confidence in something! It is more than just a

strong belief in God. We know that devils believe in one God, but they are certainly not beings of faith.

I believe every born again Christian firmly believes that God can do anything. You and I believe there is nothing impossible for Him. He can heal the sick and perform miracles. But believing God can do these things doesn't manifest substance or evidence unless it happens. What it takes is faith. So faith is only manifested when the healing or miracle actually takes place. Think about this, there are two men observing a very sick individual. One addresses the sick person and says, "God can heal you". The other man says, "God will heal you". There is a vast difference in these two statements: God can and God will. We all know God can, but will He? This is where we must have faith. Faith is evidence! It will produce the miracle! When you pray in faith, you must pray actually believing that you have what you asked for before you receive it! Faith is believing God will! Those things that are hoped for when prayed for in faith become reality!

Here is the way James described faith in action, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works" [James 2:17-18]. Clearly faith will create works.

Faith must be preached . . . "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them. But the righteousness which is of faith

speakeſt on this wiſe, Say not in thine heart, Who ſhall aſcend into heaven? (that is, to bring Chriſt down from above:) Or, Who ſhall deſcend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Chriſt again from the dead.) But what ſaith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach” [Romans 10:4-8].

The word of faith muſt be preached becauſe the apoſtles preached it! It is the fundamental truth of the apoſtles doctrine. Apoſtle Paul tells us that righteousneſs comes by faith. He ſtates that this word is near you, even in your mouth and in your heart. Praise the Lord! This righteousneſs that is of God comes by faith and your mouth will declare it! But where does it begin?

Where does it come from? “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” [Romans 10:17].

This is why reading and ſtudying the Word of God is ſo very important. The Bible is the Book of faith; the very will of God. It is the ſource or means of which faith comes. The ſcripture tells us faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Although there are only two verſes in the Old Teſtament that mentions the word faith, we find faith throughout it’s holy pages. The entire eleventh chapter of Hebrews is called the chapter of faith as it deſcribes the awesome faith the ancient people of the Old Teſtament poſſeſſed. When we read of the exploits of faith theſe great men and women achieved it ſtimulates our own faith. “By faith Enoch was translated; By faith Noah, moved with fear and prepared an ark; By faith the walls of Jericho fell down; By faith they paſſed

through the Red sea; Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions". And on and on the list goes about men and women just like you and I that did impossible things through faith!

Abraham is called the father of faith. The Bible says, "Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham" [Galatians 3:6-7]. Thank God for His Word that imparts faith to us!

It begins in your heart . . . "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" [Matthew 12:34]. Every day people give themselves away by their speech. If you are a good listener, you have found the secret of knowing the true intent of the hearts of people you encounter. For whatever is in their heart, their mouth will give them away. So, if faith is in your heart, your mouth will speak faith! This faith attitude of your heart will manifest in your mouth. Your speech is salted with positive things, "Everything is going to work out"; "All things are possible". "You're going to make it"; "I'm blessed!" I am sure you have been around people that some refer to as "drama queens". They always talk negative. Nothing good comes out of their mouths. Their hearts are filled with darkness, doubt and unbelief and their mouths testify of what's in their hearts. When God gives you faith, it begins in your heart.

Then it is spoken . . . Romans chapter 10, verse 8 revealed that The Word of Faith is spoken when it is in

your heart, "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach". Jesus said, "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith" [Mark 11:23]. Jesus said, "Say to the mountain! Speak to it! Praise God! Most people don't believe Jesus really meant this! Maybe the Lord is looking for someone that "shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith".

Perhaps you have never considered this proverb from the Old Testament, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof" [Proverbs 18:21]. Our words are more powerful than you may have realized. Hopefully you are beginning to realize how important the Word of Faith is! I believe when faith is really in your heart it will manifest in your mouth. You will speak it! You can manifest life or death by what you speak!

How does it work? This is a great question and I am so excited to share with you just how faith works. I believe there have been untold numbers of men and women that wanted faith. However, I don't believe they wanted it for the right reasons. Many wanted faith in order to bolster their ministries. They wanted the title, "Man of Faith or Woman of Faith. A.A. Allen was introduced as "God's man of faith and power"! Back in those days, preachers wanted to imitate him and also be God's man of faith and power. However, few if any, ever

reached the level of ministry Brother Allen attained. The reason? I would suggest they wanted faith for the wrong reasons. I remember some of the imitators interviewing people that had supposedly been healed in one of their meetings. The introduction usually began something like this, "Come, tell the people what God did for you in my ministry". Clearly they were using faith to promote themselves rather than the Lord Jesus Christ.

How does faith come? What births faith in a person's heart? Here is our answer, "For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love" [Galatians 5:6]. Faith works by love! Jesus was moved by compassion! Love motivated our Lord to heal the sick and raise the dead. He was moved by compassion when He fed the multitude realizing they had not eaten anything in three days. Never forget, faith works by love!

You desire to have more faith or a gift of faith because you love God and you love people, not to build yourself up as some special person with a great ministry!

Does everyone have it? Unfortunately, not everyone has faith. "And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith" [2Thessalonians 3:2]. I'm sure you have encountered numerous people that have absolutely no faith whatsoever. Most are atheists denying the very existence of God. But there are people that have faith.

Who has it? According to the Bible every born again Christian has faith! Paul writes to the Roman church as states, "For I say, through the grace given unto

me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith" [Romans 12:3]. One remarkable thing about this scripture is what many have overlooked. Paul states that God has given every man the measure of faith, not a measure. It's surprising how one word can change the whole meaning of what's being said. When I began serving the Lord I thought some people were given more faith than others. Often times when I compared myself to the great men and women of faith of yesteryear I felt I was at the bottom of the barrel when it came to faith. This scripture made me realize that God gave each of us the same amount (measure) of faith. It's how you use what God has given you that makes the difference!

Do you need a lot of it? The answer is a resounding no! The disciples asked the Lord a similar question in Luke chapter 17, verse 5, "And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith". The Lord answered with this amazing statement, "And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you" [Luke 17:6].

In Matthew chapter 17, verse 20, the Lord Jesus made this equally amazing statement concerning the amount of faith one needed. "And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you".

These two statements are amazing because each proclaim a great truth! A mustard seed is one of the smallest seeds known to man. The seeds are usually about 1 to 2 millimeters or 0.039 to 0.079 inches. When planted it can grow as tall as a tree. It is an annual winter herb with a taproot, and it's an herb that grows fast, branching profusely. It can grow to 12 feet tall. Jesus is telling us that the smallest amount of faith imaginable can produce great and mighty things. Jesus said this extremely small amount of (mustard seed) faith would not only uproot trees, but would also move mountains! An old chorus we used to sing was "Faith, faith faith, just a little bit of faith. You don't need a whole lot, just use what you got." Nothing is impossible to a man or woman that will believe God!

You can't be saved without it! Many are quick to proclaim they are saved by grace. That statement is true, but only partially true. When portions are taken out of a verse or set of scriptures they can pervert the actual meaning of what the writer intended. You only hear half the truth so you don't know the whole truth. The verse this statement is taken from includes another equally important ingredient. Here is that verse of scripture, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" [Ephesians 2:8]. So, when it is read together we find the whole truth. We are saved by grace but it is through faith or because of faith. Although it is not of ourselves, we must believe or have faith in God's grace in order to be saved. It is the "free" gift of God. Our faith is the igniter of God's salvation! God's hand is extending His free gift of salvation by the

Gospel of Jesus Christ, but you must reach out and receive His gift by faith.

Your faith not only saves you but faith will also keep you by the power of God! Look at this awesome verse, "Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" [1Peter 1:5]. Let me give you one more verse of scripture that has been a blessing to me all my life. "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy" [Jude 1:24]. I have held on to this promise for many years now. My faith rejoices in God's amazing grace! He is able to keep us my friend.

You can't live without it! I thank God for the righteousness that comes through faith. The Apostle Paul is very clear that he lived by his faith, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" [Galatians 2:20]. Again in writing to the Philippians church he wrote, "And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith" [Philippians 3:9]. Later, Paul emphasized how those who are justified will live by their faith, "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith" [Romans 1:17].

You can't walk without it! Years ago, I remember Brother Bob Stevens standing and singing "I Can't Even Walk Without Him Holding My Hand"! I loved

that song and Brother Bob did too. You see, he was a diabetic and the doctor's wanted to amputate his foot. He chose to have faith in God that the doctor's wouldn't have to amputate his foot. Thank God, they didn't have to! That song was very dear to him! He chose to walk by faith and not by what he was seeing. "For we walk by faith, not by sight: [2 Corinthians 5:7]. The Bible said Enoch walked with God and he was translated! People want to go to Heaven but sometimes I wonder if they are walking with Christ, or the Antichrist.

You can't please God without it! This is so very important to understand! I have never met a born again Christian that didn't want to please God. I think we all go about so many different ways to please God except the very one He desires. Faith! God wants us to believe Him! To believe His Word! To believe His promises! 2Chronicles chapter 20, verse 20, tells us,"Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper". We prosper because we believe!

Many times my wife and I have turned to the Word of God when we were overburdened with finances. We would quote all the verses of scripture we could find on the blessings of God. We would read them over and over to each other building our faith in God's promises. I can testify that God honored our faith in His Word and has blessed us many times over through the years. The Word absolutely works through faith! I don't care if the need is financially, materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually, it works by faith!

The Word is clear! Without faith, it is impossible to please God! Here it is: "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" [Hebrews 11:6]. Two things you must believe! (1) You must believe that He is God. (2) You must also believe God will reward you. When you meet those two requirements, you have pleased God and on your way to victory!

You can't overcome the world without it. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" [2Corinthians 6:17-18]. Born again Christians always seek to please God but sadly fail in doing so many times. They know they are commanded to not love the world or the things that are in the world. They desire to walk in holiness and godly living. They cry out to God to help them walk in the Spirit that they wouldn't fulfill the lust of the flesh. Their hearts break when they fail God and miss the high calling He had called them to. Yes, born again, Holy Spirit filled Christians do fail.

How can we keep from failing and disappointing our Lord? How can we be victorious and overcome pride, envy, strife, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life? How can we overcome the world?

Thank God for His Word! Here is our answer, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" [1John 5:4]. Your faith in God empowers you to

overcome the world! Your faith will rise to the occasion when you fail God. Faith will pull you out of your failures and put the joy of the Lord back in your heart. Your faith in God's Love and Grace will keep you going! Your faith is the answer. It will overcome the world!

You can't overcome the devil without it. In James chapter four, verse seven, the Word of God tells us, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you". This statement is remarkably plain and to the point. The devil will run from you if you are submitted to God! You might ask, where does faith come in to play? Simply without faith you would never be able to believe this scripture for your life. As a matter of fact, the majority of Christians I have encountered seem almost powerless against the devil! The past few years have highlighted this! Emergency rooms all over the world were filled to capacity with people fearful of Covid19 and a lot of them were Holy Ghost filled Christians. Holy Ghost Christians cancelled their church services fearful of Covid and what the government might do to them. None of these were acts of faith! What happened to them? Their faith failed them!

Look how Jesus prayed for Peter when He knew Satan wanted to destroy him: "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren" [Luke 22:31-32].

The Lord Jesus prophesied to Peter. He said the devil wants you and he wants to cut you to pieces! Then Jesus said, "But I've prayed for you!" I'm sure Peter was

relieved to hear that our Lord prayed for him. But then Jesus told him what He prayed, "That thy faith fail thee not". Jesus didn't pray that He would keep the devil from destroying him. On the contrary, Peter was going to have to fight this battle himself! Jesus prayed for Peter's faith to be strong and not fail him! Jesus knew the faith He was going to give Peter would be sufficient to fight Satan and all his horde of demons. I believe this is also the Lord's prayer for us, "That our faith doesn't fail us"!

You can't have a good report without it. A good report is a witness, a testimony. I can assure you that you will never have a good testimony without faith. Faith is what brings good testimonies! Standing before others and telling what God has done for you is a testimony of faith. It might be how God saved you, it was by faith. It might be how God healed you, it was by faith. "For by it the elders obtained a good report" [Hebrews 11:2].

You can't grow and develop godly love without it. The Bible reveals that our faith can grow! Our faith grows because our love has grown! Praise the Lord! Love is the key! Love will make your faith grow! As your love and faith grows it impacts more and more of the brethren. Here is our scripture that describes this great truth: "We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth" [2Thessalonians 1:2].

You can't understand how God made the worlds without it. This incredible faith that God imparts opens our hearts to understand that the physical

world and universe were made by God out of nothing! "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear" [Hebrews 11:3].

You can't pray effectively without it. Many times I have said "When praying, you must believe you will receive what you are asking for or you are wasting your time". This is what Jesus taught the disciples. "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive" [Matthew 21:22]. We can know God's will if we know His Word. For instance, the Bible says, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" [3John 1:2]. This scripture tells us that God wants us to prosper and be in health as our soul prospers. If our souls are prospered, this is His will for you and I. If I'm praying for healing, I can believe it is His will to heal me. If I'm praying for Him to prosper me, then I know it is His will. Therefore I can pray with faith that God is going to prosper me.

We also know there is a prayer called the "Prayer of Faith". "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him" [James 5:15]. This "Prayer of Faith" must be prayed with this in mind: God will heal! Not, God can heal!

Jesus wants us to have it. Without faith, it would be impossible for us to please God. We have already learned this. The Lord Jesus would certainly want us to please the Father. Pleasing God is my desire and I

would believe it is the desire of every Christian. Certainly Jesus wants us to have faith. Jesus commanded us to have faith in God! "And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God" [Mark 11:2]. Jesus also said, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" [Luke 12:32]. Faith is the gift that comes with the package! This next verse of scripture has impacted my life tremendously. It lets us know that our faith will work when we acknowledge that our Lord has given us every good thing we would need to be the overcoming people He has chosen us to be. "That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus" [Philemon 1:6].

We have to fight for it. We know there is a great spiritual battle raging all around us between the forces of good and evil. We are told to, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses" [1Timothy 6:12].

God's people are dressed for war and we have been called to be strong in the Lord! "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate

of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints" [Ephesians 6:10-18].

The Apostle Paul ends this great word with, "Above all take the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God and pray always!" The fight is over your soul!

In Jude chapter 1, verse 3 we find there is a faith that was once delivered we should be fighting for: "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." I hope you are fighting with all you can muster for this great faith that was once given to the saints. I believe there is a great restoration taking place!

Faith will bring miracles! Eleven times we find the words "Thy faith" in the New Testament . Nine of those times it was the Lord Jesus speaking to individuals! In almost every instance a miracle took place because of the individuals faith. One that comes to mind is the little woman that pressed through a crowd of people to get to Jesus. When she touched His garment she was immediately healed. Jesus credited her faith with this great miracle! "And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me. And

when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately. And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace" [Luke 8:46-48].

What must your faith be in? Certainly our faith should never be in the arm of flesh. Although doctors and nurses can be a great blessing but they cannot heal us. Most of them are caring and try their best to relieve us of our sufferings and I thank God for those that are called to this great profession. We can place our faith in wrong places. Politics is one of the worse places to place your confidence or faith in. Philippians chapter 3, verse 3, warns us, "have no confidence in the flesh".

We can have faith in God! God never changes, man does. God has been so gracious to give us His only begotten Son that shed His blood for the sins of all people. God also gave Him an all powerful name! The Bible says it this way, "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" [Philippians 2:9-11]. It is faith in this all Holy Name that produces healings and miracles!

Jesus said, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them;

they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover” [Mark 16:17-18]. Every believer has the authority to use this powerful Name! Jesus promised miracles would be performed in His Name! Do you believe it? Do you have faith in His Name?

Peter and John encountered a beggar man at the gate of the temple. He was lame since he was born. He received a great miracle when Peter lifted him up. He began walking, leaping and praising God. He caused a great commotion and people came running up to Peter and John! Peter wanted the people to know how this miracle happened. He didn't take credit for it the way a lot of preachers do today. Here is what Peter said, "And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all" [Acts 3:16]. Praise God! Peter had faith in the Name of Jesus and this is what caused the miracle to happen. Do you have faith in the name of Jesus?

Can we have more faith? We have already found that the more love we have, the more faith we will have! In Luke chapter 17, verse 5, "And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith". I am sure you have asked the Lord for more faith. I know I have! In the past I never realized how important love was in relation to faith. Now I know how to have more faith. Loving and caring more. Several years ago my prayer life began to change and I remember each morning praying that I would be a blessing to someone that day. Love was working in my without me being conscience of it. This is what the Lord wants to do for all of us. Increase our faith

by increasing our love! "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal" [Colossians 12:7]. Praise the Lord, He increases our gifts to be a blessing and a profit to everyone! Thank you Jesus for your unspeakable gift!

It's a gift! As stated before I believe God has given every child of God the measure of faith. It is a gift from God to us. Each of us has been given the same amount (See Romans 12:3). The Bible also lists nine spiritual gifts God has given to the body of Christ. One of these special gifts is the gift of "Faith". "To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will" [1Corinthians 12:9-11]. Perhaps God might impart the "gift of faith" in response to those instances when our faith might fail us. I know you have all probably experienced times in your life that your faith may have failed you in some way. God is faithful to reward us in these times if we would put our trust in Him and ask for the gift of faith to be imparted. Either way, faith is a gift and faith must be preached!

Can you stop faith from working? The answer is yes! There are 3 ways:

(1) Not having love because it works by love ". . . but faith which worketh by love" [Galatians 5:6]. Jesus was moved by compassion! Love motivated our Lord to heal the sick and raise the dead. A lack of love and

compassion will hinder the power of faith. Love is the spark that lights the fire of faith to operate in a person. Love causes faith to work!

(2) Not reading and studying the Word because faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Faith is manifested when it is mixed with the Word of God, "For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it" [Hebrews 4:2]. The Word of God without the Spirit is a dead letter. It cannot be fully understood. In the same way, when the Word of God is not mixed with faith it becomes ineffective to the reader. The Spirit and the Word will always agree and will produce faith. Reading the Word of God produces faith that helps us to believe what we are reading!

(3) By unbelief, "And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief" [Matthew 13:58].

Because of unbelief, faith must be preached! Think about this. Everywhere Jesus went miracles and healings were demonstrated among the people. But when He went to the area where He had been raised He could perform no mighty works among them! The Gospel of Mark records this encounter Jesus had among His own countrymen this way: "And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him. And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his

hands? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching" [Mark 6:1-6].

Unbelief stopped the move of God for these people that Jesus loved! The Bible says He marveled at their unbelief. He was amazed by their reaction! Their unbelief stopped the faith of our Lord! How much more will it stop you or I? How did Jesus deal with this? Verse six gave His response, "He went round about the villages, teaching". I personally believe Jesus went about teaching Faith! Faith must be taught.

Is it a sin to not have faith? I am sure you understand that faith is the opposite of unbelief. It's like light and darkness. They cannot comprehend each other. Therefore unbelief is what Satan uses to defeat you. Satan is the author of all lies. He comes to steal, kill and destroy! Jesus said he was a murderer, a liar and the father of lies from the beginning. I am sure he hates this outline of why faith must be preached. He hates the Truth!

The Word of God is plain in answering our question. Is it a sin to not have faith? "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of

faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin” [Romans 14:23]. Whatsoever is not of faith is sin! Unbelief is sin!

We also find that the ancient children of Israel were not permitted to enter the promise land because of their unbelief. The writer of Hebrews wrote about this for our warning! “And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief” [Hebrews 3:18-19].

Finally, the book of Revelation reveals those who will be cast into hell. Included are the fearful, all liars and the unbelieving. Jesus is speaking here: “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” [Revelation 21:8].

Will your faith be tried? Yes, the Bible promises our faith will be tried. “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ” [1Peter 1:7]. This trying of our faith is necessary. I look at it as a testing of my faith. Many times I have been tested through the things that have happened in my life. When looking back, I see how my faith wasn’t as firm as I thought. Many times I failed my test. Then, there were the times my faith carried me through to victory. Sometimes, the trying of your faith will inspire you because it actually surprised you how faithful you were under pressure! Either way, the trying of your faith is

necessary because it reveals your strengths and weaknesses. We need to know our weaknesses in order to overcome them. Don't fear your trial of faith! God is with you in the valley just as much as He is with you on the mountaintop.

Will Jesus find faith in you? Jesus asked this penetrating question of those that will be alive on planet earth when He returns. It's found in Luke chapter 18, verse 8, "I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

I believe the Lord knew that those living in the end time would be faced with more doubt and unbelief than any other generation. He knew it would be a time of great deception and lawlessness. He had revealed the end time would be like the days of Noah when mankind had become so sinful and ungodly that God had to destroy them. As a matter of fact, He said the deception of that era would be so powerful that if it were possible the very elect would be deceived. He said for the elects sake the days would be shortened or no flesh would be saved. (See Matthew 24). Those alive at the second coming of Christ will face these things. Will He find faith on the earth? Will He find faith in you? This would be a good day to begin examining ourselves in the Light of God's Word. This would be a good day to begin exercising the faith God has given us. Let us love God and one another as we are commanded thereby expanding our faith with our love.

May God richly bless every reader with more love and faith than they have ever experienced.