

Views Into The World Of Faith

I want to share ten simple thoughts about the subject of faith, and we will look through ten windows, to see if we can gain a better understanding into this subject of faith. The bible says without faith it is impossible to please God!

- 1.) The first window of faith we find in Romans 12:3: **For by the grace given to me I tell everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than one ought to think, but to think soberly, each according to the measure of faith that God has apportioned.**

God has given each one of us a measure of faith. (2 Thess 3:2) for not all have faith. If you look out into the world there are people without faith, but those who are among you have a measure of faith. That may be a revelation to some here today, but we all a measure, those whom are believers

Many time we place our faith in someone else' faith, well if so and so could pray for me I would be healed. What we need to realize is that there is nothing wrong with the faith God has given us.

This brings us to the second point:

- 2.) Romans 10:17 Thus faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. **Hearing the word is the method where by we receive faith, and it is the main method that faith is strengthened.**

It is important that we hear the word if it is through preaching, teaching, devotions, and reading the word. One translation reads faith is awakened by hearing and hearing through the word of God.

We have been given a measure of faith it is now important for you to develop that faith and strengthen that faith by feeding upon the word of God.

3.) **Romans 5:** ¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom **we have gained access (by faith) to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.**

We have access into God's grace through faith, and the grace of God does everything in our lives.

Forgiveness by grace, healing is by grace, material needs, answered prayers by grace, baptism into the Holy Spirit is by grace. You can't merit it, you can't work for it God has already provided everything by His grace.

Faith is the hand that receives what God has already provided by grace! Everything was done by Christ in who we have access by God's grace, the price has been paid. Just reach your hand in "by faith" and receive what has already been paid for by grace.

We are all familiar what a master key does, yes? It will open all doors to a building where some people only have a key to a certain office or storage room. Well God has given you and I the master key (that being faith) to access all of His promises, blessings and needs for our lives.

4.) **How to use the key** Romans 10: ⁸but what does it say? **"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"** (that is, the word of faith that we preach), ⁹for, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

By the way that word translated into salvation is the same word translated to healing, throughout the New Testament. God's salvation is far broader than most of us realize. Salvation includes something for spirit, soul, and body. When Jesus healed somebody this same exact word is used, and this same word salvation also used in the gospels for people that were delivered from demon powers. The Greek word means: forgiveness, healing, deliverance, safety, everything!

This is how the key works: in verse 8 it talked about the mouth and the heart, and also in verse 9 it talks about the heart and the mouth, the same for verse 10.

In order to experience God's salvation in any of the above aspects the heart and the mouth need to get together. **This is point number 4 that faith needs to be in the heart and the mouth in order for it to be made complete.**

For in Romans 10:17 it says, So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

We need to break this up into two parts faith in the heart and faith in the mouth.

Jesus taught about this to His disciples in Mark 11, When Jesus was walking to Bethany and spots a fig tree with no fruit. He begins to talk to the tree and says "no man eat of you here after or forever. The bible says He said it so loud that His disciples heard it. There was no immediate change to the fig tree, but when they come back from town within a 24-hour period. Peter sees the tree and says master the tree you cursed it and it has withered away.

It was done the moment Jesus spoke it, the bible says it happened from the roots up. It began in the unseen realm, and work its way to the seen realm. And Jesus used this moment to teach His disciples on how faith works. Jesus said have faith in God, not in a principle, but faith in God! And then Jesus said: whoever says to this mountain (your problem, sickness) be removed and cast into the sea, and believes in his or her heart that these things that he had said it will come to past.

What Jesus has said in order for faith to work is that you heart and mouth must come together. In fact He said you couldn't doubt in your heart, the Greek word deokreno means to differ. You can't have one thing in your mouth and something different in your heart faith wont operate. The heart and the mouth are like jumper cables, if you don't hook the positive to the positive post and the negative to the negative post it won't start.

Most Christian's problems is not the heart it's the mouth.

5.) Romans 4:20 yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God.

Faith praises God for the answer not yet received! Anyone can shout when the walls of Jericho have fallen, but it takes faith when the walls are still standing and you need them down. It takes unwavering faith to walk around the walls several times why the enemy mocks and laughs.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Romans 4:17

17 (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") (this is past tense, it has already been done!) in the presence of Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.

Romans 4:18

18 In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE."

Abraham did not waver in belief and he praised God before it ever happened! He believed God's word over the circumstances. In verse 18 he believed according to that which was spoken! Faith is always anchored in what God says.

Abram's name was changed to Abraham "man of many nations: Sarah name was changed to "princes" They believed in their new names that God had given them.

We need to be anchored in what God's says in His word and what has been spoken for our lives.

6)Romans 3:3

What then? If some did not believe, their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God, will it?

Romans 3:4

May it never be! Rather, let God be found true, though every man *be found* a liar, as it is written, "THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED."

I don't care what anyone says, I will stand strong in my faith and not in their unbelief. I will stand on one side for God, and let God be made true and all others to be liars.

Maybe some of you feel you have tried everything regarding faith. I have tried to change the way I talk it just didn't work for me.

Let me share a couple of thoughts with you in Romans chapter 1, this will be number 7 and 8.

7.) Faith is progressive:

Romans 1:16-17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH." Faith that leads to greater faith!

Some people fail to get results because they are trying to believe beyond the development of their faith.

Jesus talked about little faith and big faith; **2 Thessalonians 1:3** We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is *only* fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows *ever* greater;

Faith is no different than our growth into maturity from birth to 80 years of age. Our capacity to receive things grows as our faith grows.

Our faith is like loading a trailer we try and shove everything we have claimed into a trailer that is too small, such as, Houses, furniture, retirement, and ministry. We need to start from where we are and take

each thing step by step and exercise our faith and feed it on the word of God, and as our faith grows so will our trailer.

George Miller had the great orphanage in England, thousands of children in his orphanage and believed God from A to Z for everything. He said in his diary that when he started it took all of his faith he had for 100 pounds. He said today it is as easy for me to believe for a Million pounds, as it was when I started when I believed God for a 100 pounds. What happened? His faith had grown!

7.) "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; FAITH IS A LIFE STYLE

Faith is not a magic wand, nor is it like having your own genie, and God the genie comes out and gets us out of our troubles or gives us our three wishes.

Faith is a life style, and if you only use faith to get you out of your crisis of life it won't work for you. Faith is to be used as if it was your only pair of shoes put them on in the morning and leave them on all day. Faith is a day-by-day life style trusting God in the good times and the bad times, no matter how you are feeling that day.

We need to believe God in the very little things so when the big crisis comes we will have a true faith of deliverance in God.

9.) Spiritual things, gifts, and blessing from God are imparted and received through a mutual faith

Romans 1:10-12

10 always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you. 11 For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established, 12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you *while* among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine.

We need to begin to believe together that we may be established, that is encouraged together by each other's faith.

I can believe and trust God for your healing, but if you don't have the faith and trust that you can be healed you just may not be healed.

Most things that are done in the kingdom of God whether on an individual level, church level, denominational level, or a national level, are done through a mutual faith.

Example of skiing: One to drive the boat and throw the rope the other to grab the rope, this works in partnership together. Some will say God does everything? Yes God gets all the credit! God provides the lake, the boat, and the rope, God gives the Holy Spirit that can pull you out of any problem, but there must be cooperation between the believing parties.

The person throwing the rope (minister or believer) has to have faith as well as the person grabbing the rope. Quit having everyone else do your believe for you, you don't need to go to convention to convention to have your prayer answered.

Faith is rooted and grounded on God's promises and you better be going to God with your promises on your lips and your heart.

10.) Faith makes you right with God not works

Romans 3:28

For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

Some people just can't accept that salvation is so easy, and they believe they must do something to receive that salvation. So many stumble over the simplicity of God's salvation coming to Him by faith.

Example: At the hotel I worked at in San Diego when I guest checked in they be asked to put everything on their tab.

Jesus Christ has already paid for all our debts, and Jesus Christ has signed for sins. You cannot give or do anything for your salvation, except have faith when coming to God.

Your currency can do nothing the only currency accepted in Heaven is your faith that gives you access into God's grace!

Romans 3:23-24

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption, which is in Christ Jesus.

Your good works are like filthy rags, all you need to do is believe in the faith that God has requested from all of us.