Biblical Faith

Matthew 9:29 Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you.

WHAT IS FAITH?

- **Webster's Dictionary:** firm belief in something for which there is no proof; complete confidence
- Unger's Bible Dictionary: "The conviction of the reality of the truths and facts that God has revealed, based solely upon the testimony of God."
- **Holy Bible:** "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1) GREEK: "substance" = "a standing under, a support, a title deed"

HOW DOES FAITH WORK?

It must be a constant attitude or lifestyle, not just a "life preserver!"

Romans 10:17 ¹⁷ So then faith <u>cometh</u> by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

It must be unashamedly vocalized.

Romans 10:8-10 ⁸ 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; ⁹ That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

It must be accompanied by action.

James 2:17-20 ¹⁷ Even so faith, <u>if it hath not works</u>, is dead, being alone. ¹⁸ 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 <u>faith by my works</u>. ¹⁹ Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. ²⁰ But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

It must disregard the obstacles.

Romans 4:19-21 ¹⁹ And being not weak in faith, he <u>considered</u> not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: ²⁰ He <u>staggered not</u> at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; ²¹ And being <u>fully persuaded</u> that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

It will not operate effectively where there is doubt present.

Mark 11:23-24 ²³ 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. ²⁴ Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Mark 6:4-5 ⁴ 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. ⁵ And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.

DEGREES OF FAITH

Little faith - "Why Are You Fearful?" (Battles Fear and Doubts God Constantly)

<u>Disciples in Storm</u> - Matthew 8:26 ²⁶ And he saith unto them, <u>Why are ye fearful</u>, O <u>ye of little faith</u>? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. (KJV)

<u>Peter Walking on Water</u> - <u>Matthew 14:31</u> ³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O <u>thou of little faith</u>, <u>wherefore didst thou doubt</u>? (KJV)

<u>Sermon on the Mount</u> - Matthew 6:30 ³⁰ Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, <u>shall he not much more</u> clothe you, O <u>ye of little</u> <u>faith</u>? (KJV)

Faith - "Thy Faith Hath Made Thee Whole" (Needs Immediate Sign or Feeling to Confirm)

<u>Woman With Issue of Blood</u> - Matthew 9:22 ²² But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

<u>Blind Bartimaeus</u> - Mark 10:52 ⁵² And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; <u>thy faith hath made thee whole</u>. And <u>immediately</u> he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Great Faith - "Go Thy Way" (Believes "Long Distance" - Without Sign or Feeling) - only 2X

<u>Centurion with Sick Servant</u> - Matthew 8:10,13 ¹⁰ When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so <u>great faith</u>, no, not in Israel. ¹³ And Jesus said unto the centurion, <u>Go thy way</u>; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

<u>Woman with Demon-Possessed Daughter</u> - Matthew 15:28 ²⁸
Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, <u>great is thy</u>
<u>faith</u>: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.