

## Where Is Your Faith? — 4/03/24

**TEXT- Matthew 17:14-21** *And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed:*

### INTRO – Four Scriptures state the importance of Faith

**Romans 1:17** *For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

**Galatians 3:11** *But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.*

**Hebrews 10:38** *Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*

**Habakkuk 2:4** *Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.*

### I. Where is your faith?

- **The calming of the storm - Mark 4:40** *And he said unto them, **Why are ye so fearful?** how is it that ye have no faith?*
- **Parable of the rich fool - Luke 12:28** *If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, **O ye of little faith?***
- **Demon possessed boy - Matthew 17:20** *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.*
  - **Forgot the Feeding the 5000 - Matthew 16:8** *Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, **O ye of little faith,** why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?*
  - **Peter walking on the water - Matthew 14:31** *And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?*

### II. Are you living by faith?

**Two beliefs are absolutely essential for a right relationship with God.**

We must believe that He exists and rewards those who diligently seek Him

**Hebrews 11:6** *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.*

These are the foundational truths for the Christian life and the method by which we relate to Him and through His Son. We either believe that God will do exactly what He's promised and trust Him in every situation, or we let our minds fill with doubt and walk in fear, anxiety, and turmoil.

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians, he contrasts our present physical reality

with our unseen eternal future

**Romans 14:23** *And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.*

**2 Corinthians 5:7** *(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)*

### III. What is walking by faith?

Paul uses the word "walk" to denote conduct, lifestyle, and manner of life. Instead of letting what we see, feel, or reason direct how we live, every aspect of our lives should be characterized by trust in the Lord.

- **Dependence on the Lord's guidance.** We should begin each morning in prayer with an attitude of dependence, trusting in Him with all our heart. **Proverbs 3:5-6**
- **Our Thoughts dominated by Jesus Christ.**
- **Submission to God.** Walking by faith is a life of surrender to God and His will for our lives.
- **Trusting Him to protect, provide, and direct our lives.**
- **Growth of trust in God.** Because He loves us, the Lord knows what's best for us. To put our full trust in God, we must believe three truths:
  - **God loves us perfectly.**
  - **He is infinite in wisdom and knows us completely.**
  - **The Lord is sovereign and has absolute control.**
- **How strong do you think your faith in God is? How do your sight, feelings, or reason affect your ability to trust God?**
- **What things in your life are you unable to handle? What do you need to do to trust God with them?**
- **What is your first response to challenging situations? How would walking by faith quiet your fears and anxieties?**

### IV. What Is The Christ Life?

**Galatians 2:20** *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.*

**Romans 1:17** *For therein is the **righteousness of God** revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

### V. Faith Is The Victory

**Mark 11:22** *And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.*

**Romans 4:19-20** *And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;*

**1 John 5:4** *For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*

**Matthew 21:21** *Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.*

**1 Corinthians 2:5** *That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

## **VI. The Trial Of Your Faith**

**James 1:3** *Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.*

**1 Peter 1:7** *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:*

**2 Timothy 4:7** *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*

**CONCL – Hebrews 12:2** *Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*