

Sunday, February 10, 2013

Faith #2 – Being Fully Persuaded
Pastor Charles Mendenhall

Father, I thank you that I have what this bible says I have, and I can do what this bible says I can do and I am who the bible says I am. I am more than a conqueror, I can do all things through Jesus and I cannot fail, because God cannot fail. God is in me so He puts me over in every circumstance. Hallelujah.

Hebrews 4:2 (KJV)

² 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.***

The answer was given but they didn't listen because they didn't mix faith with it.

Romans 4:16 (AMP)

¹⁶ ***Therefore, [inheriting] the promise is the outcome of faith and depends [entirely] on faith, in order that it might be given as an act of grace (unmerited favor), to make it stable and valid and guaranteed to all his descendants—not only to the devotees and adherents of the Law, but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, who is [thus] the father of us all.***

If inheriting the promise and the outcome depends on faith we must pay close attention to the instruction God is giving us. Unfortunately most didn't believe and they died in the wilderness and never made it to the Promised Land. There were some that did and they grew and multiplied in the land.

Galatians 3:29 (AMP)

²⁹ ***And if you belong to Christ [are in Him Who is Abraham's Seed], then you are Abraham's offspring and [spiritual] heirs according to promise.***

If you are born again through Jesus Christ we become the seed of Abraham and we become inheritors of everything that was promised to Abraham.

In Romans chapter 4 Paul is saying and using Abraham as an example that everything we receive and our outcomes are going to depend totally on faith.

We need to come to the understanding and totally believe that we cannot be denied what God has promised us through His Word.

Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)

11 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hope is in the future and faith is in the now. You believe you receive now. Faith is substance, something tangible, or a reality to it. Not postponed.

Faith is what we are confident that we hope for and convinced of what we do not see. Faith reaches out to what we hope for, grasps it, receives it, and brings it into the realm of reality. Faith believes.

Hebrews 11:1 (AMP)

11 Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, ^[a]the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

In Genesis chapter 12 Abraham was promised that he would become the father of a multitude. Through Jesus Christ we are included in those descendants.

Our goal is not let our flesh help God out but move over into the realm that we just simply trust and rest in Him.

You can expect a word of the Lord from God during and after a challenge. Many times when we are too wrapped up when we are in the middle of a challenge to hear, but after it's over you can expect to hear God have a Rhema, spoken word to you.

Genesis 15:1 (AMP)

15 After these things, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram, I am your ^[a]Shield, your abundant compensation, and your reward shall be exceedingly great.

This was told to Abraham before his wife Sarah had the son. Abraham was having a difficult time grasping what he was told.

Compensation is that God is big enough to offset the variation or error that has been made. He is big enough to put us back on track and make up for the loss or weakness of another. God was telling Abraham that he was bigger than the mistake he made and any weakness in his character.

We all would like strong faith. When you do something with the bible kind of faith it is going to work out.

How does strong faith react when everything around you says it's not working and you think God hasn't heard your prayer? How does strong faith react?

Romans 4:18 (KJV)

¹⁸ Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

Abraham was convinced of the integrity of God. He had a reason to believe, God said it.

Faith works every moment of every minute of the day.

Abraham didn't put limits on God and what he had promised him. It was more than he could comprehend. He continued to believe according to that which was spoken when there was no hope in the natural left.

Strong faith continues to believe according to that which was written no according to what we think, or what someone else thinks or church doctrine, but according to what God has said.

We determine our exceeding abundant reward.

Abraham did not consider negative or contradictory circumstances. He only considered what God had promised.

Romans 4:19 (KJV)

¹⁹ 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 Sarah's womb:

Faith has a rest and that is where believing moves in. Once you have believed biblically you can move into rest because you have grasped the unrealities of hope and brought them into the realm of reality.

Romans 4:20 (KJV)

²⁰ He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

Abraham didn't vacillate. He didn't believe one day and then have a bad day and not believe.

Strong faith will always have a voice of thanksgiving, always. Always thanking God. Strong faith has a song in its heart in the midst of adversity.

God does not love us any less when we fail. He loves us the same no matter what. He loves us when we are unlovable. Religion will make us feel inferior and that we deserve the worst that could come from God but He doesn't have it to give. That is not God. He loves us the same.

James 1:6-8 (KJV)

⁶ But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

⁷ For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

⁸ A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

We have not asked in faith if we are wavering, we have asked in hope. We are not convinced, but faith is convinced of the realities of hope.

For 24 years Abraham wavered and finally in Genesis 17 he began to agree with what God promised and a year later he received what God had promised.

James 1:6-7 (AMP)

⁶ Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers (hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither and thither and tossed by the wind.

⁷ For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord,

This is so important and simple. There is a price to pay for the good things of God.

2 Timothy 2:15 (AMP)

¹⁵ Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.

James 1:6-8 (MSG)

⁵⁻⁸ If you don't know what you're doing, pray to the Father. He loves to help. You'll get his help, and won't be condescended to when you ask for it. Ask boldly, believingly, without a second thought. People who "worry their prayers" are like wind-whipped waves. Don't think you're going to get anything from the Master that way, adrift at sea, keeping all your options open.

Strong faith doesn't stagger. Strong faith doesn't waver. Strong faith isn't double minded. Strong faith doesn't change its doctrine of believing to fit circumstances. Strong faith keeps believing the word they received from the Lord or chapter and verse made real to them.

Philippians 4:6 (KJV)

⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Romans 4:21 (KJV)

²¹ And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

We are convinced no matter the circumstances around us. While I am on hold I am going to praise and worship. While I am non hold I am going to keep a good attitude.

