

APOSTOLIC FAITH

APOSTOLIC FAITH IS A GRACE GIFT FROM GOD TO US THAT ENABLES US TO WALK IN THE FAITH DIMENSION OF CHRIST HIMSELF:

According to John 14:12 (“greater things”), by grace we will operate in an apostolic faith dimension even beyond that of Christ.

“I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these because I am going to the Father.” John 14:11-12

APOSTOLIC FAITH IS A GIFT

“to another faith by the same Spirit,” 1 Corinthians 12:9

WITHIN EVERY SEED OF FAITH IS THE APOSTOLIC DIMENSION OF CHRIST’S MINISTRY

We are graced with His love, His power, His authority and His anointing.

“I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed you can say to this mountain move from here to here and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” (Matthew 17:20-21)

The big “if” – an unction, inspiration ... if you REALISE you have faith A CHOICE? A gift!

- *“As small as a mustard seed”* – faith is not quantitative but qualitative
- *“You can say”* – anointed utterance, declaration
- *“to this mountain”* – focussed, powerful to move any “size” of problem, issue etc.
- *“move from here to there”* – directive, alignment, impetus
- *“and it will move”* – surety, certainty, authority of Christ
- *“Nothing will be impossible for you”* – Supremacy of Christ operating on our behalf.

THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR FAITH - APOSTOLIC FAITH IS HOPE IN THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

“Now faith is to be sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. Hebrews 11:1-2

The substance of our faith is built on relational spiritual reality with and of God, not about how much science or knowledge we have acquired about what is known in the temporal realm.

Hence it is not what we see with our natural eyes that dictates the flow of faith, but what we know by

- Illumination of God and of Scripture to our hearts and minds
- Our experience of God
- Our revelation of God and Scripture

GOD REQUIRES US TO ACT WITH “DUE DILLIGENCE”

- *“And without faith it is impossible to please God because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” Hebrews 11:6*

FAITH OPERATES IN THE REALM OF:

1. WHAT IS HOPED FOR

Our hope is in a Person – Jesus Christ.

“to be sure of what we hope for - “I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing.” John 14:11

2. WHAT IS KNOWN OF GOD’S PROMISES THROUGH COVENANT, KNOWLEDGE OF GOD’S CHARACTER, HIS LOVE, OUR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES WITH GOD)

We are certain in His Promises to us - “He will do even greater things than these because I am going to the Father.” John 14:12

3. WHAT IS REVEALED BY GOD

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

“Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

*“Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for **this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.** And I tell you that I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. Matthew 16:16-17*

- Simon Peter received revelation from Father. He opened his mouth and his heart flowed with the connectivity of Heaven and he spoke with absolute faith about who Jesus was.
- Simon was a point of contact on earth for heaven’s faith declaration to come forth.
- It is on the rock of revelation given to us by our Father in heaven, that Jesus can build his church!

APOSTOLIC FAITH IS A DIMENSION OF FAITH WE MOVE IN BY REVELATION AND INSPIRATION

INSPIRATION MAY BE DESCRIBED AS THE “FRUIT” OF REVELATION e.g. Peter received revelation that Jesus is the Christ; the fruit of this revelation was that he spoke with inspiration and expressed his faith in who Christ was – the Son of the Living God.

4. FROM ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST – THE PRESENCE OF JESUS INSPIRES FAITH IN US

Our faith is not held back because we don’t fully comprehend something with our minds.

Example: When Martha ran to meet Jesus after the death of her brother Lazarus (and before his resurrection), she did not yet have a cognitive understanding of what she knew to be spiritual truth – that Jesus was the Resurrection and the Life.

“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” John 11:21-22

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’”

“Yes, Lord,” she told him, “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.” (John 11:23-27)

JESUS SEES AND RESPONDS TO OUR FAITH: *“When Jesus saw their faith.” Luke 5:20*

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MARY THE MOTHER OF CHRIST – FAITH = APPLICATION OF REVELATION OR ILLUMINATION BY INSPIRATION

Luke 1 - Gabriel’s words; when we speak the will of God = decree = legislate on earth as it is in heaven.

When God’s will and God’s timeline are in alignment and we step into the flow of His divine purposes and plans, destiny is released BUT we have to be willing to engage and collaborate with God. The angel Gabriel said, *“For nothing is impossible WITH God.” (Luke 1:37)*

FAITH AND SURRENDER- APOSTOLIC FAITH ATTRIBUTES

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Luke 1:38

Mary exhibits incredible surrender. Surrender involves humility in our heart and mind; a total capitulation to the Kingship of Christ and absolute submission of our will, heart, mind etc. to the will of God,

Mary’s surrender involved overcoming fear; she by-passed any sense of intimidation and hesitation and was now on the path of divine inspiration!

- Comprehension of spiritual reality (-ies) releases our faith and enables us to engage in faith with God’s will.
- Potential for increase/multiplication in every seed of faith – qualitative and not quantitative
- Word spoke in faith causes exponential acceleration of the plans of God – acts as a catalyst, releasing God’s power on earth.

APOSTOLIC FAITH IN ACTION (Acts 3 – crippled man at the gate called Beautiful)

The apostles’ Peter and John didn’t get a word of knowledge that the man was going to be healed; they didn’t read a Scripture; they didn’t get a revelation. On this occasion the apostles’ action of faith was simply a direct result of their belief in who Jesus is – the Healer.

Apostolic faith is grace to walk in the faith dimension of Christ.

“Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth walk.” Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and

ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.” Acts 3:6-8

APOSTOLIC FAITH COMPREHENDS DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Faith of the centurion Mt 8:5-13; Lk 7:1-10

APOSTOLIC FAITH IS FOCUSED ON GOD’S LOVE

“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.” Galatians 5:6b

“Everything that is not faith is sin.”

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