

A REFRESHER COURSE IN FAITH

Lesson 7: Back to Basics [13 Dec 2020]

- “There are some things about faith that we need to continually go over to keep them fresh.” – Charles Capps –
- **Hebrews 11:1** = “NOW FAITH IS”
 - **“Now faith means that we are confident of what we hope for, convinced of what we do not see” – James Moffatt -**
 - Now in this verse is not used in the context of present tense
 - Faith, which is the substance of things hoped for, must always be in the present tense or it’s not Faith at all – it remains HOPE
 - Hope is the expectation of a future event
 - Faith gives substance to the event by acquiring it NOW

I. **Believe When You Pray**

- a. Mark 11:24 = “believe when you pray”
 - i. When do we believe we receive the answer? – when we pray
 - ii. Look at the words on both sides of Faith: NOW Faith IS
 - iii. If your faith in the NOW for the Promise of God?
- b. Hebrews 11:6 = “believe God IS” – that’s present tense
 - i. Not believe God is GOING TO BE – but IS
 - ii. Believe that He is willing to NOW Reward our diligence
- c. John 15:7 = abide NOW, not in the future
 - i. Acts 14:8-10 = the crippled man at Lystra (Paul perceived that the man had faith to be healed)
 1. “well I believe that God is going to do it sometime” = that’s not NOW Faith
 - ii. Faith is the SUBSTANCE – substance is NOW: Valid Proof
 - iii. Faith is our Proof of Ownership
- d. 2 Peter 1:1 = “those who have OBTAINED like precious FAITH”

II. **God’s Willingness Multiplied**

- a. 2 Peter 1:2
 - i. Grace is God’s willingness to us His Power and His ability to cause us to succeed: even though we don’t deserve it
 - ii. God’s willingness (Grace) is multiplied through Knowledge
 - iii. Faith comes by hearing (Hearing God’s Word – gaining Knowledge of God’s Word [Promises]) – Romans 10:17
 - iv. Faith is in you to the degree that God’s Word abides in you
- b. Romans 10:6 = Righteousness is of Faith & it SPEAKS
- c. Romans 10:8 = is what Righteousness Speaks by Faith
 - i. The Word is in my Mouth & Heart: John 15:7
 - ii. Any living force must be developed: Faith is a Living Force
- d. Luke 17:5-6 = faith only grows when it is planted

III. **How to Measure Faith**

- a. Romans 12:3
 - i. You measure faith by the amount of God's Word that abides
 - ii. God gave us THE MEASURE through His Word (the full measure)
- b. Faith is in you only to degree that the Word abides in you
 - i. Faith is of the Heart – it arrives there first
 - ii. Mark 11:23 = not doubt in your heart
 - 1. Your head has to catch up to your heart: Romans 12:2

IV. **God Has Given Us ALL Things**

- a. 2 Peter 1:3
 - i. Philippians 4:19
 - ii. Through KNOWLEDGE
 - iii. Called to Glory & Virtue (moral excellency, power)