

Without Faith, The Impossible Occurs – Where Is Your Faith?

Hebrews 11:6

(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.

Luke 8:22-25

- (22) Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, **Let us go over unto the other side of the lake.** And they launched forth.
- (23) But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled *with water*, and were in jeopardy.
- (24) And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.
- (25) **And he said unto them, *Where is your faith?*** And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.

You may wonder what this is about, except that it is probably just a rebuke for “not exercising your faith in the Lord,” right? ... WRONG!!!

Yes, we need to have faith in God, as it is clearly written that Jesus said REPEATEDLY that, with Faith, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO HIM THAT BELIEVES!!! But THAT is NOT the subject, nor the purpose, of this Message!

The object of PLEASING GOD is PART OF this Message, and that objective is what we ALL NEED to obtain! So, “Why, then, is FAITH so important in our Pleasing God?” is my opening question. Here is my answer to that query:

If we could rely on our own strength, wisdom, knowledge, ability(-ies), training, intuition, perceptions, and physical endurance, mentioning just some of our own capabilities, in order to overcome Sin, Death, Hell, and the Grave, then Jesus died for absolutely NOTHING!!!

We don't have it in our own selves to do ANYTHING to circumvent the end result of our broken, fallen, sinful nature, nor our ultimate demise, without the grace and mercy of our Lord on our behalves!

When Jesus, on the cross, proclaimed, “IT IS FINISHED!” He was saying that He had successfully and fully prepared the way for us to enter Eternity with Himself, with the Holy Angels, with the Father, and with all the saints that would profess Faith in Him as being the propitiation for our sins, and as being our Advocate before the throne of the Almighty... **with HIS perfect sacrifice, ALONE, making for us all the way for that to occur!**

WITHOUT JESUS, WE ARE ALL DOOMED TO SPEND ETERNITY IN THE LAKE OF FIRE!!! And THAT will be the results of OUR BEST EFFORTS TO END UP OTHERWISE!!!

So, in order to PLEASE God, one MUST put their Faith in the atoning sacrifice of the Living Lamb that was slain for us! There is NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE PATH TO CITIZENSHIP IN HEAVEN AND PARADISE!!!

THE RESULT OF PLEASING GOD IS ALSO PLEASING ONE' OWN SELF!!!

But **WHY** does it take FAITH to Please God?

Answer: Because: THE ONLY HOPE ANY MAN HAS IS:

(1) **GOD'S MERCY FOR OUR SINFULNESS AND BROKEN STATE, AND**

(2) **HIS GRACE TO GIVE US THE UNTHINKABLE BLESSINGS OF: ABUNDANCE IN THIS LIFE, AS WELL AS THE PROMISE AND REALITY OF AN ETERNAL BLISS IN THE HEAVEN OF HEAVENS, AND THE SIMILAR PROMISE OF RULING AND REIGNING WITH HIM ON HIS THRONE OVER THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD DURING HIS MILLENIAL REIGN ON THE EARTH!!!**

Apart from MERCY AND GRACE, there is ZERO CHANCE OF OBTAINING THAT END!!!

So then, Pleasing God, BY MEANS OF FAITH, TRULY IS PLEASING ONE'S OWN SELF, with THAT OUTCOME in mind!!!

If we rely on our own capabilities, as I've addressed some of them above, we ATTEMPT to discredit what Christ has accomplished FOR US by His sacrifice on the cross, by His human sufferings and fleshly sufferings prior to the cross, and by His sufferings at the hands of the devil's introduction of EVIL into this world, and his resultant subjugation of mankind by his cunning and deception of man in the Garden, passed on to every one of us in the human race, causing Jesus to have to bear ALL SIN at His WEAKEST MOMENT!!!

There is no other means of overcoming and defeating that demise – the fall of mankind from the intimate fellowship with the Lord God that Adam and Eve once had – than obtaining GOD'S OWN SOLUTION TO THAT INFINITELY SIGNIFICANT AND IMPORTANT MATTER!!!

The question was then asked, by Jesus Himself, to His disciples, **"Where is your faith?"** And, for many years, I answered that question, as many would likewise, **"I >>>DO<<< HAVE FAITH, LORD!!!"** Which is almost like saying, **"I HAVE WORKED MY FAITH UP TO BELIEVE IN YOU WELL ENOUGH, LORD, SO AS TO BE SAVED AND TO HAVE OBTAINED ETERNAL LIFE!!!"**

However, THAT IS NOT WHAT HE'D ASKED!!!

The question was, “WHERE is your faith?”

We put our faith in our own accomplishments and abilities, in our own understanding and knowledge, in our own capability to master our own domains and lives, and in our own self-control to alleviate ourselves from the grips and throes of sin in our lives... BUT WE DON'T CHOOSE TO RELY – IN FAITH – ON PLACING OUR TRUST AND HOPE IN WHAT THE LORD, AND HIS WORDS OF PROMISE, SAY UNTO, AND FOR, EACH ONE OF US!!!

WHERE our Faith lies IS WHAT MATTERS!!!

We MUST place our combined and individual Faiths in the Eternal Hope of the Power of the Cross, alone, and in the Promises of God that have resulted thereby!!!

THERE IS NO OTHER PLACE GIVEN TO US TO CIRCUMNAVIGATE THE END RESULTS OF THE FALL OF MAN, WHICH IS ETERNAL DAMNATION IN HELL, AND IN THE LAKE OF FIRE, INEVITABLY!!!

“WHERE is our Faith? Is it in our own doings, or in what CHRIST DID?” THAT is the REAL question Jesus was asking!!!

WHERE WAS THE DISCIPLES' FAITH AT THAT TIME? Was it in their expertise in rowing? in their ability to endure the storm's gale force winds and resultant waves? Was it in their ability to swim if they got swept out of the boat by the waters coming in and engulfing the ship? Was it in Jesus, as a man, telling them what was best for them to do to steer the ship to safety? NO TO ALL OF THAT!!!

Jesus' COMMANDING THE WIND AND WAVES, “PEACE, BE STILL!” and to then bring CALM to the wind and waves, was the resultant action of the GOD-MAN, the SON OF ALMIGHTY GOD THE FATHER, HIMSELF, which was WHERE their Faith needed to be focused!!!

IS OUR OWN FOCUS ON THE MIGHT OF, THE POWER AND AUTHORITY OF, THE PROMISES OF, THE WISDOM OF, THE KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY OF, THE WILL OF, AND THE TRANSCENDENT CAPABILITY OF GOD, HIMSELF??? ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY AND WHAT IT SECURED FOR EACH OF US ALL??? ON THE BLOOD THAT WAS SHED TO TAKE AWAY OUR FILTHY WORKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND OUR OWN ERREANT WILLS TO DO CONTRARY TO GOD'S PERFECT LAW???

IS OUR FAITH IN THAT WHICH IS ABOVE, OR IN THE WORLD BENEATH??? WHERE OUR FOCUS IS, THERE OUR HEARTS WILL REMAIN... FOREVERMORE!!!

WHERE is YOUR Faith??? Do you have a personal, experiential relationship with the Lord God, and with Jesus His Son, and receiving of the Promise of the Father, which is imparted by the Father and secured for us by the Son, being the infilling and baptism of the Holy Spirit???

IS YOUR FAITH IN THAT, OR IN YOUR OWN WORKS TO TRY TO APPEASE GOD AND BE ACCEPTABLE TO HIM... SOMEHOW, SOME WAY... OTHER THAN BY HIS OWN MERCY AND GRACE????!!!!

THAT >>>IS<<< THE QUESTION YOU MUST ASK YOURSELF, RIGHT NOW, AS YOUR ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION HOLDS THE KEY FOR YOUR ENTIRE >>>ETERNAL<<< DESTINY!!!

I pray your answer to that is, “IN CHRIST ALONE!” and “IN HIS PROMISES, THEREBY PROVIDED!”

Blessings2u!!

~Roger Funk, II

11-18-2024, 5:03 a.m.