

FAITH TO STAND IN THE DAY OF VIOLENT ASSAULTS

How long can you hold onto something and not let it go? Do you hold on to FAITH or to fear of loss? The only way to STAND in the day of violent assaults is to learn how to hold on to faith, while releasing all the fear and cares of this world.

When I think of standing in the day of violent assaults I think of times I have known God's will. At those times I have tenaciously held on to His will for years until the answer was manifest.

True faith endures without weakening. How? Because His faith has already made an eternal decision to believe no matter what assaults it. Heaven and earth will pass away, but God's word of faith will live on eternally.

Therefore we are going to examine faith according to God's word and examine our faith walk with Him. Let's examine how long we hold on.

Will God's faith in us hold on for an hour, day, week, month, year, 5 years, 10 years or will we allow His faith in us to hold on forever? The truth is He has given us the choice to make!

The prayer of faith saves the day of violent assaults!!!

Ephesians 6:13, 14

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Praying always with all prayer...

What prayer do we need when assaulted by fiery darts? Answer: The prayer of faith. Why? Because all assaults are to strip us of our faith in who God is, what is His provision for us is. Therefore, we must be shielded by our faith in HIM! Some fiery darts are small darts, some are larger like javelins and some are even larger like missiles from our enemy. Regardless, all of them must be shielded by FAITH.

Following are very detailed facts pertaining to faith and how it is used in the New Testament. Pay special attention to the consonants and how they are used in describing faith in each passage. This will increase your understanding of the faith of God that resides in your heart.

FAITH FACTS

Noun- faith, pistis (Greek); a firm (not easily moved and not subject to change) conviction (certainty, reliable, incapable of failing) producing a full acknowledgment of God's revelation of truth; a personal surrender to Him; and a conduct inspired by such surrender; It comes as a firm persuasion; conviction based upon hearing the word of faith preached; it's not resting on a promise, but God Himself; it is a leaning of all that we believe upon what He declares to be real and true.

Verb- belief, pisteou (Greek); to be persuaded fully and hence to place confidence in; to trust with firm belief in the honesty, integrity, reliability and justice of another person

Faith is belief in someone...God, to do something... establish His word on this earth

Before faith-Faith must be revealed...uncover what was veiled

Galatians 3:23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

Measure of faith-a limited portion for our specific call in life

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

All mankind have a seed of faith in them from God, but the measure of faith is in proportion to the purposes of God for their life.

Author and finisher of our faith-chief leader, prince...the state of being complete mentally or morally

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.

Jesus authorizes our faith as we follow His lead. He is the one who takes us to completion as we follow Him. He completed His faith walk perfectly. Jesus never used His faith to believe God for something that was not His Father's will or an assignment from His Father.

Strong in faith- endue, permeate, influence with faith from God's Spirit, to receive strength therefore making strong

Romans 4:20, 21 He staggered (to separate oneself in a hostile spirit, oppose) not at the promise of God through unbelief (withholding belief, want of faith); but was strong in faith giving glory to God. And being fully persuaded that what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

This is a great example of our stand when faced with opposition!

Faith worketh- operates, puts forth power; God's love and commitment to us causes faith to work on our behalf

Galatians 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

One faith- designating a person, or thing; single in kind

Ephesians 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism

Now faith-used with the sense of present time

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen.

By faith- through the agency, operation, function of our firm persuasion in God's word to us...faith always produces action

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his home; by the

which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Through faith- the ground or reason by which something is or isn't done; by a common relationship with; the means or use of

Ephesians 2:8, 9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast.

Everything from God is a gift...an endowment of power or ability to do something.

Without faith- lacking something implied; apart; having no association with

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.

In faith- so as to be agreeing or united, amidst, surrounded by

James 1:6 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.

Holding faith- to hold oneself to a thing, hold in the sense of wearing, clinging to God

I Timothy 1:19 Holding faith and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

Concerning faith- involving faith

I Timothy 1:19 Holding faith and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

Of faith- a function word indicating origin; therefore prayer must be initiated by faith to produce

Romans 10:8 But what saith it? The word (Rhema) is nigh thee, even in thy mouth and in thy heart: that is, the word (Rhema) of faith, which we preach (every word God spoke is full of faith because it's full of GOD)

According to your faith- depending on your agreement, your opinion, your feelings, your purposes with God's opinion, feeling and purposes

Matthew 9:29 Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it (let it occur) unto you.

Have faith- be closely joined to a person

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

Saw their faith- to perceive with the eyes, to know anything

Mark 2:5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

Most holy faith- to venerate, revere, of things which on account of some connection with God possess a certain distinction and claim to reverence

Jude 20 Building up yourselves on your most holy faith praying in the Holy Ghost.

Mixed with faith- to commingle, to combine, assimilate-to absorb into your heart the word and will of God in full assurance

Hebrews 4:2 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.

Like precious faith- equally esteemed, equally honored

II Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

Unfeigned faith- sincere and genuine, not pretended or faked

II Timothy 1:5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois and thy mother Eunice: and I am persuaded that in thee also.

So then faith- so-in the way or manner shown, expressed, indicated, understood...then accordingly, in that case, therefore

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

Weak in faith- lit. not powerful; of the infirmities (not firm in mind, or purpose, not resolute, vacillating; not stable, sound shaky; therefore yielding easily under pressure instead of firm and remaining steadfast in conviction despite attack or efforts to persuade) of those whose scruples (a feeling of hesitancy and doubt or uneasiness arising from difficulty in deciding what is right) arise through lack of faith

Romans 15:1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Matthew 8:17 Himself took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses

Took- to get a hold of

Infirmity- feebleness of body or mind

Hebrews 4:15 For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Grace-God's holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens increases them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection; kindness of a master towards his servants, inferiors..as of God towards men...the salvation of Christ is divine grace

Help-make more pleasant or bearable, change for the better, prevent, further the advancement of; to restrain oneself from doing something

Time of need- seasonable, timely, opportune

II Corinthians 12:7-10 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions; in distresses for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Thorn- a sharp stake, splinter to pierce his flesh

Messenger- a grievous bodily malady (a disordered condition) sent by satan

Buffet- to maltreat, treat with violence; strike a blow with the fist, harsh language or treatment arising from haughtiness or contempt

Depart- cause to withdraw from or remove; to seize to vex one

Sufficient- to be possessed of unfailing strength; to be strong enough as against any danger; hence defend, ward off; my grace is enough for you to bear the evil manfully

Strong- to bear calamities and trials with fortitude and patience, strong in soul, wealth, influence

Perfect- to add what is wanting in order to render a thing full so as to complete; to accomplish as of the prophecies of scripture

Power- miracle power of God residing in a thing

Rest- the power of Christ descending upon a one working within him and giving him help

The HELPER of our faith...the HOLY SPIRIT

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Helpeth- help in obtaining, help in bearing, help in general, to take a share in

Infirmities- of body-its native weakness or frailty, feebleness of health or sickness; of soul-lack of strength to understand a thing; to do things great and glorious; to restrain corrupt desires; to bear trials and troubles

Ought- necessity brought on by circumstances or by the conduct by others towards us; necessity lying at the nature of the case

CALLED TO HIGH ALERT

I Peter 5:7-10

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour; whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus after that ye have suffered a while make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

Casting - give up to God, throw upon

Care - to be drawn in different directions, distraction, esp. anxiety pertaining to this earthly life

Careth - to have regard for; to matter

Sober - temperate; calm and collected in spirit

Vigilant - give strict attention to; take heed lest through slackening diligence and laziness some destructive calamity suddenly overtake one

Your adversary - enemy; opponent in a suit of law...accusing men before God

Devil - false accuser, prone to slanderer

As a roaring lion - in the same manner as a howling lion; indicating great strength

Walketh about - make due use of opportunities

Seeking - demand something from someone, seek in order to find

Devour - to destroy as if by eating; as a lion greedily or ravenously eats his prey

Resist - withstand and oppose

Steadfast - strong, firm, immovable

Faith - firm persuasion in God's will and character one can rely on

Afflictions - evil sufferings one goes through for the cause of Christ

Accomplished - to bring to an end and complete

God of all grace - merciful kindness God bestows upon souls

Called - to invite

Glory - magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity; manifested character

After that ye have suffered - to undergo evils and affliction

While - small, short season

Make you perfect - to fit, mend repair, make one what he ought to be

Stablish - make stable one's mind

Strengthen - to make strong of one's soul

Settle - to lay the foundation and establish the soul sound

**BEFORE WE CAN DEVELOP OUR FAITH
WE MUST UNDERSTAND HOW FAITH IS HEARD**

HEARING THE WORD OF FAITH

As we hear the word of God preached things go on inside of us that no one is aware of, but us. As we listen to God's word it is important to keep in mind that we are to be attentive to His word. We are to keep our mind focused on His word more than circumstances around us.

Some people don't hear the "word of faith" because when it is delivered to them, they don't THINK (exercise the mental faculties so as to form ideas; arrive at conclusions) about what they heard. So listed below are responses that come to each of us when the word is preached to us whether by reading the bible, hearing a preacher or listening to a message on CD. As you listen THINK about what our response is to every word you hear; did I ...?

When the word of faith comes do we respond GOD'S way?

- 1) **respond**- to have a positive favorable reaction; "Yes, Lord, I agree, so be it."
- 2) **rejoice**-be glad, happy, full of joy; "Thank you ...LORD!!!"
- 3) **repent**-to decide to change one's ways; "I admit your word is true and all else is a lie!"
- 4) **research**-careful, systematic, patient study and investigation to uncover facts and find truth in some field of knowledge, undertaking, discovery or to establish facts or principles; to test by carefully questioning to find out the knowledge. "After full investigation Lord, the verdict is in. You are right, therefore I am fully convinced."
- 5) **receive**- lay hold of and pull God's will into this realm with a believing heart and mouth confessing full agreement; "I agree with You, Lord, and therefore I receive!"

Example: Romans 10:9, 10 “Lord I believe with my heart and confess with my mouth that I live daily in your saving grace spirit, soul, and body!!!”

When feelings, of fear or doubt come assaulting God’s will is our response?

- 1) **rebel**- feel strong aversion to even opening the Bible or talking to God
- 2) **retreat**- stay away from all resources that would attempt to encourage me to trust God again
- 3) **resist**- stand firm that these circumstances are supposed to be in my life, so why fight them, and therefore fight any one who tries to change them to good
- 4) **reject**- refuse to agree with God’s goodness; therefore saying evil is good and good is evil
- 5) **respond**-react with the enemies nature of fear, doubt, unbelief
- 6) **receive**- let go of God’s will and give over to the enemies feelings, and lies
- 7) **rejoice**-passively speak the devil’s lies and accusations without any questions
- 8) **repent**- change from faith in God’s will to faith in the devil’s will
- 9) **research**- carefully look at the evil circumstances and think about them over and over allowing the evil to take deep root in our mind, body, heart, and mouth

Example: “I feel weak, my head hurts and I’m confused about my life. I’m sure I deserve this. Therefore, I’ll just suffer because this was brought in my life to teach me something, but I feel so crummy I can’t even think what that lesson is.” **This is saying evil is good.**

DEVELOPING OUR FAITH AFTER AN ATTACK

The devil has been at war with God since before the creation of man. Therefore, we are involved in God's battles every day. Those battles can be large or small so it's always important to examine thoroughly all aspects of the battle, to learn from it, and be better prepared for the future. Why is that? Because the enemy is relentless in his battle against us who have faith in God.

- 1) What happened? What are the details of the attack?**
- 2) Did you hear the warning from the Holy Spirit? Yes or No?**
- 3) What did you do with the warning?**
- 4) Was the warning to have you take authority over an assignment from the enemy, or was it to inform you to gird up your faith to walk it out?**

If we pay attention the Holy Spirit always notifies us in our spirit when the enemy is attacking. He might notify us through visions or dreams, speak through others or His written Word. His word will reveal to us the good and evil which pertain to our personal lives or calls.

Jesus said in John 16:12,13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide (lead the way) you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew (to announce in detail good or evil) you things to come (to happen; to occur at a certain place).

Therefore as an alert Soldier in Christ we are rarely surprised at anything that comes their way. This knowing is God's sealing of ownership and protection upon them.

Remember, warnings never violate God's Word. NEVER. It does not matter what any other "authority" says contrary.

INGREDIENTS TO DEVELOP OUR FAITH BEFORE OR DURING AN ATTACK

- 1) **We begin by planting the word of faith in our hearts.** We must realize that to plant a new seed into soil that has been resistant to God's will, we will meet resistance from the enemy. He will resist the seed you are attempting to plant. Why? Because he plants only corruptible seeds in the mind and he will do all he can to guard his seeds. God's seed is incorruptible and they live and abide forever in those that guard His word. Don't be fooled by the lie that it's impossible for the will of God to be developed in you. We must make a wholehearted decision God's seed will overcome in us. As Peter says, "resist (the devil) steadfast in the faith." Allow the seeds of God's truth the Holy Spirit inspires in you. Ask yourself, "what thoughts, and words spoken will nurture it, and what thoughts and feelings and spoken words will attack it." Use "Developing Our Faith After An Attack" checklist when you are planting the word to see how fertile your heart is in receiving it the incorruptible word of God. Then follow the directions to respond, repent, research, receive.

- 2) **Water the word.** The word talks about the washing of the water of the word. (Ephesians 5:26) When you wash something you are totally immersing an object into the water until the object is thoroughly wet. In the same way we must immerse our soul in the word of God until it is thoroughly absorbed into our thoughts. When it's fully absorbed, there's not a dry place of barrenness in our mind. God's word of truth has now caused His thoughts to become your thoughts. This takes time and diligence. As we listen to His word and understand what it's saying over and over we are allowing His FAITH to become our faith. But if we skip a day we will begin to allow the dry barren thoughts of our enemy to become our again.

- 3) **Apply the word.** We will need to take some action to apply His word. We let His word work in us by giving it a place or a job so to speak. There are always employment opportunities for God's will to be brought into a situation. In Hebrews 11:6 it says he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. This word rewarder means to recompense as in paying a worker for their work. So as we work with

the Holy Spirit in applying the word of God we will be rewarded with the will of God. Ask the Lord what job your faith needs to be developed in. Are you “broke” in health, joy, wisdom, peace, knowledge? Then these are areas where there’s a sign in the spirit realm: HELP WANTED. We go in and take the job. We learn all we can at the leading of the Holy Spirit about the job. Our job skills can be enhanced by the grace that others have acquired and shared with us as they share their practical, spiritual, and experiential knowledge with us. We begin the work/job with the PRAYER OF FAITH. This means we might be led to get help from someone who has applied their faith in this area and learn their action skill. For example: We are believe God to live in health. We learn about our body naturally. We learn about our body spiritually. We find out what causes it to break down and what nourishes it, and then apply it to our lives.

- 4) **Realize we are dealing with 2 realities:** 1) God’s will is the highest reality and can overrule all other realities. 2) What we see in the natural realm is a reality, but this reality can always be changed by the higher reality of the will of God. Many struggle with the two realities, thinking they are lying to speak what they can’t see, but God’s way is always to call those things that “be not” as though they were, because He sees reality in His realm and only enforces His reality which is His will. He even gave Abraham a new name to go with the call to help him change the reality he was living in. (*Romans 4:17*) The world was framed by the reality of God. The problem arises when we either 1) deny what we see in the natural realm and pretend it’s not there or 2) claim something that is out of God’s will for our lives. That is why an accurate knowledge of the word of God is VITAL. It is also important to watch out for mixture, which means enforcing two things at the same time. For example, to say “I’m healed” is to resist sickness but not deny it. The key is to pay more attention to God’s word to us than any circumstance and symptom. Of course we must live in this natural world, but the spirit realm where God is should become more real than the natural realm. When we are fighting the good fight of faith, we don’t have time or energy to go back and forth in our believing, because it will wear on us. Many people struggle with is watching someone who believes God for something unseen to the natural eye. They want to remind them they are sick by saying “Aren’t you sick?” These are actually firey darts from the enemy to them. When someone is in lack we that are spiritual are to help carry

them with our faith not further enforce the lie of the enemy. If you saw someone in a burning house would you say “Are you in a burning house?” No, you would do everything to help them out. If we are authorized by the Holy Spirit to help someone, we can ask them if they would like our help fighting the good fight of faith. If they do, we can stand with them so they are healed. They may need instruction to help them instead of just praying for their healing in order that they have a clear and focused mind, heart and mouth!!!

- 5) **Get our heart and mouth in agreement with God.** *Romans 10:10*
For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. The heart comes into agreement when it allows the ingredients to go in to it. The mouth must follow one of four confessions following this agreement.

CONFESS – “to say the same thing God says”

- 1) **Confessing oneself guilty** of what one is accused of because of inner conviction “I admit worrying was wrong and I choose to trust you with my whole heart.”
- 2) **Confessing openly and freely** being the effect of deep conviction of facts in God’s word “I believe I’m healed.”
- 3) **Confessing by way of celebrating** with praise when wrong feelings come “I declare You are Almighty Lord.”
- 4) **Confessing the future and hope we have eternally.** “I have eternal life.”

Truly we shape our very lives by the faith we have in God day by day!!!

We are told by men and women of strong faith to take time every day to develop our faith in the area of faith and healing. Why? **All** God’s promises are received by faith...and without a strong body we won’t feel like developing our faith.

IMPORTANT AREAS TO DEVELOP FAITH

God's word inspired by God I Peter 1:20, 21

God's word is revealed to me Ephesians 1:17-19

God exists Hebrews 11:6

God is unchanging in His power Psalm 145:9

God's will is all man be saved, healed, delivered, whole I Timothy 2:4

I am saved Romans 10:9, 10

Faith to continually receive forgiveness I John 1:9

Faith to continually forgive others Mark 11:25

Faith we always hear the shepherds voice John 10:4, 5, 27

Faith we have a holy calling I Timothy 1:9

Faith we are led by His Spirit Galatians 5:16

Faith we have power and authority over all demons and sickness Luke 9:1

Faith that He supplies all our call in Him will need Philippians 4:19

Faith we are sealed and protected Psalm 91: John 17

Faith marriage is holy Hebrews 13:4

Faith the gifts of the Spirit operate in our lives I Corinthians 12

Faith we exercise godliness I Timothy 4:7, 8

PARTICIPATION:

The checklist will help you spot these areas.

Where are you strong in faith? What has made these areas strong? What did I do to bring them to this state? Sometimes we grow up with God's seeds already planted in us, but for those who didn't they will need to become expert gardeners spiritually.

Where does your faith need to be developed? In your spirit, soul, body? Where is your faith being assaulted right now? What attack would hit you that would tempt you to be devastated? An attack for one person might not be as assaulting as it would for another person. For example: If you were threatened with loss of health, home, car, loved one, betrayal of a friend, sin, a catastrophe hit your city, state, nation which ones would devastate your faith in God? Building our faith in these areas is called "preventative faith for attacks".

People whose jobs deal with catastrophies daily are trained and prepared to face them before they happen. Training always involves "HOW WILL I RESPOND?" if it happens. Unless we are highly trained when pressure hits we won't have the inner faith from God to OVERCOME WITH VICTORY! Ex. Firefighter in Austria. Some people are trained spirit, soul, and body; others are trained only in their soul, and body. But to truly be successful in God, we must be trained spirit, soul, and body.

The reason to be prepared and strong in faith is not only for our salvation, but for the salvation of others. Yet the question remains: When Jesus returns, will He find faith on the earth in YOU?!!!