

Pastor's Pen-June 2010

Luke 18:8 "Jesus said when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"
Our faith is so important, Jesus said, "have the God kind of faith..." -Mark 11:22-23.

Yet, Romans 12:3 tells us, that it is a measure of faith that each of starts with and it's such a necessity to take what our God has given and delivered to each of us; Desire, develop and become that disciple Jesus is looking for.

Paul said only to those of mature faith can he impart wisdom. 1 Cor 2:6

1 Cor 12:9 can also be a gift.

Hebrews 11:6 tells us that God rewards those who diligently desire Him.

2 Cor 4, Paul again tells us that faith is a Spirit that is a continuation of Jesus' life and ministry.

Romans 1:17, "The righteous shall live by faith..."

Romans 5:1, "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God..."

This goes on and on expressing and declaring to us the importance of our faith, it's even a shield that is used by each believer in the protection and defense of life. A shield of faith (Eph 6) that quenches all the firey darts of the enemy.

Gal.2:20, "I live in faith, the faith which is in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

Notice that Jesus gave Himself up for me and you! And faith in Jesus Christ is so important. Paul says in Acts 20:21 "Repentance toward God and Faith toward of Lord Jesus Christ."

The two things we all have and hold, repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ. We can't have the latter without the former!

Most have started this life by faith. Rom 10:8-10, "We believe in our heart and confess with our mouth, the Lord Jesus Christ..."

It's obvious when we read the Gospels, Jesus says...Matt 6:30, "O Ye of little faith."

Matt 8:10 Jesus said, "I've not found so great faith"...

Luke 7:9, "I have not found so great faith.

Luke 8:25, Jesus asked, "where is your faith?"

Luke 17:5, Reveals Jesus' disciples knew they needed to develop faith when they said, "Increase our faith."

When we come back to Luke 18:8, we understand faith is something Jesus is looking for in each of our lives.

The two inseparable steps: Repentance towards God and Faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ.

If faith is something that should be increasing and developing in our lives, maybe we will understand and realize what Jesus admonished and warned us about when he addressed us in Mark 4 over the sower sowing the Word... Four locations received the same seed: Stony ground, Roadside, Thorny areas, and Good areas.

It's not the good ground nor the wayside or the stony ground, it's amongst the thorns that grow and choke the Word (this is a slow and gradual process), yet most don't see it when it's going on.

The Bible indicates several places where you can misplace your faith:

Let me simply list some that we need to review for our own lives to check and make sure we are healthy in the faith (2 Cor 13:3-6):

First, misplace our faith in weapons-Psalm 44:6

Second, misplace our faith in our wealth-Luke 12:21

Third, misplaced in the area of oppression and extortion-Psalm 62:10

Fourth, misplace area of faith in human greatness-Psalm 146:3

Fifth, misplace our faith by putting faith in oneself-Proverbs 28:26

While I believe we need to love God, our neighbors and ourselves, and we are so conscience of our own esteem that we forget that our biggest focus needs to be on the Finisher of our faith. Hebrew 12, not on our own lives that need to experience transformation not a makeover.

Sixth, misplaced area in idols-Isaiah 42:17

Seventh, misplaced area in false prophets and false messages-Jeremiah 7:4, 8

I have recently become very aware that things and treasures would like our attention, yet we must be devoted to Him, as John saw and stated, "Faithful and True."

God bless as we grow in faith and grace in our Lord and Saviour.