

HOLY SPIRIT POWER

July 8th, 2018 - Holy Spirit Power

Part 12

The Gift of Faith is what the message is today. It's another one of the nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit as mentioned in I Corinthians 12. Let's start by reading **Mark 11:22-24**; *"So Jesus answered and said to them, 'Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."*

This is a powerful scripture and the Lord Jesus wants us to walk and live in. The Apostle Paul says in Romans 14:23 that whatever is not from faith is sin. Many Christians, I suspect, get defensive when faith is talked about, because it is a measuring stick as to how we live and they don't want to admit that if they're in unbelief, they're in sin. Either we live by faith, or we live in unbelief, doubt and fear. Do you tarry in faith or have you given up already?

The Gift of Miracles is instant, where the Gift of Faith produces similar results only it not so spectacular. Miracles services, if you've been in any, are spectacular. You see instant signs of God's power in the lives of people, whether it be limbs growing, the deaf hearing, the blind seeing and on and on.

Elisha exercised the Gift of Faith when he trusted God to feed him daily by the use of ravens. This is considered the Gift of Faith because it's just like you believing God for daily food and provision for your life. It says the following in **1 Kings 17:2-6**; *"Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.'" So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook. And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land."*

When the brook dried up, the Lord then commanded Elisha to go to a widow and we read in **1 Kings 17:7-16** the following; *"Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you." So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, 'Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.'" And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, 'Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.'" So she said, 'As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.'" And Elijah said to her, 'Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.'" So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days. The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah."*

When Elisha ask the widow to make him a meal first, with the promise that she would never run out of oil and meal, he was operating in the Gift of Miracles.

Natural faith is available to all believers, just like the gift of tongues is for all believers. But, the rest of the Gifts of the Spirit are given as the Holy Spirit wills. Being born again and speaking in tongues is the norm. Like we've talked about in other messages, speaking in tongues when you're baptized in the Holy Spirit is different than the Gift of Tongues.

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God gives the Gift of Faith to work thru the believer's faith and as a result, brings about miracles over a period of time. It normally doesn't happen immediately. In the instant society we live in, faith gets challenged because its something we grow in and isn't instant. The Gift of Faith produces the same results as the Gift of Miracles, only in a different time frame.

In **John 14:12**, Jesus says the following; *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.”*

The Apostle Paul says in **Romans 12:3**; *“For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”* Each Christian has a measure of faith, but it's not the Gift of Faith.

The primary definition of faith is what's known as the innate capacity in every human being to believe in a Supreme being. **Romans 1:20** says; *“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,”*

Creation itself reveals God and since we are his creation, we are without excuse too.

Let's look at two kinds of faith; natural faith and supernatural faith. As I just said, we've all been given a measure of faith, so that measure is natural faith and can lead a person to repent and receive forgiveness and born again.

Hebrews 11:6 says; *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”* In order for natural faith to grow into supernatural faith, it must receive its direction from the Bible. So this measure of faith that has been given to you – this natural faith – must grow by reading the Bible to step into supernatural faith.

It says this in **Romans 10:17**; *“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*

Supernatural faith as a Gift of the Spirit is beyond natural faith in that it is immovable faith that counts those things that do not exist in the natural as though they do exist. You're immovable, steadfast, rock-solid and your circumstances don't move you because you SEE those things that are not – as though they are.

Hebrews 11:1-3 says this; *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.”*

In this chapter of faith, **Hebrews 11:30-40** continues saying; *“By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.”*

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The Holy Spirit came on its own accord and will as we read in **Acts 2:1-4**; “*When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*”

This was a work of the Holy Spirit himself. We also read in **Acts 10:44**; “*While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.*”

In other cases, by faith with the laying on of hands, the Holy Spirit is given as seen in **Acts 8:14-17**; “*Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.”*

Philip the evangelist was operating in miracles, and many Samaritans became converts, however it was Peter who had the supernatural Gift of Faith to lay hands on the people and they received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We see that these Samaritans specifically needed to have hands laid on them to receive. The Gift of Faith was in operation as Peter did that.

Ananias, by the supernatural Gift of Faith, laid hands on Saul to be both healed and filled with Holy Spirit. We read it in **Acts 9:17**; “*And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”*

Saul now, who became Paul the Apostle, starts operating in supernatural Gift of Faith and he too is laying hands on Christians to receive the Holy Spirit. We read in **Acts 19:6**; “*And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*”

These men did not operate in their own power, but rather by the Gift of Faith they laid hands on individuals and the Holy Spirit was given by God.

Look at what Jesus says in **Mark 9:23** about faith; “*Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.”* Do you believe today? Are you willing to step out when the Gift of Faith comes on you to do what the Holy Spirit is asking of you? Or are you going to cringe back and fall into unbelief?

The Apostle Paul says this to Timothy about his gift in **1 Timothy 4:14**; “*Do not neglect the **gift** that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.*” Paul continues to exhort Timothy again in **2 Timothy 1:6** by saying; “*Therefore I **remind** you to stir up the **gift** of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.” It shows that a person’s gift can become nominal, dry or dormant if they don’t use it. It has to be stirred up.*

It’s evident that certain people are given a supernatural Gift of Faith to lay hands on individuals to receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as God wills. The baptism in the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues is for all who believe, however, it is not the case regarding the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as these Gifts are given as the Holy Spirit wills.

This passage in **1 Corinthians 12:4-11** is at the core of this teaching of the Gifts and we read it again where it says; “*There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit,*

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to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."

Did you know that supernatural protection is provided for believers through the Gift of Faith? Do you want supernatural protection in your life or are you just going to wait until the calamity is upon you and be concerned about it at that point? By then, it's usually too late because you're in fear, doubt and unbelief. Calamity has taken over your house, family and your welfare because you haven't allowed the Gift of Faith to operate. The Holy Spirit knows ahead of time what you have need when the doctor gives you a bad report, or when calamity strikes, when bad news comes your way. You're not immune to any of this. But, this Gift of Faith being exercised constantly will deliver you and you'll be protected.

Psalm 91 reveals supernatural protection and clearly states that all things are made possible to those that believe. Don't wait for calamity to come, but pray this prayer over your life daily and BELIEVE IT, have faith in God's word that it is TRUE!

I've broken it up with subtitles so you can see what God will deliver you from;

"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

Deliverance from traps

"Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler."

Deliverance from fear

"You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day,"

Deliverance from accidental death

"Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place,"

Deliverance from evil, sickness and accidents

"No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone."

Deliverance from Satan and beasts

"You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot. "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation."

The Gift of Faith can operate and prevent a lot of calamity in your life. Why wait for calamity to come in order to seek Gods supernatural protection, when it can be avoided by applying this scripture to your life now.

But if you allow yourself to yield to fear, doubt and unbelief, not believing God for the supernatural Gifts of the Holy Spirit to be in operation, you can see what the end result of it is. Choose to align yourself with the

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scriptures by faith in every situation. Allow the Holy Spirit to come upon you and fill you by faith and allow the Gift of Faith to function in you.

Be like the patriarchs of faith that we read about in Hebrews 11. They're a tremendous example of walking in faith. This isn't saying that there is no persecution of Christians and churches, but here and now you can have the Gift of Faith to see you through; to walk in faith when it doesn't look very good, to talk in faith when in the natural it looks ridiculous.

When you're serving the Lord with all your heart, soul and mind, expect the adversary to come against you. But by the Gift of Faith being in operation, you're not struck down. Don't limit yourself to natural faith but desire earnestly the Gift of Faith to see you through to the end.

Remember, without faith...it's impossible to please God, Hebrews 11:6 and whatever is not of faith is sin, Romans 14:23. Repent where you have not believed God's word. Repent where you've walked in fear, doubt and unbelief. Repent for not having allowed the Gift of Faith to operate in your life and let him work. It says in Isaiah 12:20 that a smoldering wick he will not put out. Jesus will revive you and cause that smoldering wick to light up ... if you repent.

Part of the Lords Prayer in **Matthew 6:13** states this; *"And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."* Jesus knew you'd be tempted – daily – so he's giving you a way, to proactively pray ahead so that deliverance is already in motion. Be proactive in praying these prayers diligently over your life and save yourself from unnecessary battles.

We read this short script from Bob Snook, it's applicable to today's message. It's entitled, '[Highwire](#)'.