Disciple 201 – Chpt 07

The Realm of Faith

Opening prayer and any insights to share.

Galatians 3: 10 – 14, All who rely on works of the law are under a curse. For it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law."11 Now it is clear that no one is justified before God by the law, because, "The righteous will live by faith." 12 The law, however, is not based on faith; on the contrary, "The man who does these things will live by them." Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. For it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." 14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing promised to Abraham would come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Galatians 3: 19-25, Why then was the law given? It was added because of transgressions, until the arrival of the seed to whom the promise referred. It was administered through angels by a mediator. $\underline{20}$ A mediator is unnecessary, however, for only one party; but God is one ... Before this faith came, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. $\underline{24}$ So the law became our guardian to lead us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. $\underline{25}$ Now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

What variation do you find between your present view of, "obeying the law" to be righteous and what is stated here? Comment on presently held views. Then comment on where you feel you have a reliance on certain principles or practices to hold yourself 'righteous' – God's sight, in man's sight?

Hebrews 11: 6, And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Luke 17: 5 – 10, The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" And the Lord answered, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you. - Which of you whose servant comes in from plowing or shepherding in the field will say to him, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'? 8Instead, won't he tell him, 'Prepare my meal and dress yourself to serve me while I eat and drink; and afterward you may eat and drink'? 9Does he thank the servant because he did what he was told? 10So you also, when you have done everything commanded of you, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

Jesus' answer for this request to increase their faith is, "to have the attitude of a servant." The key to growing in faith is the attitude with which you approach relying on him and trusting as he leads you. I heard someone preach on this many years ago. He said, "Don't trust your ability to figure out God's will. Don't trust your ability to follow God. Trust God's ability to lead you." Comment.

Pray for each other individually now; for that person to be rooted deeper in faith, sanctified to move in faith, a greater release and awareness of the Holy Spirit, a greater reliance on the Lord for all needs, a heart and mindset of man(woman) of faith, a greater sense of authority moving in faith.

Pray through Leader's Prayer Guide, then close in prayer.