The Word, the Grace, & the Faith Of GOD

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THE WORD

It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by <u>every word that</u> <u>proceedeth out of the mouth of God.</u> (Matt. 4:4)

<u>All scripture is given by inspiration of God</u>, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

(2 Tim. 3:16,17)

Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God las they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

(2 Pet. 1:20,21) ESVS

God Requires Us to Know Something

Every Word in The Bible is written by God so that man understands what God's Will is and cannot make any excuses saying that they did not know. Every person will die and be judged by this very same Word. At the judgment you will know His Word is True, but it will be too late. Your decision was to be made by faith while you lived on earth! Yes we are saved by God's Grace, but God requires us to know something. God's Grace and Faith can only be received through Knowledge and understanding.

But **grow in grace**, and **in the knowledge** of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. (2 Pet. 3:18)

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. (Hos. 4:6)

As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things (*Paul*); in which are **some things hard to be understood**, which they that are **unlearned** and **unstable** wrest, as **they do also the other scriptures**, **unto their own destruction**. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, **beware lest ye also**, **being led away with the error of the wicked**, **fall from your own stedfastness**.

(2 Pet. 3:16,17)

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that **needeth not to be ashamed**, **rightly dividing the word of truth**. (2 Tim. 2:15)

We Need God's Grace and Faith

Why is this important? Because we need both, to enter into heaven. <u>God's Grace cannot be accessed without Faith</u>. Hell is full of church folk who claimed God's Grace and forgiveness but <u>did not receive it because they rejected Faith</u>! God's Grace is not automatic, <u>we must take action and receive it</u>!

He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But <u>as many as received</u> <u>him</u>, <u>to them gave he power to become the sons of God</u>, even <u>to them that</u> <u>believe on his name</u>: (John 1:11,12)

For <u>by grace you have been saved through faith</u>. And this is not your own doing; <u>it is the gift of God</u>, <u>not a result of works</u>, <u>so that no one may boast</u>. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Eph. 2:8-10) ESVS

We are not saved by faith (we are saved <u>through faith</u>), by accessing the Grace of God. We need faith to <u>access the Grace of God</u>. Without faith we cannot enter into the Grace of God. Many church folk are in hell today because they did not access God's Grace through Faith!

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. (Heb. 4:2)

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. (Rom. 3:28)

Notice; The Lord Prays For Peter's <u>Faith</u> Not His Performance (self-works)

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers." Peter said, "Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you." But Jesus said, "Peter, let me tell you something. Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me." (Luke 22:31-34)

The Lord knew Peter was going to fail. What the Lord is trying to build up in all of us <u>is Faith</u>. We can fail the Lord a thousand times (our good works) repent and come back to Him. But if our Faith fails, meaning we no longer Trust or Believe in Him (willfully walk away) then He will also walk away from us.

Faithful is the saying: For if we died with him, we shall also live with him: if we endure, we shall also reign with him: if we shall deny him, he also will deny us: if we are faithless, he abideth faithful; for he cannot deny himself.

(2 Tim. 2:11-13) ASV

Who are <u>protected by the power of God through faith</u> for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, <u>you have been distressed by various trials</u>, so that <u>the proof of your faith</u>, being <u>more precious than gold which perishes though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory</u>, and <u>honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ</u>; and though <u>you have not seen Him</u>, <u>you love Him</u>, and <u>though you do not see Him now</u>, but <u>believe in Him</u>, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, <u>obtaining as the outcome of your faith</u>, <u>the salvation of your souls</u>. (1 Pet. 1:5-9) NASB

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (Rom. 5:1,2) ESVS

And <u>without faith it is impossible to please God</u>, because anyone who comes to him must <u>believe that he exists</u> and <u>that he rewards those who earnestly seek him</u>. (Heb. 11:6) NVI

But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, **the word of faith we are proclaiming**: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and **believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead**, **you will be saved**. For **it is with your heart that you believe and are justified**, and **it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved**.

(Rom. 10:8-10)

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

(Rom. 10:17)

Notice The Bible Constantly uses the Term; "In The FAITH"

Jude (the Lord's half brother) and Peter as well as the rest of the disciples, warn us against deception and walking away from THE FAITH.

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and <u>exhort you</u> that <u>ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints</u>. For <u>there are certain men crept in unawares</u>, who were <u>before of old ordained to this condemnation</u>, <u>ungodly men</u>, <u>turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness</u>, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 3,4)

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates.

(2 Cor. 13:5,6)

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**. (Rom. 12:3)

In Conclusion; We Need to Understand This;

Faith without works is dead! This does not mean we are saved by works; it means the only way we can show our salvation to others is with a change in behavior. God is a Holy God, God does not tolerate sin and disobedience. We cannot continue in sin and disobedience and say we belong to Him. God saved us <u>from sin not in sin</u>. Let's examine scripture to prove our point:

For <u>by grace are ye saved through faith</u>; and <u>that not of yourselves</u>: <u>it is the gift of God</u>: <u>Not of works</u>, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, <u>created in Christ Jesus unto good works</u>, <u>which God hath before ordained</u> <u>that we should walk in them</u>. (Eph. 2:8-10)

Notice; we are not saved by the our works of our flesh, two, we have to use our Faith to access the Grace of God, three, good works come after you're saved by the power of the Holy Spirit and are a by product of your new nature!

But someone may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works." You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. But are you willing to acknowledge, you foolish person, that faith without works is useless? Was our father Abraham not justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. In the same way, was Rahab the prostitute not justified by works also when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead. (Jam. 2:18-26) NASB

Do you see what the father of the faith (Abraham) was saying; it was <u>his faith</u> (he believed God) that credited him as Righteous and not his works. But by that same function, his action (his work) proved he believed God. So basically, one can say that; our works prove our faith. The key word in all this is <u>Believe</u>!

Examine; The Parable of the Talents

(we were not saved to do nothing, and sit on a Church bench screaming amen)

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. His lord said unto him. Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ve the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (Matt. 25:14-30)

also read about the Ten Virgins (Matt. 25:1-13) be Ready

But he that shall **endure unto the end**, **the same shall be saved**. (Matt. 24:13)

This Brings Us to Our Next Lesson; (Lesson # 11) "Man is a Spirit and Soul who lives in a Body"

May your whole spirit, <u>soul</u> and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Th. 5:23)