# The Word, the Grace, & the Faith Of GOD

Samuel H. Nodal

### 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) <u>Knowing this first of all</u>, that <u>no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's</u> <u>own interpretation</u>. For <u>no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man</u>, but <u>men spoke from God las they were carried along by the Holy Spirit</u>. (2 Pet. 1:20,21) ESVS

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 <u>God requires us to</u> know something. <u>God's Grace and Faith can only be received through Knowledge</u> <u>and understanding</u>.

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)

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

As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things (*Paul*); in which are <u>some things hard to be understood</u>, which they that are <u>unlearned</u> and <u>unstable</u> wrest, as <u>they do also the other scriptures</u>, <u>unto their own destruction</u>. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, <u>beware lest ye also</u>, <u>being led away with the error of the wicked</u>, <u>fall from your own stedfastness</u>. (2 Pet. 3:16,17) <u>Study to shew thyself approved unto God</u>, a workman that <u>needeth</u> <u>not to be ashamed</u>, <u>rightly dividing the word of truth</u>. (2 Tim. 2:15)

# Is God's <u>Grace</u> and <u>Faith</u> Important?

Why is this important? Because we need both, to enter into heaven. <u>God's Grace</u> <u>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)

# Grace and Faith are Understood and Accessed Through Knowledge

For **by grace you have been saved through faith**. And this is not your own doing; **it is the gift of God**, **not a result of works**, **so that no one may boast**. 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 <u>the word preached</u> <u>did not profit them</u>, <u>not being mixed with faith</u> in them that heard it. (Heb. 4:2)

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

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

"Simon, Simon, <u>Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat</u>. But <u>I have</u> <u>pleaded in prayer for you</u>, Simon, <u>that your faith should not fail</u>. 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 *is Faith*. 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 **protected by the power of God through faith** 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, **you have been distressed by various trials**, so that **the proof of your faith**, being **more precious than gold which perishes though tested by fire**, **may be found to result in praise**, **glory**, and **honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ**; and though **you have not seen Him**, **you love Him**, and **though you do not see Him now**, but **believe in Him**, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, **obtaining as the outcome of your faith**, **the salvation of your souls**. (1 Pet. 1:5-9) NASB

Therefore, <u>since we have been justified by faith</u>, <u>we have peace with God</u> <u>through our Lord Jesus Christ</u>. Through him <u>we have also obtained access</u> <u>by faith into this grace in which we stand</u>, 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</u> <u>him</u>. (Heb. 11:6) NVI

*Notice The Bible Constantly uses the Term; "<u>In The FAITH</u>" Jude (the Lord's half brother) and Peter as well as the rest of the disciples, warn us against deception and walking away from <u>THE FAITH</u>.* 

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</u> <u>contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints</u>. For <u>there are</u> <u>certain men crept in unawares</u>, who were <u>before of old ordained to this</u> <u>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)

Be sober, be vigilant; because <u>your adversary the devil</u>, <u>as a roaring lion</u>, <u>walketh about</u>, <u>seeking whom he may devour</u>: Whom <u>resist stedfast in the</u> <u>faith</u>, 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 <u>ye have suffered a while</u>, <u>make you perfect</u>, <u>stablish</u>, <u>strengthen</u>, <u>settle you</u>. (1 Pet. 5:8-10 If indeed <u>you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast</u>, and <u>not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you have heard</u>, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister. (Col. 1:23) NASB

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how <u>that Jesus Christ is in you</u>, <u>except ye</u> <u>be reprobates</u>? But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. (2 Cor. 13:5,6)

#### What Is; "<u>The Faith</u>"

The Faith is simply Jesus Christ and what He did at the Cross for us. This means you must Trust Him in Life and in Death all the way to the end. What ever happens to us, Trust that He knows the beginning from the end and His unfailing Love will take us to heaven when its all over.

<u>I am crucified with Christ</u>: <u>nevertheless I live</u>; <u>yet not I</u>, but <u>Christ liveth in</u> <u>me</u>: and <u>the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of</u> <u>God</u>, <u>who loved me</u>, and <u>gave himself for me</u>. (Gal. 2:20)

Yea doubtless, and <u>I count all things but loss for the excellency of the</u> <u>knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord</u>: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and <u>do count them but dung</u>, <u>that I may win Christ</u>, And <u>be found in</u> <u>him</u>, <u>not having mine own righteousness</u>, <u>which is of the law</u>, but <u>that which</u> <u>is through the faith of Christ</u>, <u>the righteousness which is of God by faith</u>: (Phil. 3:8,9) Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so <u>walk in Him</u>, having been <u>firmly rooted and now being built up in Him</u> and <u>established</u> <u>in your faith</u>, just as you were instructed, and <u>overflowing with gratitude</u>.

(Col. 2:6,7) NASB

#### God gives to everyone "The Measure of Faith."

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 <u>God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith</u>. (Rom. 12:3)

**There are no degrees of faith**, the pastor doesn't have more faith than the deacon, the deacon doesn't have more faith than the church member etc... It's not our faith that moves mountains it's God's faith. Church folk run around from church to church looking for that famous evangelist or some apostle to pray for their healing or difficult situation.

Can't you see by that action where you are putting you faith! You are putting your faith in a man and not on God. God has given <u>everyone a measure of Faith</u> which is in Christ. Another problem is, placing your Faith in faith. That will never access the Grace of God and leave you <u>powerless</u> or even worst <u>Un-saved</u>. But, <u>putting your Faith in Jesus Christ and Him Crucified</u> will make an eternity of difference. Only one person is to be exalted; <u>Jesus Christ is His name</u>.

Even the <u>righteousness of God which is by</u> (the) <u>faith of Jesus Christ</u> unto <u>all and upon all them that believe</u>: for there is no difference: For <u>all have sinned</u>, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely <u>by his grace</u> through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom <u>God hath set forth to be a propitiation</u> (atonement) <u>through faith in his blood</u>, to declare his righteousness for the <u>remission of sins</u> that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the <u>justifier of him</u> <u>which believeth in Jesus</u>. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. <u>By what law</u>? <u>of works</u>? <u>Nay</u>: but <u>by the law of faith</u>. (Rom. 3:22-27)

#### Word to the Wise

Remember, a race is not determined how you start, but at the finish line. You can start first and start fast but if you don't finish you are disqualified. Many start fast but in time fall by the wayside and don't cross the finish line. Sanctification is a Marathon not a 50 yard dash.

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

# Finally - How Do We Feed the Faith that God Gives us?

So then <u>faith cometh by hearing</u>, and <u>hearing by the word of God</u>. (Rom. 10:17)