What does it Mean to Walk by Faith?

July 28, 2020

Presented by Cliff Phipps

 2 Cor 5:7

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In order to walk by faith we need to do a couple of things.

1. We need to first understand what faith is.
2. We need to understand this verse in its context.

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How does the bible define faith?

Heb 11:1

1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

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Faith is the 100% assurance of those things that God has promised to do in the future.

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Rom 4:19-21

Abraham gives us three steps to developing faith and being able to walk by faith.

1. He knew the promises of God
2. He had full assurance in those promises of God
3. He had full assurance that what God had promised, He was actually able to perform it.

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How did Abraham develop that assurance?

He developed the assurance in the future promises of God by knowing the fulfilled promises that God has already performed.

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Jude 24

24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and **to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,**

**25 to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord,** be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

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Rev 1:13-17

13 and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.

14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.

15 His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.

16 In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

17 When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. NASU

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Rev 1:5-7

5 Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood —

6 and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father — to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7 BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen. NASU

Rev 1:17-20

17 And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,

18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

19 "Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things.

20 "As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. NASU

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2 Cor 5:21

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John 5:22

Rev 5:6-14

6 And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.

7 And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

8 When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

9 And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

10 "You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

12 saying with a loud voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."

13 And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying,

"To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

14 And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen." And the elders fell down and worshiped. NASU

How do you develop faith?

1. You have to know the future promises of God.
2. You have to develop assurance in those future plans. How do you develop assurance in the future plans of God? By understanding the fulfillment of those promises that God has made in the past.
3. You have to know that God is able to do all that He has promised.

When we started tonight we said that we had two goals.

1. We need to first understand what faith is.
2. We need to understand this verse in its context.

2 Cor 5:1-9

1 For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

2 For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven,

3 inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked.

4 For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life.

5 Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

6 Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord —

7 for we walk by faith, not by sight —

8 we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

9 Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him. NASU

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What does this look like in action?

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So here’s a question to consider.

1. Are you walking by faith?
* If not, do you know about God’s promises to you for your future?
* Do you have assurance of the future promises of God because you have seen the evidence of the previously fulfilled promises of God?
* Do you truly believe that God is able to perform every promise that He has made to you.
* Until you do that you will continue to walk through this world in fear and with worry. You will look just like the rest of the unbelieving world

Let’s look at one final topic tonight before wrapping this up.

**As important as it is to walk by faith, it is equally important to know what we cannot have faith in.**

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**You cannot have faith in anything that God did not promise.**

Here’s a few things that God did not promise.

1. **Wealth** – God never promised riches or wealth to the Church. There are many times that God made promises of wealth to the Nation of Israel, but wealth is not something that the church is ever promised.
2. **Freedom from trials and problems**. Jesus promised that in this world you will have tribulation
3. **Health** – Although Jesus did heal when He was here on the earth, that was not the reason that He came.