

Faith Has Rules — Learn Them and Win

Sermon Notes

*“Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay; but by the law of faith.”
— Romans 3:27*

“Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.” — 1 Corinthians 13:13 NLT

I. GOD IS A GOD OF ORDER

Introduction

Main Point: Everything in God’s Kingdom operates by law. Faith is no exception — it has rules, and you must follow them to receive results.

Key Verses:

- Romans 9:16 — “It is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.”
- Ecclesiastes 9:11 — “The battle is not to the strong, neither the race to the swift.”
- John 3:27 — “A man can receive nothing except it be given him from heaven.”
- 1 Peter 5:8 — “...walketh about seeking whom they may devour.”

Transition: God has given us laws — for health, prosperity, and faith. You must know them, follow them fully, and operate in them lawfully.

II. THE LAW OF FAITH

You Must Strive Lawfully

Main Point: Faith is not random. The Bible says you must operate by the rules. Anything short of full compliance with spiritual laws is not recognized by God.

Key Verses:

- 2 Timothy 2:5 — “And if a man strives for the masteries, yet is he not crowned except he strive lawfully.”
- Romans 3:27 — “Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay; but by the law of faith.”
- Romans 8:2 — “For the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”

Illustration: You cannot play football with a hockey stick. You cannot use the rules of one sport in another game. Likewise, the laws guiding faith cannot be mixed with the rules of another blessing.

III. THE MEDIUM OF OPERATION

Faith Lives in the Heart

Main Point: The heart of man is where faith is born, nurtured, and expressed. Faith is not a head game — it is a heart matter.

Key Verses:

- Romans 10:8–10 — “...the word of faith, which we preach... if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart... For with the heart man believeth.”
- Hebrews 4:2 — “...the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.”

Key Truth: The Word of God will not produce results unless it descends into the heart. In the heart, the Word is synthesized into a force. Faith is a spiritual force that taps the omnipotence of God into a situation.

IV. THE POWER OF HEART-FAITH

Examples from Scripture

Main Point: When faith is settled in the heart, it moves the miraculous. Scripture shows us the heart is the miracle centre.

Key Verses:

- Matthew 9:21 — “She said within herself... if I may but touch His garment, I shall be whole.” (the woman with the issue of blood)
- Matthew 9:2 — Jesus saw the faith of the paralytic and those who let down his bed — and rewarded it with healing.
- Proverbs 23:7 — “As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.”
- Matthew 12:34 — “Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh.”
- Hebrews 11:32,34 — Faith “subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouth of lions.”

V. FAITH SPEAKS

What Is in Your Heart Comes Out of Your Mouth

Main Point: Your confession follows your conviction. If faith is truly in your heart, it will show in what you say. You cannot have genuine heart-faith and speak defeat.

Key Verses:

- Matthew 12:34 — “Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh.”
- Mark 9:23 — “...If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.”
- Psalm 121:1–2 — “I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help, my help cometh from the Lord.”
- Matthew 15:13 — “Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up.” (Failure has no root in a believer’s life.)
- Matthew 17:20 — “...if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

VI. THE DANGER OF SENSE-REALM LIVING

Main Point: Many believers cannot exercise faith because they live in the sense realm — they only believe what they can see, hear, and feel. This is barren ground for faith.

Key Verses:

- Hebrews 4:2 — The Word did not profit them “not being mixed with faith.”
- Jesus asked, “Where is your faith?” — a question every believer must ask when troubles mount.

Key Truth: Believers who starve their spirits of the Word remain in an infant stage. They talk about faith but slip back into the natural when it is time to act.

VII. FAITH IS YOUR ARMOR

You Cannot Fight Without It

Main Point: You are in a spiritual battle every day. Diseases, poverty, broken homes, and every evil are fiery darts aimed at you. Faith is your shield — and nothing else will do.

Key Verses:

- Ephesians 6:16 — “Above all, taking the shield of faith wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”
- James 5:16 — “...the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous availeth much.”

Application: Your strength, your connections, your qualifications, and your beauty can all fail you. What you need is faith — active, heart-rooted, Word-fed faith.

CONCLUSION — CALL TO ACTION

Challenge the congregation with these truths:

1. God has decreed rules — and faith has a law. Are you operating in it?
2. Is your faith in your head or in your heart? Heart faith produces results.
3. What are you saying when trouble comes? Your mouth reveals your heart.
4. You are under attack daily — take up the shield of faith.

Closing Verse

“...If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.”
— Mark 9:23

A LIVING EXAMPLE OF HEART-FAITH

“Then Jesus told him, ‘Go back home. Your son will live!’ And the man believed what Jesus said and started home.” — John 4:50 NLT

“While the man was on his way, some of his servants met him with the news that his son was alive and well... Then the father realized that was the very time Jesus had told him, ‘Your son will live.’ And he and his entire household believed in Jesus.” — John 4:51–53 NLT

MY TAKEAWAY
