2Thess #187

Faith without any obedience is not true faith.

Let us pick it back up in 2Thessalonians chapter three RF.

2Thes 3:12 Now we command and exhort such persons in the Lord Jesus Christ to work peacefully and eat their own bread.

The Apostle Paul makes a very firm statement, using the terms command and exhort. This means there is no sugar coating and rainbows or lollipops…this is a reprimand.

Get your life in order and stop infecting the positive Bels with your laziness and false doctrines.

As well as, to get your nose out of other people’s lives!

Everyone need only concern themselves with their own household, their own spiritual walk.

[2Th 3:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/13/s_1119013) But as for you, brothers *and sisters,* do not grow weary of doing good.

Here we see the Apostle Paul letting the active members of the congregation know they are appreciated and to keep fighting the good fight.

This was also a warning to stop supporting the apathetic Christians in the ministry.

/[2Th 3:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/14/s_1119014) **If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter**, take special note of that person *so as* not to associate with him, so that he will be put to shame.\

This is a firm, yet not overly aggressive way, to step into the doctrine of separation, this is written in the physical sense.

This is the step beyond mental separation. Many probably had begun mentally separating themselves from certain lazy members of the ministry.

Physically, start making yourself less available to them is what the Apostle Paul now commanded. Do not keep partaking of fellowship with negative Bels.

[2Th 3:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/15/s_1119015) And *yet* do not regard *that person* as an enemy, but admonish *that one* as a brother *or sister.*

[2Th 3:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/16/s_1119016) Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!

[2Th 3:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/17/s_1119017) I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this is a distinguishing mark in every letter; this is the way I write.

Many times, the Apostle Paul had men who acted as his scribes which several of the apostles had as well. Yet this letter, he is adamant that this is not to be confused with the counterfeit letters circulating around.

[2Th 3:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2th/3/18/s_1119018) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

/Our spiritual journey requires faith, true faith to trust God fully, even when we cannot see the whole picture. Obedience is the consequence of real faith. When we choose to obey God’s word despite our doubts, we open ourselves up to His power working in our lives. Our obedience reflects our trust in God’s plan and His power and HIS goodness. \

Turn in your Bibles to Hebrews chapter 11 RF.

One of the greatest strengthening of our faith, happens when we truly look backward and begin to recognize how GOD worked in our life in the past.

We can remember the countless times He has been faithful; the times GOD came through, even in ways we did not understand.

 REPEAT

This exercise of remembrance will help us going forward toward having obedience today.

/By exercising our obedience in faith, we witness God’s promises manifesting in our lives, while simultaneously nurturing our relationship with the Triune GOD, trusting deeper in Him. Obedience puts muscle on our faith, which in turn, draws us into deeper intimacy with the Father, the SON and the Holy Spirit. This is not a walk of sinless perfection, yet it is a call into submitting yourself into HIS power and HIS plan.\

True faith brings on action in the form of obedience

Many people throw around the name of GOD or Jesus Christ and yet the significance of their actions appears to be only lip service.

/Deu 11:1 “You shall therefore **love the LORD your God, and always keep His directive,** His statutes, His ordinances, and His commandments.”

Psa 119:105 **Your word** is a lamp to my feet And a **light to my path**. 106 I have sworn and I will confirm it, That **I will keep Your righteous judgments.**\

Your faith is eventually seen in your personal walk with GOD.

Do your lifestyle decisions begin to revolve around the mind of Christ, more so than the cosmic system ideologies?

Your obedience to one system or the other eventually shines through – the Cosmic System or the Plan of God?

/Rom 6:16 Do you not know that ***the one* to whom you present yourselves *as* slaves for obedience, you are slaves of *that same one* whom you obey**, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?\

Faith - when it solidifies, becomes obvious in our words, actions and ideologies.

The WORD of GOD is design to change you…you do not change the word to fit your life.

/Rom 1:4 who was declared the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 **through whom** we have received grace and apostleship **to bring about the obedience of faith** among all the Gentiles in behalf of His name,\

As many of you know the book of Hebrews, was written predominately to the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem, because they had fallen backward into legalism.

Yet it holds true for every CA Believer.

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the certainty of *things* hoped for, a proof of things not seen.

/What many people lose sight of; is true faith is not a blind faith. Faith has a definitive target. Even at salvation the tiniest amount of true faith, in the person and work of Jesus Christ ignites the ministry of GOD the HS for salvation. At the moment of salvation, you adjusted to the justice of GOD, a positive nod of obedience in a moment of time. From that point forward, your faith is designed to grow into an obedient lifestyle.\

It does not mean sinless perfection – that is why we have rebound.

[Heb 11:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/11/2/s_1144002) For by it the people of old gained approval.

The first step is faith alone in Christ alone – it has always been the narrow gate into heaven.

No matter what dispensation we study, it has been that way since the fall in the Garden.

It begins with faith and continues with a growing faith.

/Bible doctrine is the reality from which we keep receiving confidence, we study it and come to know it is evidence of the strongest nature. Doctrine is the source of our confidence: our confidence in the Lord, our confidence in His plan, our function in the plan. It comes from the WORD, over time it becomes so evident that it is divinely inspired, that it is the mind of Christ.\

 [Heb 11:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/11/3/s_1144003) By faith we understand that the world has been created by the word of God so that what is seen has not been made out of things that are visible.

The more we grow in faith inside the word, the more the invisible becomes visible for us.

[/Heb 11:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/11/4/s_1144004) **By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain**, through which he was attested to be righteous, **God testifying about his gifts**, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks.

Abel brought forth the innocent blood-sacrifice, the right thing done in the right way, his obedience was evident.\

Cain chose his own human strength and what he wanted to do, his actions spoke to the first religious system, the first human deeds of the flesh.

Which in turn led Cain into a system of evil. Some would later call the this the serpent culture, the worship of fallen angels, specifically Satan.

/It is believed Cain and his first offspring were anointed into dark secrets and black magic by Satan and the fallen angels. From there Cain and his children gave their women over to the fallen angels. Which spread across the world like a cancer and led to the flood.\

Many scholars believe Cain and his offspring indulged in the fallen angel’s twisted, inversion of the innocent blood sacrifice taught by our LORD, with their own children and virgins. I have touched on some of this over a year ago, if you have been with me.

/H[eb 11:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/11/5/s_1144005) By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; AND HE WAS NOT FOUND BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP; for before he was taken up, he was attested (*martyreō*) to have been pleasing to God.

Enoch brought forth prophetic messages, warnings, and was God personal messenger to mankind and fallen angels.\

MART-A-RAY-O, means a witness, one who speaks and warns others of what has happened or will occur. It is taken from the root word for what we call a martyr today.

Enoch was believed to be a prophet and messenger for not only mankind, which had turned into pure evil to the point only Noah was called a righteous one.

But it is believed Enoch – the true, Enoch, spoke to the fallen angels who had fornicated with women.

The ones who created the Nephilim, warning and basically condemning them to a lock down which would happen at the time of the flood.

This was an incredibly obedient man of God, fearless and bold.

[/Heb 11:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/11/6/s_1144006) And **without faith it is impossible to please *Him****,* for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists, and *that* He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him.

He will reward are those who "*are seeking after Him"* (present tense Greek), not Believers who have stopped seeking after Him.\

Real faith clings upon the power and plan of GOD.

It is always seeking - always growing and always willing to adjust to the justice of GOD and get back on track after a fall.

We are given eternal security – we are given the mind of Christ, the very nature of Christ through the power of God the HS. We have the ability to wash any sin from our life in a moment of time.

What more would any one need to keep growing and building upon their faith?

[/Heb 11:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/11/7/s_1144007) By faith Noah, **being warned *by God* about things not yet seen**, in reverence **prepared an ark for the salvation** of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is **according to faith**.

It had never rained at this point in human history. Noah’s obedience for 120 years was an incredible display of faith!\

Noah and his sons built the ark. God blessed them with the right supplies and the perfect architectural design, yet the work was done by human hands.

[Heb 11:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/heb/11/8/s_1144008) By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he left, not knowing where he was going.

Abraham – known at that time as Abram had enough faith to move from the evil his family was embedded in. He became born again and saved as he left his hometown and crossed the Jordan River.

Let close today simply reading from the Apostle Peter in 2Peter chapter one RF.

Faith is seen within the lifestyle of the Bel.

Our role model is the humanity of Christ, and HE followed the plan of God to the letter!

/Phl 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself by becoming obedient** to the point of death: death on a cross.

Jesus (humanity) was willing to endure the humiliation, the pain and pressure to ensure HE saved the whole world, fulfilling the plan of GOD.\

Never forget our Lord prayed in the garden of Gethsemane to the point of blood dripping from HIS pours, concerning the cup HE had to drink.

/Jam 2:26 For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also **faith without works is dead.**

Jhn 14:15 “If you love Me, **you will keep My commandments**.\

TLJC said this several times to HIS disciples.

/Jhn 15:10 “**If you keep My commandments,** you will remain in My love; just as **I have kept My Father’s commandments** and remain in His love.

1Jhn 5:3 For this is the love of God, **that we keep His commandments**; and His commandments are not burdensome.\

There is no burden upon the flesh – you remain filled by God the HS more so than the OSN and you have HIS Word circulating in your soul.

HE takes care of the rest!

/2Pet 1:5 Now for this very reason also, **applying all diligence, in your faith** supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,

The diligence in view is a relationship with GOD – the two power options.\

/[2Pe 1:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/6/s_1157006) and **in *your* knowledge**, self-control, and in *your* self-control, perseverance, and in *your* perseverance, godliness, 7and in *your* godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.

These building blocks are coming from a foundation of faith (obedience to BD) and a life gaining knowledge (BD).\

You can not sit on your hands after salvation and expect God to drop knowledge and blessings in your lap.

/[2Pe 1:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/8/s_1157008) For **if these *qualities* are yours and are increasing,** they do not make you **useless nor unproductive** in the **true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Christians following counterfeits, lies or walking in an apathetic faith become useless, they do not have THE TRUE KNOWLEDGE of our Lord JESUS CHRIST!\