

TYPES OF FAITH

- **THE FAITH** (foundational statements of the Christian faith)
- **Saving Faith** (justifying faith)
- **The Measure of Faith** (ministry faith) given to each believer for their ministry gift
- **The Fruit of Faith** (faithfulness)
- **The Gift of Faith** (miracle faith)

We already covered the first three types of faith. Let us proceed further.

THE FRUIT OF FAITH Galatians 5:22-23

These are typically referred to as the fruits of the Spirit, but the Greek says 'fruit' of the Spirit. All the fruit are needed in unity in the divine life God has given us through His Holy Spirit. These are the character fruit which are to grow and mature inwardly in the Christian. The Greek word for faithfulness (pistos) is not used here but instead the word (pistis) is used, yet most sources still stay the meaning here is '**faithfulness**'. This fruit of faith has '**staying power**'. A person with this type of faith is trustworthy and faithful. God himself is faithful, therefore, as God's dear children, we are to become like Him in our nature.

Biblical characters who were faithful:

- Timothy - 1 Corinthians 4:17
- Tychicus - Ephesians 6:21
- Epaphras - Colossians 1:7
- Paul - 1 Timothy 1:12
- People to disciple - 2 Timothy 2:2
- Saints of God - Ephesians 1:1, Colossians 1:2
- Moses - Hebrews 3:5
- Jonah trusted God - Job 13:15
- Habakkuk went through doubts but grew stronger in faith - Hab.3:17-18
- Antipas - staying power in the midst of martyrdom - Revelation 2:13
- Jesus returns to earth with faithful followers - Revelation 17:14
- Jesus is described as 'Faithful and True' - Revelation 19:11
- Believers should remain faithful as they wait for Jesus their Bridegroom to return

God has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation, **if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.** - Colossians 1:22-23

The Christian life is not a sprint but a marathon. Many persons have good beginnings but fewer have good endings. Faithfulness is tested when we have opportunity to turn back to our old ways. eg. the Jewish believers - Hebrews 10:23, 35-39. Our faith should not just be fixed on what God does but on **who He is**. The apostle Paul knew this - Romans 8:18-39

The only real tragedy that can befall a Christian is his loss of faith in God - unknown

True faith in God produces a faith that endures any trial or adversity, and even death itself. It is an unshakable commitment to God and His purposes.

THE GIFT OF FAITH (miracle faith)

Sometimes we read testimonies and biographies of great men and women of faith and think that we can just go out and emulate them. However, God calls each of us to develop our own personal relationship with Him. Also, as God wills, he gives various gifts of the Spirit to His servants for special situations. God's gifts are just that, gifts, for we don't earn them or deserve

them. This type of faith is not worked up but is given as the Lord wills. This type of faith is meant to glorify God and to display His compassion for mankind.

The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all. - 1 Cor.12:7
To another faith by the same Spirit - 1 Cor. 12:9

This particular faith is translated in various ways.

- **'Special faith** - Weymouth
- **'Wonder working faith** - Vincent
- **'Heroic faith'** - Myers

SPECIAL FAITH IS GIVEN FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

- **Moving mountains** - 1 Corinth. 13:2, Mark 11:14,20, Hebrews 11 / many examples
- **Supernatural protection and deliverance**
Psalm 91 - traps, fear, accidental death, evil, sickness, accidents, Satan and beasts etc.
Daniel 3:13-30 - Three Hebrews get protected from fire and are promoted (v.30)
Daniel 6:16-28 - Daniel has good nights rest in the lion's den. He is protected, prospers and gets published (the king brags about the God of Daniel)
Mark 4:35-38 - Jesus sleeps during a storm on the sea (resting faith)
Jesus silences a storm (bold faith) Both types of faith are supernatural
Acts 12:1-6 - James had just been put to death for the faith. Peter was chained between two soldiers, awaiting a trial the next day. Most people would be sleepless all Night with anxiety and fear. Peter is sleeping restfully! God delivered him from death and delivered death to Herod.
Acts 27:35-36 - Paul is bold and brave in the midst of a furious storm and breaking ship
Acts 28:3-5 - Paul overcomes a poisonous snake bite. Paul has special faith in his ministry as he often speaks boldly to hostile crowds and courtrooms.
- **Supernatural supply**
Genesis 22:5, 11-13 - Abraham trusts God for a sacrifice
1 Kings 17:6 - Elijah fed by the ravens (17:14 oil flows)
George Mueller in Bristol - Fed 1000's of orphans without ever asking others for money
- **Raising the dead**
1 Kings 17:21 - Elijah stretched out on a dead child and saw it raised again
John 11:38-44 - Jesus speaks resurrection life to Lazarus in the tomb
Zion Christian Fellowship/ Columbus, Ohio - many dead have been raised
Andrew Wommack in Colorado has seen a few raised from the dead
Dead are being raised all over the world too!
- **Giving Decrees** 1 Kings 17:1, Revelation 11:3-6, God used me to give a powerful decree, which is described in our message, The Tom Stimus Story, which is in our Section named **Kingdom Culture** on this website: **jesusreigns.net**
(I just reread that story and it brought me to tears of joy as I recalled that special time when God orchestrated people, places and events to touch one man's life in a powerful way.)
- God gave Elijah a gift of bold faith when he confronted the 450 prophets of Baal
- 1 Kings 18:22-24. God had given Elijah specific faith for a specific momentous encounter with the prophets, but that mission was now over. He was likely exhausted and tired and when one woman Jezebel threatened to kill him, he ran away! - 1Kings 19:3-5

The Bible is filled with times of special faith that God provides for his people to face various types of circumstances. We should draw comfort from the fact that all of God's gifts and graces are still available to us today. All we need to do is to be open and available to whatever the Holy Spirit wants to do for us and through us. Blessings be upon you in Jesus name!

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