



# The Good Fight of Faith!

## Part 4

# The Good Fight of Faith

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of the faith, take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you testified so well to your faith before many witnesses.

1 Timothy 1:18 This charge, son Timothy, I put to you, in keeping with the prophecies already made about you, so that by these prophecies you may fight the good fight, armed with trust (Faith) and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, some have made shipwreck of their trust (Faith);

# Faith:

אֱמוּנָה אֱמוּנָה

'ěmûnâh 'ěmûnâh

*em-oo-naw', em-oo-naw'*

Feminine of [H529](#); literally **firmness**; figuratively *security*; **moral fidelity**: - **faith** (-ful, -ly, -ness, [man]), set office, **stability**, **steady**, **truly**, **truth**, **verily**.

**Total KJV occurrences: 49**

πίστις

pistis

*pis'-tis*

From [G3982](#); *persuasion*, that is, *credence*; moral **conviction** (of *religious* truth, or the **truthfulness of God** or a religious teacher), especially *reliance* upon Christ for salvation; abstractly **constancy** in such profession; by extension the system of religious (Gospel) **truth itself**: - **assurance**, **belief**, **believe**, **faith**, **fidelity**.

**Total KJV occurrences: 244**

# Faith is a process:

- The process of faith!
- It must be fought for, you must see it through to the end.
- It requires “faithfulness” aka continued perseverance, obedience and belief...
- It requires a word or promise from God to have “faith” and “hope” in.
  
- Faith is NOT:
- A magic word, if I say the right “phrase” etc...
- A snap of the fingers or instantaneous
- Or a magic wand for you to use at your leisure
- It’s not a “one and done” “belief only” – faith requires “action”

# Faith as a process:

## Examples:

- God's hope to take a people from among the nations as a people. To drive Israel to jealousy: **Deut 32:21, Rom 11:11 explained in Eph 3:1-12**
- The 430 process of faith through Abraham: **Gen 15:13-16, Exo 12:41 & Gal 3:15-18**
- He envisioned this for ages!
- Have the faith "of God" **Mark 11:20**
- His faithfulness at work: **Col 2:12**

# Faith, Hope, Love:

God has faith, He also has hope! They work together!!!

1Corinthians 13:12-13 For now we see obscurely in a mirror, but then it will be face to face. Now I know partly; then I will know fully, just as God has fully known me. But for now, three things last — faith, hope, love; and the greatest of these is love.

- Hope is the vision
- Faith is the action
- Love is the motive

# Faith starts with Hope!

- Yeshua hoped (Hope was the vision) and saw Himself healing Lazarus before it happened: **John 11:1-4**
- Then faith came forth as a spoken word “Lord you have heard me” then the miracle “Lazarus come forth” **John 11:39-43**
- Yeshua only did what He saw the Father doing: **John 5:19**
- So, if the chain of command is intact: From God, to Yeshua, to the Holy Spirit to His servants and our Hope and Faith is in that word... Then our faith will be fulfilled!

# Starts with a calling, a word from God:

Heb 1:1-3 In days gone by, God spoke in many and varied ways to the Fathers through the prophets. But now, in the acharit-hayamim, he has spoken to us through his Son, to whom he has given ownership of everything and through whom he created the universe. This Son is the radiance of the Sh'khinah, the very expression of God's essence, upholding all that exists by his powerful word; and after he had, through himself, made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of HaG'dulah BaM'romim.



# Starts with a calling, a word from God:

Hebrews 11:1-3 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of realities not seen. For by it the elders received commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen did not come from anything visible.

# The goal of the enemy:

- We have an enemy that works to interrupt, deny and stop the process of faith:

Hebrews 2:14-15 Therefore, since the children share a common physical nature as human beings, he became like them and shared that same human nature; so that by his death he might render ineffective the one who had power over death (that is, the Adversary) and thus set free those who had been in bondage all their lives because of their fear of death.

- katargeō καταργέω to be (render) entirely idle (useless), literally or figuratively:
- He is still in operation, but without power, he thrives on ignorance to put them back into bondage Hosea 4:6

# Keep the confidence of Gods word

Hebrews 10:35 So don't throw away that courage of yours, which carries with it such a great reward. For you need to hold out; so that, by having done what God wills, you may receive what he has promised. For "There is so, so little time! The One coming will indeed come, he will not delay. But the person who is righteous will live his life by faith, and if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." However, we are not the kind who shrink back and are destroyed; on the contrary, we keep in faith and thus preserve our lives!

# Benefits of the Covenant

Psalm 103:1-6 [By David:] Bless Adonai, my soul! Everything in me, bless his holy name! Bless Adonai, my soul, and forget none of his benefits! He forgives all your offenses, he heals all your diseases, he redeems your life from the pit, he surrounds you with grace and compassion, he contents you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's. Adonai brings vindication and justice to all who are oppressed.

- These are the benefits that belong to us through Yeshua's blood bringing us into the Covenant! The legality of public confession and the blood!
- We don't know or appropriate them, therefore we never ask for them. Therefore, we do not receive them....
- We are prone to "forget" them (as David wrote) because they are not immediately applied to us, we wouldn't forget them. We are prone because they are apart of a process that takes time....

# The fight to “keep”...

- We have a responsibility to read the word, so we are not ignorant of what belongs to us legally... Lay claim to what belongs to you. This a part of the process of faith!
- The fight is not a fight to “get something” or “obtain”. We don’t fight to beat the devil etc...
- It is a fight to keep something that already legally belongs to us...
- 2Tim 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. (something we must keep).

# Power of the Confession of Faith:

- We get what we confess!
- Walk in faith, you get the answer you go after...
- When you walk in fear and unbelief, you will get the answer you go after...

Num 14:2 Moreover, all the people of Isra'el began grumbling against Moshe and Aharon; the whole community told them, "We wish we had died in the land of Egypt! or that we had died here in the desert!"

Num 14:8-9 If Adonai is pleased with us, then he will bring us into this land and give it to us — a land flowing with milk and honey. Just don't rebel against Adonai. And don't be afraid of the people living in the land — we'll eat them up! Their defense has been taken away from them, and Adonai is with us! Don't be afraid of them!"

- Both the 10 (Bad report) and the 2 (Good report) received what they believed and confessed!
- So, wouldn't it be better to believe and confess what God has said, opposed to what you see with your natural eyes? Yes!

# A Spiritual Fight of Faith!

- We don't fight the Devil directly, it isn't necessary, he's already been defeated! We learn to operate in faith that reinforces Satan's defeat. Faith in Yeshua's defeat of the enemy.

2Cor 10:3-5 For although we do live in the world, we do not wage war in a worldly way; because the weapons we use to wage war are not worldly. On the contrary, they have God's power for demolishing strongholds. We demolish arguments and every arrogance that raises itself up against the knowledge of God; we take every thought captive and make it obey the Messiah.



# A Spiritual Fight of Faith!

- There are FOUR stages in the “thought war” that the Devil wages on our minds. In **2Corinthians 10:3-5** they are listed in reverse order.
1. Thoughts, a simple suggestion. Starts the conversation, it even seems harmless.
  2. The “high thing” that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.
  3. Imagination
  4. Strong hold (slavery) Where he wants to take you!

Satan never starts with “would you like to become my slave” He slowly works in that direction in stages.



# Stage One:

- All these stages are exemplified in the first example in scripture showing Satan's craft work:
- Stage 1 "Thoughts and Temptations"

Gen 3:1-3 Now the serpent was more crafty (subtle) than any wild animal which Adonai, God, had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You are not to eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman answered the serpent, "We may eat from the fruit of the trees of the garden, but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, 'You are neither to eat from it nor touch it, or you will die.' "

# Stage One:

- Satan's temptation will be centered around Gods word for to you.
- Chavah was aware of Gods command, but Satan throws out a simple suggestion. "Consider this"
- He broadens the scope, discrediting God. *"Did God really say, 'You are not to eat from any tree in the garden'?"*
- She should have quoted scripture, instead she added to Gods word showing confusion.... *"We may eat from the fruit of the trees of the garden, but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, 'You are neither to eat from it nor touch it, or you will die.' "*

# Stage Two:

- Stage 2 “A high thing that exalts itself”

Gen 3:4 The serpent said to the woman, "It is not true that you will surely die;

- This is a major escalation that directly contradicts Gods word. A high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.
- Both Chavah and Adam (later) failed to go back to what God said. Quote scripture, weaponize the word (Heb 4:12) Like Yeshua did in Mat 4.

# Stage Three:

- Stage 3 “Imagination”

Gen 3:5 because God knows that on the day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

- A new state of consciousness... An imagination running wild on selfish things. “to be like God”

# Stage Four:

- Stage 4 “Caught in a Stronghold” Slavery, bondage, sin

Gen 3:6-7 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it had a pleasing appearance and that the tree was desirable for making one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her; and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together to make themselves loincloths.

- Adam was not deceived, but failed to act: 1Timoth 2:14
- Adam did it knowingly: Romans 5:12-14

# Fear, the fallout of sin

- Now they are caught in a stronghold through sin.
- They immediately die! Not physically (that comes later) but spiritually. Loss of the garments of light (clothed in righteousness), apart from the presence of God.

Gen 3:9-10 Adonai, God, called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid myself."

- Fear is the first fruit of sin.
- The opposite of LOVE is FEAR!

# Love is opposed to Fear

1Jn 4:18-21 There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and the one who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love, because He first loved us. If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar. For the one who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from Him: that the one who loves God should also love his brother.

John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commands;

John 15:10 If you keep my commands, you will stay in my love — just as I have kept my Father's commands and stay in his love.

- Satan has a descending or downward process ↓
- Yeshua has an upward calling! Php 3:14 ↑

# The Battlefield

- Satan is suggesting things to our minds. Our minds are the theater of operation, the battlefield!
- Employ the word of God in your resistance!
- (Not “will power” or “happy thoughts”)
- The longer we linger, the more likely we are to succumb. Rebuke temptation and unclean thoughts immediately. Let the enemy know that you are not going to let his attacks go unanswered!



2Cor 10:5 and every arrogance that raises itself up against the knowledge of God; we take every thought captive and make it obey the Messiah.

Php 4:7 And the shalom of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Messiah Yeshua.



# The Battlefield

- Satan has argued, reasoned and tricked humanity for centuries! We are not going to outthink, out punch or out “wit” him on our own...



1Ti 6:12 Fight the good fight of the faith, take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you testified so well to your faith before many witnesses.

- The power of resistance is energized through faith when we weaponize Gods word by speaking and confessing it.
- Confession is repeating what God said to us. Confession employs Gods answer to the enemy. Confessing is walking in the authority given to us through the covenant! (The benefits of the Lord Psa 103).

Psa 35:23 Wake up! Get up, my God, my Lord! Defend me and my cause!

# Yeshua's example:

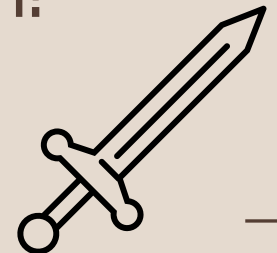
Mat 16:21-23 From that time on, Yeshua began making it clear to his talmidim that he had to go to Yerushalayim and endure much suffering at the hands of the elders, the head cohanim and the Torah-teachers; and that he had to be put to death; but that on the third day, he had to be raised to life. Kefa took him aside and began rebuking him, "Heaven be merciful, Lord! By no means will this happen to you!" But Yeshua turned his back on Kefa, saying, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because your thinking is from a human perspective, not from God's perspective!"

- Yeshua realizes that Peter had yielded to Satan's suggestions, not realizing the spiritual weight Yeshua was revealing – Peter's (all humanities) very own redemption, salvation and resurrection through Yeshua's death! When this actually happens, Peter denies him three times! Peter surrendered in this fight... (Mat 26)

# Stage One:

1Peter 3:15 but treat the Messiah as holy, as Lord in your hearts; while remaining always ready to give a reasoned answer to anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you — yet with humility and fear,

- Not just to Human, but to any demonic thought suggestion.
- If you think this is crazy, then Yeshua is crazy! He did this often **Matthew 4** as one example.
- The first immediate response we give to thoughts or situation is a scriptural one. This is how we win the good fight of faith!
- We are unleashing a SWORD the enemy is afraid of.





# Shabbat Shalom

QUESTIONS  
AND  
ANSWERS

PART 5 WILL FOLLOW!

