

## The Good Fight of Faith

1Timothy 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.

1Timothy 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 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" James 2:14-26

# 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 3:15-1
- He envisioned this for ages!

## Faith, Hope, Love:

- 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
- Exemplified in Hebrews 11:1-3 (Read) & John 11(below):
  - 1. Hope v1-4,
  - 2. Faith as a spoken word "You have heard me" v41
  - 3. Action "Lazarus come forth" v43
  - 4. Love is Yeshua's Motive John 5:19

## The goal of the enemy:

- We have an enemy that works to interrupt, deny and stop the process of faith: Hebrews 10:35-39
  - 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.
- katargeo 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

#### Power of the Confession of Faith:

- We get what we confess! (In the power of Gods creative words Hebrews 1:1-3)
- 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 our natural eyes? Yes!

#### **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 <u>Yeshua's blood</u> bringing us into the Covenant! The legality of public confession and the blood!
- The power of both death and salvation in the covenant.
- Obedience Required Psa103:18. Disobedience Leviticus 26
- We are prone to "forget" the benefits (as David wrote) because they are not immediately applied to us. We are prone because they are apart of a process that takes time.... The fight to "Keep" 2Tim 4:7

## 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. Walking in Messiah's victory!
- 1. Thoughts, a simple suggestion. Starts the conversation, it even seems harmless. Gen 3:1-3 & Mat 4:3
- 2. The "high thing" that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. Gen 3:4 & Mat 4:5-6
- 3. Imagination "What it could be like" Gen 3:5 & Mat 4:8
- 4. Strong hold (slavery) Where he wants to take you! Gen 3:6-7 -> Should have been Mat 4:10-11
- Satan never starts with "would you like to become my slave" He slowly works in that direction in stages.
- Yeshua's rebuke Mat 4:10 & 16:21-23

## Faith comes by Hearing!

- Our Faith Comes from Yeshua, the "Author and Finisher" of our faith! Heb 12:1-2, Rom 10:17, Deut 8:3, Luke 8:21 & 11:28
- We MUST hear His word delivered to us through the spirit to walk out our calling, anointing and faith in each of our situations.
- We are called to be users of the faith that Yeshua created appropriating it, following in His footsteps. Following in His Authority. (Moses & Aaron "this is what the God of Israel says")
- We release faith by speaking and confirming His word! John 15:7
- Hearing starts the process that leads to the heart, then the mouth and finally actions: Matthew 12:33-37

## 

• Hearing:



Hearing from God

Not Hearing from God

Listening to the Enemy

• Mind:



Meditation: Joshua 1:8

Dull: Jeremiah 6:10

Reprobate: Rom 1:28-32

• Heart:



Hidden: Psalm 119:11

Stubborn: Psalm 78:8 & Jer 17:5 & 17:9

Only Evil: Gen 6:5 & Heb 3:12

• Spoken:



Acknowledgement: Rom 10:10

Doubt: Num 13:31-33 & Deut 28:66

Curses: Psa 10:7 & Rev 16:10

Action:



Love: John 14:21

Lukewarm/Apathy: Rev 3:16 2Thes 3:6

4:3-4 & 2Thes 2:10-12

Deception: 1Tim 4:1, 2Tim

Rev 13:16 He also causes all—the small and the great, the rich and the poor, the free and the slave—to receive a mark on their right hand or upon their forehead.



Leviticus 26:14-41 Romans 8:6-8

## A "Good Fight"

- A "Good Fight of Faith" is a fight that we win!
- "Good" in Hebrew is "tov "" "It was good" functioning in the purpose of Gods calling! Gen 1:3-4 & Jer 33:20-26.
- God is putting us in fights we can win! So, we can walk in His calling step by step thus functioning in our purpose.

1Cor 10:13 No temptation has seized you beyond what people normally experience, and God can be trusted not to allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear. On the contrary, along with the temptation he will also provide the way out, so that you will be able to endure.

If you are in it, you can win it!

#### The Great Heavenly Cohen HaGadol!

Heb 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great Kohen Gadol who has passed through the heavens, Yeshua Ben-Elohim, let us hold firmly to our confessed allegiance.

- Yeshua passed through the heavenly spiritual realm!
- This is where dark spiritual forces dwell: Job 2:2 Eph 2:2, Eph 6:12
- Yeshua passed through; the enemy couldn't stop Him! And since He defeated them, when we confess His words, we are walking in Messiah's victory and authority.
- Why doesn't Paul then say that we should hold firmly to our "faith?
- Faith is identified by our confession!
- When we confess (Rom 10:9) we are saved!

## **Steady Confession:**

- Don't give into "feelings" doubt or negativity. The devil lies to us and uses feelings to convince us — don't give it place.
- Steady confession means we are overcoming the lies of the enemy by always proclaiming Gods word:

Heb 10:23 Let us hold fast the unwavering confession of hope, for He who promised is faithful.

- Every time we confess Gods word, it discourages the kingdom of darkness!
- Every time we have a victory through faith, that diminishes the kingdom of darkness!

#### What is our "confession"

Heb 3:1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of a Heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and Cohen Gadol of our confession, Yeshua.

- Confession is not just "talking" it is to say something that another (more important) person said before you....
- He is our Apostle: We didn't ask, He was SENT with power.
- He is our High Priest, pleading on our behalf.
- Meaning the words that we say are the words that God spoke to us, through the Messiah. He is over us and he came before all.
- Strongs G3671 ο μολογία homologia hom-ol-og-ee'-ah
- From the same as G3670; acknowledgment: con- (pro-) fession, professed. (Homo "Same" Logia "Confession/Professed").

## Strength through Confession

Deuteronomy 20:1 "When you go out to fight your enemies and see horses, chariots and a force larger than yours, you are not to be afraid of them; because Adonai your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt, is with you. When you are about to go into battle, the cohen is to come forward and address the people. He should tell them, 'Listen, Isra'el! You are about to do battle against your enemies. Don't be fainthearted or afraid; don't be alarmed or frightened by them; because Adonai your God is going with you to fight on your behalf against your enemies and give you victory.'

Yeshua is our High Priest! He comes to us in the battle, especially when we are outnumbered and afraid and speaks a confession from God for us to stand and speak in! Reinforcing Gods word to us!

## Strength through Confession

1Sam 17:10-11 The P'lishti added, "I challenge Isra'el's armies today — give me a man, and we'll fight it out!" When Sha'ul and all Isra'el heard those words of the P'lishti, they were shaken and terrified.

1Sam 17:43-47 The P'lishti said to David, "Am I a dog? Is that why you're coming at me with sticks?" — and the P'lishti cursed David by his god. Then the P'lishti said to David, "Come here to me, so I can give your flesh to the birds in the air and the wild animals." David answered the P'lishti, "You're coming at me with a sword, a spear and a javelin. But I'm coming at you in the name of Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of the armies of Isra'el, whom you have challenged. Today Adonai will hand you over to me. I will attack you, lop your head off, and give the carcasses of the army of the P'lishtim to the birds in the air and the animals in the land. Then all the land will know that there is a God in Isra'el, and everyone assembled here will know that Adonai does not save by sword or spear. For this is Adonai's battle, and he will hand you over to us."

David is the only Israelite to speak in faith! Everyone else is paralyzed in fear.

## Strength through Confession

- David, inspired by a spiritual word from God and drawing from examples in scripture delivers a powerful confession! What he says: "I'll lop your head off and feed you to the birds" comes true!
- It shows that this confession is from God, not from David alone.
- Jer 1:12 Then Adonai said to me, "You have seen correctly, for I am watching over My word to perform it." v17 But you, gird up your loins; stand up and tell them everything that I command you. Do not break down before them, or I will break you before them.
- Yahweh is looking for someone to walk in His word!
- We should boast (like David) boldly in the Lord.
- 1Cor 1:30 But because of Him you are in Messiah Yeshua, who became to us wisdom from God and righteousness and holiness and redemption—so that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in Adonai." 18

#### The Law of Identification

- Let's go back to Hebrew 4:14
  - Heb 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great Kohen Gadol who has passed through the heavens, Yeshua Ben-Elohim, let us hold firmly to our confessed allegiance. (Eph 2:1-3 & John 6:62)
- So, when Yeshua passed through the Heavens to be seated at the right hand of God (Acts 2:33-34), was he going back to where He was before? All this fight to return to the same thing? No!
- He returned not just as the Son of God, but as the Son of Man! We will now rise with Him! Mat 16:16, Act 7:56 & Rom 8:34

1Cor 15:21-22 For since death came through a man, also the resurrection of the dead has come through a man. For just as in connection with Adam all die, so in connection with the Messiah all will be made alive.

### Seated at the Right Hand

Eph 1:19-23 and how surpassingly great is his power working in us who trust him. It works with the same mighty strength he used when he worked in the Messiah to raise him from the dead and seat him at his right hand in heaven, far above every ruler, authority, power, dominion or any other name that can be named either in the `olam hazeh or in the `olam haba. Also, he has put all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the Messianic Community, which is his body, the full expression of him who fills all creation.

Col 3:1-4 So if you were raised along with the Messiah, then seek the things above, where the Messiah is sitting at the right hand of God. Focus your minds on the things above, not on things here on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with the Messiah in God. When the Messiah, who is our life, appears, then you too will appear with him in glory!

#### Citizens of New Jerusalem

Joh 14:1-4 "Don't let yourselves be disturbed. Trust in God and trust in me. In my Father's house are many places to live. If there weren't, I would have told you; because I am going there to prepare a place for you. Since I am going and preparing a place for you, I will return to take you with me; so that where I am, you may be also. Furthermore, you know where I'm going; and you know the way there."

Heb 11:13-16 All these people kept on trusting until they died, without receiving what had been promised. They had only seen it and welcomed it from a distance, while acknowledging that they were aliens and temporary residents on the earth. For people who speak this way make it clear that they are looking for a fatherland. Now if they were to keep recalling the one they left, they would have an opportunity to return; but as it is, they aspire to a better fatherland, a heavenly one. This is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

### The Three Components

- 1. The Release of Faith (Spoken "let there be light").
- 2. The Fight of Faith (1Tim 6:12).
- 3. The Manifestation. Gods promise come true!
- This process exists because there is an enemy running interference... The fight can be long!

Dan 10:11 He said to me, "Dani'el, you are a greatly loved man. Now pay attention to the words I am saying to you, and stand upright; for it is to you that I have been sent now." After he had said this to me, I stood up, trembling. Then he said to me, "Don't be afraid, Dani'el; because since the first day that you determined to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard; and I have come because of what you said. The prince of the kingdom of Persia prevented me from coming for twenty-one days; but Mikha'el, one of the chief princes, came to assist me; so that I was no longer needed there with the kings of Persia. (Eph 2, Eph 6)

#### Stand Firm in Faith!

- 1Pet 5:8-9 Stay alert! Watch out! Your adversary the devil prowls around <u>like</u> a roaring lion, searching for someone to devour (fear gives way). Stand up against him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being laid upon your brothers and sisters throughout the world.
- You're not the only that experiences a delay, you're not the only one that must fight a good fight of faith! Don't think that others pray and get instant answers! Our brothers all over the earth are going through the same experience.
- Don't think its strange or loose faith because the manifestation hasn't come yet...
- But if we hold fast in faith, God, the Messiah and His Angels will do battle on our behalf! Keep the good confession! 2Tim 4:6-8 (Our citizenship).

#### Winning the Fight!

1John 5:3-5 For this is the love of God—that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. For everyone born of God overcomes the world. And the victory that has overcome the world is this — our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world, if not the one who believes that Yeshua is Ben-Elohim?

- Gods' faith overcomes the enemy! If we walk in that and keep it alive within us, it will do what it was sent to do!
- What it does is stops the doubt from overcoming our mind, then falling into our spirit, then we confess doubt.
- Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks Mat 12:34

## Victory is in the tongue!

The POWER of confession!

Pro 29:11 A fool gives vent to all his feelings, but the wise, thinking of afterwards, stills them.

Pro 15:2 The tongue of the wise presents knowledge well, but the mouth of a fool spews out folly.

Pro 18:21 The tongue has power over life and death; those who indulge it must eat its fruit.

Mat 12:33-37 "If you make a tree good, its fruit will be good; and if you make a tree bad, its fruit will be bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. You snakes! How can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what overflows from the heart. The good person brings forth good things from his store of good, and the evil person brings forth evil things from his store of evil. Moreover, I tell you this: on the Day of Judgment people will have to give account for every careless word they have spoken; for by your own words you will be acquitted, and by your own words you will be condemned."

• We have a confession which is saying the same thing that Gods says!

## Win Your Fight!

- If we want to "fight a good fight" Tov/Good = "Function in our purpose, function in our calling" we must hold fast to a good confession!
- The confessions must be from God, we walk in His faith.
- Our faith leads us to our final calling, our citizenship in the Kingdom!

2Ti 4:6-8 For as for me, I am already being poured out on the altar; yes, the time for my departure has arrived. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. All that awaits me now is the crown of righteousness which the Lord, "the Righteous Judge," will award to me on that Day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for him to appear.

#### Shabbat Shalom

**QUESTIONS** 

AND

**ANSWERS** 

PART 7 WILL FOLLOW!