

KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

Mark: 1:35 & Matt: 11: 11-12

From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury

Ever-Increasing Faith

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed *from faith to faith*; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” Romans 1:17

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 3:18

As we continue in our Kingdom Advancing Prayer we need to remind ourselves that God is looking for a generation of people that would be a true representation of His glory in the earth. God is seeking for a generation with a kingdom mindset/lifestyle, not just a salvation. That is a kingdom generation.

The “Moses” generation possessed a salvation mindset; they were saved and delivered from the hands of the Egyptians (they possessed “first level faith”), however, they neither possessed the mentality nor the lifestyle required to step into God’s promises, and not possessions. (Life does not consist in the abundance of things we possess Luke 12:15). They all died in the wilderness except Joshua and Caleb who had a different mentality – Numbers 14:24

The “Joshua/Caleb Generation” possessed the dimensions of an ever-increasing faith; they walked in three realms of faith - foundational, possessing and finishing faith. They possessed the right mindset - the kingdom mindset - that allowed them to inherit the promise; to obtain the inheritance.

The Hebrew ("aman") and the Greek ("pistis") are words for "FAITH", and they convey the meaning: that which is certain or sure, it is also translated verily, truly or indeed!

How do we go from “Faith to Faith?” The Word of God declares: “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17-18. So then, Faith increases in direct proportion to the Word that we are receiving. If all we are receiving is a “Salvation Word” then that is where our faith will remain. So in essence, our revelation base must increase for our faith to increase. This is why we must be in the Word and be connected to God-Ordained revelators of His Word. The more Christ is revealed in us, and to us, the greater our faith will become. The apostle Paul by the Holy Spirit brought this point home in a very profound and forceful manner:

“I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: *which is Christ in you, the hope of glory*. Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. To this end I also labour, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.” Colossians 1:24-29

We are moving, as it were, in An Ever-Increasing Faith; from Faith; for Salvation to Faith for Possessing our destiny and inheritance and Faith for finishing all that the Lord has assigned for us to accomplish.

Please note that the devil will have no greater joy than to see some who walked in great dimensions of faith draw back and have their faith diminished. The writer of Hebrews declares:

“Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: "For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him." But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.” Hebrews 10:35-39

Foundational Faith is the initial faith that is used when we are born again and is recorded in elementary principles of Christ in Hebrews 6:1-2:

“Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.”

Possessing Faith is the “NOW” kind of faith that is needed to step into the purpose of God for our lives. It is the faith that is described in Hebrews chapter eleven.

Finishing Faith is found in Hebrews 12:1-2

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

This faith is what is needed in these last days to accomplish all that the Lord has assigned to us. It is the faith that has the ability to call forth those things that are not as though they were. It is the faith that is not moved by natural circumstances. It is the faith that propelled Jesus to the cross. It is the faith that Abraham possessed that, in the face of the deadness of Sarah’s womb and his own body, caused/allowed them to receive the promise.

“...who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." Romans 4:18-22

Let us press on and walk in an ever-increasing faith as we do the will of our Father. These are not days of drawing back, but days of walking in greater truth and revelation of God! Remember it is “***Christ in us; the hope of glory***”.