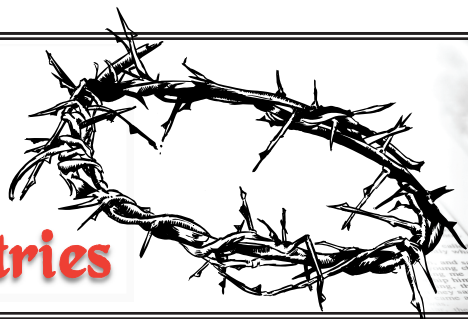




Scripture of the Quarter

*I tell you that He will avenge them speedily.
Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes,
will He really find faith on the earth?"*

Luke 18:8 NKJV

Do You Have Faith?

When I was praying asking the Lord what He wanted me to write for the August newsletter I heard the Holy Spirit speak one word **FAITH**. So first of all, what is the Biblical definition of faith? **Hebrews 11:1^{NKJV}** *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

One of the greatest examples of faith found in the Bible involves a Roman Centurion who wanted his servant healed by Jesus. Ref. **Matthew 8:5-10^{NKJV}** *Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to*

another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

¹⁰When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" Remember this man was a gentile. Gentiles were referred to as dogs by the Jews. Ref. **Matthew 15:26^{NKJV}** But He (Jesus) answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." These were people who were not worshiping Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Another example of what I would classify as **(GREAT FAITH)** is found in **Mark 5:25-34^{NKJV}** *Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, "If only I may touch*

His clothes, I shall be made well." ²⁹Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. ³⁰And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?" ³¹But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" ³²And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. ³³But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. ³⁴And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

I would like to pose a question—How many of you reading this newsletter have **FAITH**? All of us realize we are living in the last **of the last days** before Jesus returns for His **faithful** followers who are overcomers.

Here is a scripture telling us what God thinks about those who have no faith; **Deuteronomy 32:20^{NKJV}** *And He said: 'I will hide My face from them, I will see what their end will be, for they are a perverse generation, Children in whom is no*

faith. As I study God's Word, I believe the above scripture describes the generation that we are living in **RIGHT NOW!** Why? When you see the education system telling a little boy you may be a girl or telling a girl that she may be a boy. This is a blatant example of **a perverse generation.**

Now, I want to give you some more scriptures describing faith. Another scripture that actually said **faith is visible.** Some teach that you can't really see faith. Ref. **Mark 2:3-5^{NKJV}** *³Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. ⁴And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So, when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."*

So, we see this scripture proves you can see faith. So, far we have covered **great faith and visible faith.** Now let's read about little faith as described by Jesus himself. For this scriptural proof we will go to the book of Matthew to be precise we find this proof in **Matthew 8:23-27.**

Matthew 8:23-27^{NKJV} *²³Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. ²⁴And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. ²⁵Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" ²⁶But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. ²⁷So the men*

marveled, saying, who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?"

Can you imagine being the disciples when Jesus himself scolded them for **having little faith** after what they observed Him doing in Israel. Healing **all the sick.** This is a **working faith** that Jesus displayed for the disciples to observe and emulate what He did.

The next question is—How do we get faith? This scripture gives us the answer; **Romans 10:17^{NKJV}** So, then **faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.** This is a reminder for all of us to study the Bible and read all the examples of what Jesus and His disciples did based on belief and **having faith.**

Now the next thing we need to cover is the question—Do works have anything to do with faith? Again, for the answer we **MUST** go to the Word of God.

The scripture verses that reveal to us that faith without works is dead is found in; **James 2:14-17^{NKJV}** *¹⁴What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? ¹⁷Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.* Ref. **James 2:22^{NKJV}** *Do you see that faith was working together with his actions, and by works faith was activated.*

In the book of **Ephesians** chapter six the Apostle Paul prepares us for **spiritual warfare** by telling us to put on the **Full Armor** of God. And he

makes this important statement in verse; V16 **Ephesians 6:16^{NKJV}** *above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.* Notice out of all the Armor described by Paul verse 16 tells us **above all take up the shield of FAITH.** Think about it, if you **Armor up** and don't **have faith to believe** the Full Armor of God will protect you in every battle, you leave yourself open to allow the devil to win every battle you will face!!!!

Another very Important scripture regarding faith is found in: **2 Corinthians 5:7** *For we walk by faith, not by sight.* Just to remind you of what happened to Peter who took his eyes off of Jesus **as he walked on the water** and he sunk.

We must remember to keep our focus on **Jesus** and our faith will remain strong as we study God's Word daily.

In closing I want to give you one last scripture that sums up this whole newsletter: **Hebrews 11:6^{NKJV}** *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

Armor up and Know that you can have Faith to Trust God to do what He has said He will do!

— Review Types of Faith —

Great Faith Ref. Matthew 8:5-10

Great Faith Mark 5:25-34

Visible Faith Mark 2:3-5

Little Faith Matthew 8:23-37

Shield of Faith Ephesians 6:16

Working Faith James 2:22