

Relentless Faith in God

Series part1

February 2, 2025

As Christians, we are called to be lights in a world overshadowed with darkness.

Matthew 5:14-16 NIV 14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** *In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

Christ made sure that His disciples would be equipped by the power of Holy Spirit to lead people out of darkness to fellowship with Father God. They did not receive a spirit of passivity but of power and might to do the will of God. They overcame the will of their flesh and the devil to be led by the Holy Spirit to speak the truth in love to those who desired eternal life in Christ.

In these last days, people speak about an alternative truth and with the other hand they are in collusion with the enemy of our souls. As the sun begins to set upon the age of grace, we must become more relentless in sharing the word of God in our walk of faith. We must become more intentional in speaking the truth in love as the world continues to be deceived by lies and deception. There is no greater time in history or better opportunity to be an effective witness for Christ than today!

As Holy Spirit filled Christians, we share His grace, love, acceptance and forgiveness for every person born of a woman. We pray for all leaders in our country and the world that we may live in peace. We pray that the Lord will use our lives to bring others into an eternal relationship with Father God! We pray for the peace of Jerusalem and the imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Scripture Text: Hebrews 11:1-5 NET 1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, being convinced of what we do not see. **2** For by it the people of old received God’s commendation. **3** By faith we understand that the worlds were set in order at God’s command, so that the visible has its origin in the invisible. **4** By faith Abel offered God a greater sacrifice than Cain, and through his faith he was commended as righteous, because God commended him for his offerings. And through his faith he still speaks, though he is dead. **5** By faith Enoch was taken up so that he did not see death, and he was not to be found because God took him up. For before his removal he had been commended as having pleased God.

VERSE 1 *Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, being convinced of what we do not see.*

When you are aware that you were created with purpose and there are so many others like yourself, you can believe that you can achieve your highest potential. God gives each

person a measure of faith to believe that your needs will be met. When a child is in the womb connected to the umbilical cord they never have to worry about food, clothing or shelter. It is not until they enter the world that we learn to understand what they need. They only must cry to get your attention, and you will have to determine what they need. When you are not in sight, they believe the sound of their voice will summon you to give them what they need.

Jeremiah 33:3 ESV *Call me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.*

VERSE 2 *For by it the people of old received God's commendation.*

This verse let's us know how the people in the Old Testament and our ancestors trusted God looking to the day that they would be delivered to future freedom. They obeyed even when they did not understand why they had to suffer.

Their faith in God kept them looking to the future and not dwell on their present condition but trusted and believed God's promises. It was their faith that set them apart with God blessing them and earning favor among their enemies.

Genesis 15:6 *Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.*

Whenever we trust the Lord over our circumstances and walk by faith it honors Father God and He rewards us with the desires of our hearts. **Psalms 84:11 ESV** **For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.**

VERSE 3 *By faith we understand that the worlds were set in order at God's command, so that the visible has its origin in the invisible.*

As human beings, we understand by the sovereignty of God, He created the world by His Word. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** The same was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. {**John 1:1-3 AKJV**} The God Head represents Father, Son and Holy Spirit eternally existing unseen by mankind. The invisible was made known to mankind. **John 1:14** *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

The invisible became the visible representation of God!

VERSE 4 *By faith Abel offered God a greater sacrifice than Cain, and through his faith he was commended as righteous, because God commended him for his offerings. And through his faith he still speaks, though he is dead.*

When our offerings of thanks and faith in God are sincere like Abel (giving his best of the flock), they will be acceptable, received and blessed by God. God blessed Abel because he trusted God to keep His promises even when the fulfillment was unseen. God declared him as being righteous because Abel did not have to witness results, before believing the faithfulness of God. Abel's offering reflected a living sacrifice as a type of Christ. Whereas Cain's offering was not acceptable because he did it begrudgingly with an evil heart which eventually led him to take the life of Able.

People are surprised and horrified to hear of a family member taking the life of another member of the family. The mildest person can become enraged and out of control when they feel a sense of loss and rejection.

Abel's death stands as a testimony of his faith and trust in God's sovereign will. Across the pages of history, Abel is an example in faith that listens to God and follows Him heartily.

VERSE 5 *By faith Enoch was taken up so that he did not see death, and he was not to be found because God took him up. For before his removal he had been commended as having pleased God.*

When we please the Lord as Enoch there can be blessings to receive that are very noteworthy. He lived a life of faith acknowledging God in all His ways with conviction that God always knew what was best for his well-being. He had assurance that God would fulfill his promises. He knew that it was better to trust in the Lord than put confidence in men who lack the wisdom of God.

God was pleased by his faith and removed him. He translated Enoch from this world and placed him in heaven without experiencing death.

Applications:

Faith is the fuel that propels you forward against contrary winds.

Faith is essential in being commended as a follower of Christ.