



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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Faith in the Midst of Fear!

Sub-Topic: Don't be distracted by the distractions of life.

Focus Thought: Faith pleases God. All the promises of God are predicated (based) on faith. The world says seeing is believing, but **God says believing is seeing.**

Scripture: Hebrews 11:1-40 – (Heroes of Faith)

The starting point of everyone's experience and relationship with God is faith. *"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him"* (Hebrews 11:6). It is the foundation of everything that we receive from God. Faith is a state of mind and inspires us to pray more fervently, give more, be more faithful, be kinder, and to seek to portray Jesus Christ. Faith is purchasing power. It is our medium of exchange with the Lord. God honors faith wherever He finds it. Whether one is a child of God or not, God rewards faith (Matthew 8:5-10, 13; 15:22-28).

All of the faithful who are named in Hebrews 11 and in other books of the Bible obtained a good report because of their faith. Even though they lived before the Cross and were excluded from receiving the wonderful promises available to us, still they stood out as champions of faith. **Faith is that element that holds the Christian fiber together.** Through faith, individuals have won wars, subdued kingdoms, seen the dead raised, and stopped the mouths of lions. And brought miraculous deliverance to some. Others endured trials of all kinds and died as martyrs while maintaining their faith in their coming Messiah. But all had one thing in common—faith in the promises of God. **Faith in God is the key to victory whether in life or in death.** Let us seek to cultivate it.

These difficult times have produced attitudes of stress, despair, and depression, which were prophesied in Scripture to come to pass in the last days. The news minds us daily of these existing conditions. The attitude of fear is rampant in our world today. This condition exists because Satan has launched an all-out offensive to try to defeat righteousness and the church. Fear and doubt are the ingredients that fuel the machine that seeks to destroy your faith. The answer should be a resounding no for we are stabilized by our faith in Jesus Christ and our trust in His sovereignty and purpose. Our faith acts as an antidote to the world's ills and as an anchor to our soul. There is only one way to find peace in troubled times: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." (Isaiah 26:3).

We also have armor that God has provided for us. According to Ephesians 6:12-17, *"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."* **We have everything we need to protect ourselves.** All this armor enables us to fight in the supreme battle that tries to destroy our faith in God. That's why we must be like the **"Heroes of Faith"** in Hebrew 11 and keep our faith in the promises of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The entire eleventh chapter of Hebrews is a remarkable commentary concerning what patriarchs, prophets, and unknown individuals were able to see wrought in their lives through faith. What a valuable contribution faith made to each one! The reason the **"Heroes of Faith"** didn't fail is because they held on to the promises of God in the midst of their tests. When we fear, we are going to fail. What if you find yourselves failing in unbelief? By faith, move forward in obedience anyway. We can learn from the biblical stories of many faithful men and women, in spite of many struggles and hardships and seasons of confusion and doubt, they maintained their faith in God. They simply believed God's promises and obeyed His voice, not knowing exactly how things would turn out.

1. All the promises of God are predicated on faith.
2. Faith brings into the realm of possibility anything that God can do—and God can do all things.
3. Faith in God is the key to victory whether in life or in death.
4. By reading, studying, memorizing, and meditating on the Word of God, we can inoculate ourselves against the deceptions of Satan.

We do not understand all of God's ways, but His ways are not for us to understand; **we are to trust.** He is still God. He is still good. And He is still in control.

May you be blessed with these encouraging Words of God to have faith in the midst of fear!