

FAITH TO RECEIVE

BIBLE STUDY BY JAMIE MCNAB

10/1/15

Our five physical senses are very important to us. But ... they are also somewhat limited because there is a real spiritual world "out there".

There are spiritual laws, principles in the very real, very genuine spiritual realm. We are required to use our "eye of faith" to see and believe.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, **the evidence of things not (yet) seen.**

Hebrews 11:1 AMPLIFIED BIBLE

NOW FAITH is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

It doesn't say that they don't exist.

2 Corinthians 5:7

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5:7 THE VOICE

The path we walk is charted by faith, not by what we see with our eyes.

We walk by the proof of things not seen ... not by sight or by hearing ... not what we detect with our physical senses.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, (Amplified: decaying and wasting away) yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a

moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while **we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.** For the things which are seen are temporary, (Amplified: Subject to change) but the things which are not seen are eternal.

You are an immature believer if you rely on solely what you look at and see or touch ... then you are not where you are supposed to be. How do we make our decisions in life ... do we live by faith? Do I conduct my life by the evidence of things not seen or by faith?

What does faith do? What is it's purpose?

Matthew 21:18-22

Now in the morning, as He returned to the city, He was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said (NB: Jesus talked to trees!!) to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away.

And when the disciples saw it, they marvelled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither away so soon?"

So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done. And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

You can't just ask and receive ... whatever you ask **BELIEVING** you will receive.

What part does faith do here? **The common misconception is that faith "PERSUADES GOD TO CHANGE ... PERSUADES HIM TO MOVE"...** if my faith is strong enough to drive Him to action???

If we get enough people together, can we "gang up on God"? Do we get a group together and see if "one person has faith"? Is God moved by the

"sheer volume"? Many people make out that God is the problem. If only He would listen ... reach out and "touch me".

Faith is not to move God!! A key to understanding faith is that faith is more about us receiving what God has already provided to us in His goodness. We have to reach out and receive.

Mark 6:1-6

Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him.

But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honour except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." **Now He could do no mighty work there,** except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marvelled **because of their unbelief.** Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

Their unbelief prevented Jesus from doing what He wanted to do. Faith is important if you want to receive what God has to give.

Mark 1:40-44

Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean."

Then **Jesus, moved with compassion** (easily entreated), stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, **"I am willing; be cleansed."** As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.

And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once, and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go your way, show yourself to

the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

Jesus is not hard-hearted. He is/was extremely willing.

Mark 9:14-29

And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them. Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to Him, greeted Him. And He asked the scribes, “What are you discussing with them?”

Then one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.”

He answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” **Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.

So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?”

And he said, “From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

Jesus said to him, **“If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.”**

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?”

So He said to them, "This kind (of unbelief) can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting."

**** Mark 9:19 GOOD NEWS BIBLE**

Jesus said to them, "How unbelieving you people are! How long must I stay with you? How long do I have to put up with you? Bring the boy to me!"

The problem was at the disciples end. They looked to the physical ... they walked by sight ... not by faith. The problem was at the receiving end ... not at God's end. It's not "The Supplier" ... it's the "receiver". **There is never a problem at God's end!!**

Matthew 17:14-21

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him."

Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"

So **Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief;** for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, **you will say** to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. **However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.**"(referring to their **UNBELIEF**).

Faith is about receiving ... not about shifting God around!!

Matthew 9:35-36

Then **Jesus went about** all the cities and villages, **teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.** But when He saw the

multitudes, **He was moved with compassion** for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. JESUS IS MOVED WITH COMPASSION.

Matthew 14:13-14

When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities. And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and **He was moved with compassion for them**, and healed their sick.

Matthew 20:29-34

Now as they went out of Jericho, a great multitude followed Him. And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!"

Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!"

So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

They said to Him, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened." So **Jesus had compassion** and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.

Jesus had a longing to help people ... to meet their needs. If you have seen Jesus in action ... you have seen The Father. They are like "two peas in a pod".

John 14:8-11

Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father**; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; **but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.**

Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

So we know ... that The Father is willing.

Matthew 6:25-33

"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

"So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Don't fret ... you don't need to "storm the gates of Heaven". God desires to meet the needs of His sons and daughters. It's His idea. But we do want to acknowledge God as our Source. We don't need to push God around.

Mark 11:22-24

So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

We ask ... believing. Faith is receiving what God has provided.

Matthew 7:7-11

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!**

God is disposed to show favour.

1 John 5:14-15

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Ephesians 5:17

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Faith is simple believing God ... and receiving from Him.

