Faith no 28

The Measure of the Faith of Christ August 27, 2017 Brian Kocourek, Pastor

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as **God hath dealt to every man the measure** of faith.

Let us pray...

Now, before we begin, I first want to say that if you are a Baptist, or an Evangelical, or a Fundamentalist, you are not going to agree with what I have to say this morning. But don't let that turn you away from hearing what I'm going to say. As brother Branham said so often, when you are eating cherry pie, you sometimes come across a pit, but that doesn't stop you from eating that pie. You just spit out the pit and keep on eating cherry pie.

But how you spit out that pit depends on how you were raised. And that is the same concerning *The measure of Faith*. The Measure of Faith to the Baptist or evangelical or fundamentalist is not the same as it is to me. They look at this verse as if Paul is speaking of every person having received from God a different measure, when that is not what he is talking about at all.

Now, for the next few minutes this morning let's focus our thoughts on this thought that the Apostle Paul calls, "The Measure of faith". And notice Paul tells us God hath dealt to every man The Measure of Faith.

Notice, The Apostle Paul did not say that every man was given "a" measure of faith. He said God hath given to every Man "*The*" "*Measure of Faith*."

Therefore, we're not talking about "a" measure of faith as thought there is one measure for one person and another measure for another person. You see this is where I draw the line with the evangelical and the fundamentalist. They will look at this verse and say, "you see, every man is given "a" measure of faith. And then they will say, some men are given a greater measure than others, and they will thus take the focus away from "The Faith", and place it upon "faith" as though it is some sort of gift or some sort of empowerment.

But Paul did not say that every man is given "a" measure of Faith. He said, "God hath dealt to every man The measure of faith."

When I went to Congo DRC in 2004 I taught the brethren on the difference between the Appearing and Coming because it was very apparent that many people in DRC were teaching that the second coming took place in 1963, and that brother Branham was the embodiment of that second coming.

But that is because they were wrong concerning the events of the appearing and they because of wrong teaching began to baptize in Br. Branham's name, and even to worship the Messenger to the age, thinking He was the Christ.

I challenged the brethren to begin to read there Bible one thought at a time and stop reading the Word of God like they would some news paper. After going through many days of teaching in a depth they had never heard the Message and Bible preached before, several brethren came up to me after the meetings were over and said, "if there is one thing we learned for sure in these meetings, it is how to read our Bibles."

Well, the whole of Christianity could learn that lesson, because I would say that almost all of Christendom read their Bibles like they would read any other book or newspaper.

But the bible is not a book by men for men, it is the compilation of God's Word to mankind, and since it is God's Word, his thoughts expressed in a written format, then we ought to approach how we read His words to us in a very careful and respectful way.

And this verse of scripture we have read is not different. men read it and think the Apostle Paul is speaking of how each man is given "a" measure of faith, when that is not what he is talking about at all.

It's just like when men read **Romans 8:16** where the Apostle Paul says, "*The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.* And most people read this as your spirit bearing witness with God's Spirit, but that is not what is being said at all. The Apostle Paul is speaking how God's Spirit will bear witness with our Spirit that we are children of God.

So when the Apostle Paul says, "God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith," we really need to know what he is telling us here.

Therefore, what does this mean, and what is the Apostle Paul trying to tell us when he says, "God hath dealt to every man".

Now, the word "dealt" here is a Greek word which means to distribute in part, but this does not mean that every man is given a different part. And that is what I'm driving at this morning. He did not say concerning faith, that every man is given a certain measure of faith. But he said, "to every man, God hath given or distributed The Measure of Faith".

Now, there is only "*One measure*", and that is "*the Truth*". In fact that the word "*measure*" here is a Greek word, "*metron*" and this word "*metron*" means - "*measure*" - or *the rule or standard of judgment*.

Therefore every man is given the rule or standard of judgment concerning The Faith of Christ. And we know that God has One rule and One standard of Judgment. In fact God tells us There is only "*One Faith*". And Since His Word is the only Standard God has given us, and His Word has been freely given to every man, and yet not every man wants God's One standard of judgment. In fact this same Apostle also told us in ...

Ephesians 4:4 "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism..."

Therefore, since there is only One Faith, then it is *This One Faith* that is "the one measure of judgment."

Notice how Paul continues, ... 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to **The measure of the gift of Christ**.

Now, here we find Paul being a little more specific. He says, 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to "The Measure" of the gift of Christ.

So what is the gift of Christ? Is it not the Holy Spirit? Then if we all receive this one Gift, do we then say some have a lesser Holy Spirit than another?

Now, Paul is not saying that everyone is given Grace according to "a" measure, as though each person has been given only a certain different measure one from another, as though one person receives a larger measure than another, but Paul says, "according to The Measure of the Gift of Christ.

He also taught us in 1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

In other words, it matters not from where our natural parents linage came from, we are all given the same measure of the same Spirit and we are all baptized into the same body.

Now, twice we have seen the definitive article "The" used in speaking of this measure of Faith. And it is not speaking of a generic faith, nor is it speaking of a measure as though each receives a different measure. But, rather, it is speaking of The measure, and the word "The" is a definitive article and specifically speaks of One and the Same Measure. Not a different measure for each person who is a different member of the body. But the same measure for all members of the body.

Notice how this is spoken of in the Book of Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, <u>The Holy Ghost</u> fell on them, as (or in the same way it did) on us at the beginning. 16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with <u>The Holy Ghost</u>. 17 Forasmuch then as God gave them <u>The like gift</u>. (The Same Gift) as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ;

So we see here that God does not give to one a greater measure than he does to the others. He gives us *the same Word*, and *the same Spirit*.

Now, that does not mean we are all the same. No, and it does not mean that everyone is called into the five -fold ministry either. But it does mean that God has <u>One standard</u> and that same standard is given to all. And notice he said each of us is given "<u>The Measure of Faith.</u>" "<u>The Measure</u>," "<u>The Measure</u>", meaning <u>the same Measure</u>. Therefore there is but One standard, One Word, One Spirit, One Faith, One Lord, and one Doxa for all sons.

That is why Jesus uses the term measure in the same sense of the word judgment. Notice in the Book of Matthew 7:1 Jesus says, ¶ Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. Notice that Jesus is tying together the words judge and measure. He says with what measuring stick or standard of judgment you use, that is the same one you will be measured with.

Again we see in Mark 4:24 And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

25 For he that hath, (he that is of such a nature as to echo what he hears) to him shall be given: and he that hath (echoes) not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath (that which he thinks he is echoing). Therefore, this does not speak of two separate standards, but it speaks of just one standard, just one measuring stick.

And again in Luke 6:37 he says, ¶ Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: 38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Now, in getting back to this **one standard**, the Apostle Paul made reference in **Romans** 12 to "The measure of faith", and we know that Faith is a Revelation. And we know there is only One Faith, or One Revelation and that is "The Revelation of Jesus Christ".

Therefore the Apostle Paul is making reference to <u>The</u> <u>Measure</u> or standard for <u>The One</u> and <u>only Revelation</u>.

We see also, in *Ephesians 4* the Apostle Paul telling us *there is only One Faith*, and then he uses this terminology concerning *The Measure* when he says, *The measure* of the gift of *Christ*.

So what is this *Gift of Christ*? Well, what does the word *Christ* mean?

We know that the word *Christ* is used of <u>the Anointer</u>, <u>the Anointing</u>, and <u>the Anointed</u>. So what is the application we are reading here? Is Paul speaking of <u>The measure</u> of the gift of the Anointer, the anointing or the anointed?

We can know this for certain as we see the Apostle Peter also speak of this same Word when speaking of receiving <u>The Gift</u> of the Holy Ghost in Acts 2:38 "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." And we know this scriptures speaks of receiving the Baptism of the Spirit.

Again we see in the Book of Acts 10:44 ¶ While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Not another Holy Ghost, but the very same Holy Ghost or God life that had fallen on the Jews now was falling on the gentiles. Not one measure for the Jew and another measure for the gentile, but the very same Measure falling on all.

And remember, we already read from **Acts 11:17** Forasmuch then as God gave them **The like gift as he did unto us**, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; and that word "**like**" was translated from the Greek word "**isos**" which means "**equal**", or "**the same**". So we see that it is not a different measure, but actually one and the same measure or standard.

Then we must ask ourselves, what is this <u>One Measure</u>, and we have our answer, it is <u>The Measure</u> of <u>The Faith</u> of <u>Christ</u>. Not our faith in Christ, but His Faith alone. And we are to receive <u>The Measure of The Gift</u>.

In Romans 5:15 the Apostle Paul tells us "But not as the offence, so also is The free gift."

The emphasis is not on the word free, that only describes how we receive it. The emphasis is on "the Gift" which is free to us.

"For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and The gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

Notice this speaks of "the Gift" which comes to us "by one man, Jesus Christ". Therefore, it comes from One man, and therefore it is not a different spirit upon the Apostle, and then a different spirit upon the teacher, and a different spirit upon the prophet etc, but the same Spirit that was given by "One Man, Jesus Christ".

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by <u>one Spirit</u> (One Life) are <u>we all</u> baptized into <u>one body</u>, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Then the Apostle Paul continues, 16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is The gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but The free gift, The Gift that is free is of many offences unto justification. 17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of The gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one The free Gift (The Holy Spirit) came upon all men unto justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Now, here we are getting a little closer to what <u>The Gift</u> is all about. The Apostle Paul is telling us here that by the sin of "one" judgment came upon all, so then by the Right-wiseness of "One" right-wise-ness came to all. So we see then <u>The Measure</u> of <u>Faith</u> can only be <u>one measure</u> or <u>one rule</u> or <u>one standard</u> and that is <u>The measure</u> that Christ had.

In fact that is exactly what we are told that **The Measure** of **The Gift** will produce in us.

In fact brother Branham said in his sermon, **Be not afraid 62-0620 P:85** But this is my ministry that He give me a gift. And that gift is to shake the church to bring it to a recognition of the coming of Christ, the return of the Spirit of God in the church. It's on you, the same Spirit. It might not be the same gift, but the same Spirit. There's different manifestations, but the same Spirit all the time. The same Holy Ghost you got is the same Holy Ghost I got, the same Holy Ghost we all got. It's all the children of God. And then, why we come together spiritually now, then that Holy Spirit is there. And if diseases is... And if children come around where that Spirit is, it detects them, and it can detect you. It's like a gift of prophecy, or... Not a gift of prophecy... I don't know. Just say it's Christ (You see?) coming down among us; 'cause you go to tacking some kind of a name on something, you got yourself all messed up. So let's just say our Lord Jesus Christ is in the midst of us. See? Let's just say that.

Jehovah Jireh 3 64-0404 P:71 Notice Him, here He come, and Jesus and God became One. They united. Like in Eden where there... Adam and Eve was, in the beginning, the same spirit. Their names was called Adam. See? He was both Adam and Eve together. And when was separated to go the test, what happened? Eve fell by the Word; that was the Word. Adam went out after her to redeem her, but he couldn't do it. He wasn't worthy to redeem her. Then along come the Second Adam to redeem the church, which was in shadow in type. Now, as sure as Adam and Eve had to be the same spirit, Christ and the church has to be the same Spirit, the same ministry: "the things that I do shall you do also." See what I mean? They had to unite together. Flesh and blood and God had to come together and be one Spirit. And Jesus Christ and His church is one Spirit.

This is why I cry out like I do when men put everything in the prophet as though he has a different measure of faith that the other children have. The measure is the same. "By One Spirit we are all baptized into One Body." The Only reason, Jesus the first born son had the Spirit without measure is because God Himself came and lived in Him. Other-wise in that body dwelt the same measure as any other son.

"By One Spirit we are all baptized into one body." Not Jesus had one spirit and we have another. It's the same Spirit. The Same Life.

The Apostle Paul said in Romans 8:11 But if <u>The Spirit</u> of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead <u>dwell in you</u>, <u>He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken</u> <u>your mortal bodies</u> <u>by his Spirit</u> that dwelleth in you.

So we see that it is the same spirit that dwelt in Jesus is to dwell in you. Not another Spirit, not another Life, but the same Life, and if the same Life then it will have the same nature, and live the same way, and do the same things, and talk the same and have the same doctrine, and actions and everything the same.

brother Branham said in his sermon, Faithful Abraham 61-0312 P:53 "Now, the church that professes to be a Christian church, will have to have that same Spirit that was in Jesus Christ. For at the resurrection of the church, Christ and His Bride will come together and dovetail. The writings and promises of God will be made fulfilled there. So it cannot come together unless the same Spirit was in Christ is in you and me. And then if that same Spirit is in there, It'll do the same works, and live the same kind of a separated life, and do the works that He did. The Bible said so," (I'd like to ask where does the bible say so? John 14;12 that's where.)

Notice brother Branham says, "<u>The Bible said so</u>, all the way to Genesis confirms it. Genesis is the seed chapter."

And remember in Genesis 1:11 God promised that "every seed will bring forth after its kind, or nature."

And in His sermon Jehovah Jireh 61-0226 P:49 brother Branham says, "When He was here on earth, He was Emmanuel, God with us. But at Calvary God tore Him apart. He tore Him apart, and He raised up the body, and set it on His own right hand, and sent the Spirit that was in the body back down upon the church to continue the works that it did

<u>in there.</u> There's the covenant confirmed. So the church that goes to be the Bride of Jesus Christ will be baptized into that same Spirit, with the same signs, same wonders. Same Holy Spirit was upon Him <u>will be in the church</u>. It's got to be <u>exactly the same</u>.

Abraham restored 61-0211 P:61 Now, is it the Holy Spirit? Well, if it does the works of Jesus Christ, It's the same Spirit was on Him. Then you can rest assure that you who believe in God and believe you have the Holy Ghost, that that's the same Holy Ghost, because It's doing the same thing It did when It was on the real Son of God. When It comes upon sons and daughters of adoption, It does the same thing It did there. If I told you I had the spirit of John Dillinger, you'd look for me to have two big guns, if I had his spirit. If I had the spirit of an artist, you'd expect me to paint the pictures of the waves out there, catch them beautiful waves and paint them. If I had the spirit of an artist, I could do it. If I had the spirit of a mechanic, I could listen to your car and tell you what's wrong with it. If I tell you I got the Spirit of Christ, then do the works of Christ.

Jehovah Jireh 57-0810 P:35 ...on Calvary, God took His own Son, and tore Him apart. He lifted up the body and set it on His right-hand, and sent the other part, the Holy Spirit, down on the church. And when the rapture comes, it'll have to be the same Spirit that was on Christ, will have to dovetail with that promise, or it will be rejected. No wonder He said, "Except the man be borned again, he will in no wise enter the Kingdom." It has to be the same Holy Ghost that fell on the day of Pentecost, has to baptize every believer or it won't be the same spirit, and contract, that was tore at Calvary. Think of that. Oh, that ought to make the Pentecost shout anyhow. Think of it, the unconditional covenant. God said, "It has to be." And He tore apart, soul and body of His own Son. He took the body and sent the Spirit to the church. And that Spirit can come into the church today, and perform the same miracles showing, and people will laugh at It and walk away from it. How do you ever expect to make the rapture or go in to see God? There we are. Maybe you never seen that before, but that's truth.

Abraham 55-0608 P:41 And the same Spirit was upon Christ has to be on the Church. God taken the body of Christ and set it on His right hand of power above, and He sent the Holy Ghost back. And It's going around, looking out the Church. And when they come together, it'll have to be the same body, same signs, same wonders, same baptism, same signs and wonders, same Gospel. Amen. That's right.

Unconditional covenant 54-0306 P:46 And the same Spirit that was on Jesus Christ has come back on His Church, doing the same signs, the same wonders, the same Holy Ghost, the same power. It's the covenant that God has given to them. And Jesus died there in the evening time when the sun was going down, confirming this covenant. And the Holy Ghost is on the Church tonight leading the Church, just like that He was here when He was leading Christ. The same way... The same ministry Christ had is in His Church tonight: same signs, same wonders, same Spirit. Same kind of works that Jesus did here on earth the Church has to do the same thing. If it's not, it is not the Seed of Abraham; it's not the Church of Jesus Christ: can't be.

World is falling apart 63-1115 P:14 And now that was God above us, could not be touched. Even the mountain that would be touched where He was on, they must be thrust through with a dart, 'cause sin had not had an offering yet. But then God come and was manifested among us, "We handled Him with our hands," they said, "God..." I Timothy 3:16, "Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness; for God was manifested in the flesh, seen of Angels, and believed on in the world, received up into glory." See, see? Now, that was God with us. God over us, God with us, now God in us. All that God was, He poured into Christ; all that Christ was, He poured into the Church. "At that day, you'll know that I'm in the Father, the Father in Me; I in you, and you in Me." So it's been God all along (You see?), His same works. The Church is ordained to carry on His work, with the same Spirit. You couldn't carry on the same work without the same Spirit. That's right. The same Spirit carries on the work.

Perseverant 62-0719E P:26 And if we have the Spirit of God in us, it's the same works and the same Spirit, the same manifestation. See? It just... Then you base your faith upon that. And when you see what it is, then you can be perseverant. You know where you're standing.

Hear ye Him 62-0711 P:15 Then I want to say this: that you take a person that doesn't know right and left hand... Standing there, women, no clothes on at all, just a clout, don't even know what right and left hand is or nothing, but let them receive the Holy Ghost, you speak to them, and they see something happen, and then ask and receive the Holy Ghost, they do the same thing you do right here when you get the Holy Ghost. Shows that It's for everybody, and It's the same Spirit. They act the same way and do the same things. Goes to show that He's universal.

Jehovah Jireh part 3 62-0707 P:35 ...and sending back the Holy Spirit to live in the Church to produce the same thing that that body produced, as a wife, Bride: same Spirit, same work, same doctrine, everything just exactly the way He had it, same sign, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Jehovah Jireh part 1 62-0705 P:74 And the Church of today that goes to meet Christ, will have to have the same Spirit that He had, 'cause it'll have to be Letter by Letter, Word by Word. And He is the Word. Jesus said, "He (personal pronoun) that believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also." Confirming the covenant, the Life that's in Christ will be in the Church, the royal Seed of Abraham.

Forgotten beatitude 61-0425E P:59 Now, if the Holy Spirit still remains the Holy Spirit that was in Christ, is in us tonight, if that's the same Spirit, then It'll do the same work. If this is true, the Holy Spirit, then It'll do the work of the Holy Spirit. It'll do the work of Jesus. And that way, you can be sure then what He was back there; you know what He is now.

Patmos vision 60-1204E P:34 Actually this morning was more of the sermon type, placing the foundation upon the Deity of the revelation, **God being revealed in Christ**. How many believes it? **God was revealed in Christ**, Jehovah revealed in Christ. **Now**,

where's God to be revealed? In His church with His people, in us. The same Spirit, the same works, the same manifestation, the same love, the same forgiveness, the same long-suffering, gentleness, patience, peace, mercy, all that was in Christ is in the church. Remember, keep this in mind: all that God was He poured into Christ (He was the Fullness of the Godhead bodily), and all that Christ was He poured into the church: God above us, God with us, God in us,...

Let us see God 59-1129 P:76 Now, this Angel of the Lord, if It doesn't perform and do the same works that Jesus did, then it's not the Spirit was on Jesus. But if It does the same works that Jesus does; because He said, "He that believeth on Me, the works that I do, shall he also."You know the Bible says, same chapter, John 14, "The works that I do, shall he do also; even more than this shall he do, for I go to My Father." I know the King James puts it "greater." It couldn't be no greater; the original says "more." 'Cause He stopped nature; He raised the dead; well, it's just everything. You could do no greater than He did. But the church would do more of it, because while we're having a meeting here, they're having a meeting in Africa; they're having them in Brazil; they're all around the world (See?); 'cause it could be more. God was manifested in one Person then, His Son Jesus; now He's manifested in His church universal, but the same Spirit doing the same works. One day...

Be certain of God 59-0708E P:48 The same grape vine will brings forth grapes. You don't see pumpkins coming off of a grape vine, watermelons off a cantaloupe vines. You find watermelons on watermelon vines, grapes on grape vines and pumpkins on pumpkin vines. And you find the Spirit of Christ in the children of Christ. We go to church to find the Spirit of Christ and we find creeds. We find laws and doctrines. God's Spirit, the same Spirit that was in Jesus Christ is in the Church.

God called man 58-1005E P:62 Now, He said, a little while the world won't see Him no more. Well then, how would we see Him? We'd have to see His Spirit, if He's in us, and that Spirit would have to do the same that He did then, or it wouldn't be the same Spirit. "I am the Vine; ye are the branches." And if the branch is in the vine, the branch will bear the kind of fruit that the vine produces to it.

Sirs we would see Jesus 57-1211 P:26 *The same Spirit that was in Christ is on His Church, and will be till Jesus comes to unite that Body with His in glory. Certainly.*

Jehovah Jireh 57-0810 P:36 Now, you see why it's necessary, you've got to be born of the Spirit? The Spirit of Christ has to be in you, 'cause it has to be the same Spirit. Take your body to be joined with that body. The same Spirit was tore off of Christ, tore out of Christ, or Jesus. And if that Spirit is in you, It'll make you do the things that Christ did. It'll make you live the life that Christ lived. And Christ was about the Father's business all the time, not gadding about at shows at entertainment. He was about the Father's business.

Jehovah Jireh 57-0326 P:104 The same Spirit that was in Christ is in us, doing the same works if Christ keeps His Word.

Remember Paul said in Ephesians 4:7But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. And we know that The Gift of Christ is The Gift of The Anointing of God upon us. The Gift of the Holy Ghost. And we know the Grace is the understanding that comes at the Apokalupsis according to 1 Peter 1:13 and 1 Corinthians 1: 4-10. Peter and Paul tell us that we are to receive a special grace at the revelation of Jesus Christ, and this grace will bring us to the place where we will all say the same thing, because we will have the same mind.

I Peter 1:13 \P Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for <u>The grace</u> that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

I CORINTHIANS 1:4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for <u>The grace of God</u> which is given you by Jesus Christ; 5 That in everything ye are enriched by him, in all utterance (Logos), and [in] all knowledge; 6 Even as the testimony (witness) of Christ was confirmed in you: 7 So that ye come behind in no gift (Charisma or spiritual endowment); waiting for the coming (apokolupsis, unveiling or revelation) of our Lord Jesus Christ: 8 Who shall also confirm (establish) you unto the end, [that ye may be] blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God [is] faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 10 ¶ Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and [that] there be no divisions among you; but [that] ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Notice how this grace is to bring an understanding which brings with it the same mind and judgment. Not everyman receiving a different measure, but all receiving the same mind, and the same rule or standard of judgment.

I John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would [no doubt] have continued with us: but [they went out], that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. 20 ¶ **But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things**. 21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

Now, what is John saying here? He is saying that you have received an unction which is *The Gift of Christ*. And that Gift has given you the same measure, and you have the same mind, and the same judgment. Then he says, you are not the ones who left. You are the ones who have stayed and that is because you have received an anointing that has made you to know all things. And the difference between you who have stayed and those who have left is that you have this unction, you have this anointing, and you know better.

I John 2:21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. (John is saying here, look, I am not dealing here with the unbeliever. I am writing to you because you are the ones who do believe. And then he says,) 22 Who is a liar but he that denies that Jesus is the Christ?

Now, you must know what he means by calling Jesus *The Christ*. He is not saying that Jesus is the Anointer, nor is he saying that Jesus is the Anointing, but he is saying that Jesus is the Anointed. Then he lays down a very hard saying when he continues, *He is antichrist, that denies the Father and the Son*.

23 Whosoever denies the Son, the same hath (echoes) not the Father (Now why is that? Well, simply because if you do not say what the don says or what the father says, then you are denying the son) "but he that acknowledges the Son hath (echoes) the Father also.

And so if you acknowledge that there is indeed one Who is The Son, then you cannot help but to know that the One who is The Son has another Who is The Father.).

24 Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. (and what is that? In the Beginning was what? The Word. Notice he even gives us a clue by saying that which you've heard. And what did Jesus say? "If You abide in my word and My word abides in you then ask what you will and it will be given to you.") If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father. 25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, [even] eternal life.

Now this is the point here. John is telling us that if you have received *The Measure of The Gift*, you will know, and your knowing will be the same. *One won't have his revelation and another have another revelation of their own.* No, it does not work that way. We will all *believe the same thing*, and confess the same thing, and we will be able to discern between those who serve God and those who don't.

Notice we will all have *The same measure of Faith*, because we have the same measure of *Faith* or revelation that Jesus had. But what if your Measure is different from what Jesus had? The your Father would have to be different also.

Jesus said concerning the Pharisees in the book of Matthew that they had a different measure than he had.

Matthew 23:23 32 Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. 33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Souls in prison Now 1110M 38-3 Have you got just a couple of minutes to give me? Let's see. Let's just turn to that, 'cause I said read it. There was something there that I want to read just before... Now, I'll maybe cut something else out, but just--let's just get this, just a minute: Matthew 23, just a minute. All right, and we're going to begin at the 27th verse. Just listen. Now, you read the whole thing when you go home, if you will. Just a few more minutes. Now, watch here. Matthew 23 and begin at the 27th verse: Woe unto you, scribes... (Now, remember this is holy men He's talking to.)... Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ve are like unto whited sepulchres... (that's dead people, see?)... whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. (Hypocrisies and envies and strife on the inside of them; outside, "I'm Dr. so and so." See?) Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men,... (Look at the Ecumenical Council and the Pentecostals setting there.)... but within you're full of hypocrisy and iniquity. (What is iniquity? Something you actually know is right and you won't do it. Jesus... Now, watch what generation He puts this on then.) Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous. (See? All of the prophets...) And say, If we had been in them days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. ("We would've believed the Word of the Lord if we'd lived back there." Watch.) Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the

prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. (That's just what's taking place. Now, watch what He says here.) Ye serpents, and... generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell? (How can you do it?)

179-2 In Acts 3:16 when Peter was asked how the mighty miracle had taken place upon the crippled one at the Gate Beautiful, he explained it on this wise, "And His (Jesus) Name through faith in His (Jesus) Name hath made this man (former cripple) strong, yea, the faith which is by (from) Him (Jesus) hath given him (the man) this perfect soundness in the presence of you all." See, there it is. Jesus' Name, and Jesus' Faith brought about the miracle. Peter did not claim it was his own human faith any more than he claimed that it was his own name. He said that Jesus' Name used in the faith which is from Jesus performed that great work. This faith is what the Lord was speaking about in Revelation 2:13. It was HIS faith. It was not faith IN Him. But it was HIS OWN faith that He had given to the believers. Romans 12:3 "According as God hath dealt to every man (according to verse 1 the men are BRETHREN) the measure of faith." Ephesians 2:8, "By grace are ye saved through faith, and that (Faith) not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." And it also says in James 2:1, "My brethren (notice he, too, is talking to BRETHREN) have not the faith OF (not in) our Lord Jesus Christ with respect of persons."

179-3 In this Pergamean Age where men were humanizing salvation, having turned from the truth that "Salvation is of the Lord,"--having cast aside the doctrine of election and opened wide the church door and their fellowship to any and all who subscribed to their tenets (never mind the Word), in this age of rapid degradation, there were still the few who had the measure of that faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, and not only used that faith in acts of power but withstood those who dared to say that they were saved simply on the grounds of joining a church. They knew that no man could truly believe unto eternal life and the righteousness of God apart from the measure of the faith of the Lord Jesus, Himself. As today's church is filled with mental believers who endorse the virgin birth, the shed blood, going to church and taking communion, and are not reborn at all, even so in that third age was the same problem. Human faith wasn't enough then and it is not enough now. It takes the very faith of the Son of God to drop into a man's heart so that he can receive the Lord of glory into the temple not made with hands.

180-1 This was a living faith. "I live by the faith of the Son of God." Paul did not say that he lived by faith IN the Son of God. It was the faith of the Son of God that had given him life and kept him living in Christian victory. No, they had not denied that salvation was supernatural from start to finish. They kept alive the truth of His Name and His Faith and they were blessed by the Lord and accounted worthy of Him.

II Corinthians 10:12 ¶ For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. 13 But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.

So what is Paul saying here? That the same measure he has he is willing to impart to the others.

In closing I would like to share a couple quotes from Brother Branham concerning what this measure of *the Faith of Christ* is supposed to produce in the church, which is the same thing it produced in Jesus Christ himself.

From his sermon, Revelation chapter one - 60-1204M 56. "He that believeth in Me..." Saint John 14:12, "He that believeth in Me, the works that I do shall he also. Do the same works, and greater than this..." Because Christ cannot preach the baptism of the Holy Ghost would be greater. He could not bring it to them, because the Holy Ghost hadn't yet been given. But when Jesus came and sacrificed His Life, and the Holy Ghost returned, then they could impart Eternal Life to the people. That's the greater. But the signs and wonders, Jesus plainly said in Mark 16, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." How far? All the world. How many? Every creature. Long as the Gospel's being preached, these signs shall follow them that believe. And when that becomes a revelation, brother, you're near the Kingdom then. "On this rock I'll build My church, and the gates of hell can't prevail against it." Because the man or the woman that's ever been in that back desert alone like Moses was, and the revelation of God be made manifest to him through the Holy Ghost, there's nothing can shake him. He's just as sound and solid as he can be. Satan hates revelation. He don't like it at all: upsets his plans.

And from his sermon, That day on Calvary - 60-0925 54. Now, notice, the greater works was to have the power in the church, not only to heal the sick by prayer, cast out devils by prayer, but to impart Eternal Life to believers. The Holy Ghost was coming and given into the hands of the church to impart life. Oh, that's what Calvary meant. It took stooped, degraded men and women and lifted them into a place to be sons and daughters of God to heal the sick and to impart Eternal Life. By giving the Holy Ghost to obedient believers, men who were once unbelievers be made believers and impart spiritual Eternal **Life.** 55. How much greater is it to say to this sick woman laying here, "I can pray a prayer of faith," and she'll be healed. That's a great thing. That's what He was doing then, but said, "Greater than this shall you do. I'm going to give you power, not only to raise him up for a while, but to give him Eternal Life, which will be eternal forever." Poor, blind, wretched people, how do you miss that? Don't you see what the greater thing is? That's the greatest thing that could ever happen was to impart Eternal Life to people. 56. What is Eternal Life? The Life that He lived, the Life that was in Him: impart that to others. Can a man do that? A Son of God can. Jesus said, "Whosoever sins you remit to them they are remitted. Whosoever sins you retain, to them they are retained."Now, here's where the Catholic church and many of the others made their big mistake. They go out and say, "I forgive your sins." That wasn't it. How did they get sins forgiven in the Bible? Peter answered that question on the day of Pentecost. They said, "What can we do to be saved? How can we get this that you all got?" He laid down the prescription. He told them what to do. He said, "Repent, every one of you towards God, and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ." What for? "The remission of your sins." There's the greater works. Let us pray