

#51 God is Faithful

1 40 God's Only Provided Place of Worship 65-1128 "I believe the church is beginning to hear the Message, and beginning to understand. But friends, listen, we've got to lay in the Presence of the Son, we've got to be ripened. Our faith isn't ripe. Intellectually we're hearing the Message that God has give us, and seeing the signs that He showed us, and proving it by the Bible as that; but, oh, how the church needs to lay in His Presence till it tenders up in the heart, gets sweet in the Spirit so that it can bathe down. Sometimes in speaking the Message, you get harsh, have to break it in like that, because you've got to clinch a nail to make it hold. But when the Church once gets It, the Elected is called out and separated (then in the Presence of God), I know it'll be something like the people was there when it takes its Rapture."

2 Hebrews 11:1 KJV Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Let us pray...

3 Before we move on I want you to look at this verse of scripture here and notice it says that Faith is the Substance... This Greek word that was translated as the word substance is sometimes translated in Scripture as the word Confidence, and in other translations the word assurance is used instead of the word substance.

4 This word substance is not telling us here that Faith is an actual material element as the English word substance might imply, but rather it is the very assurance of things we hope for.

5 It goes on to say that not only is Faith the assurance of things earnestly expected, but it is also the evidence or the conviction of things not even seen.

6 Now in making up this verse of scripture, we must have an understanding of 4 important words here or we will misunderstand and misinterpret what this scripture is telling us.

7 These 4 words are 1st of all the word "Faith" itself, which we understand as brother Branham taught that "faith is a revelation, something that has been revealed".

8 Notice, Faith is a revelation. God's prophet told us this in the Rapture Message.

9 Rapture the 65-1204 P:40 But to the church, the Bride, the rapture is a revelation to her. It's revealed to her, that the revelation, the true Bride of Christ will be waiting for that revelation of the rapture. Now, it is a revelation, for the revelation is faith. You cannot have a revelation without it being faith. Faith is a revelation, because it's something that's revealed to you. Faith is a revelation. Faith is something that has been revealed to you like it was to Abraham, that could call anything contrary to what had been revealed to him as though it wasn't so. Now, faith... That's what faith is, is the revelation of God. The church is built upon a revelation, the whole entire body.

10 The 2nd word we must understand is the word Substance, and that this word substance is not a material thing, but rather it is an Assurance, The revelation Itself is our assurance of hope.... and here we find the 3rd word we must understand and that is this word hope. For Hope is an earnest expectation. And if we earnestly expect

something, then according to the apostle Paul we are willing to wait for it.

11 Romans 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

12 Today we have such poor understanding of the English language that we are attempting to speak, and when we use the word hope most of the time we are using it incorrectly.

13 We use this word "hope" for "something we would like to see happen but we are not so sure that it will happen."

14 Even our dictionaries have been dumbed down to show "hope" as a feeling, and not an expectation. And there is a big difference between a feeling and something you expect to happen.

15 Hope: the feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best:
to give up hope. 2. a particular instance of this feeling:

16 But the American Dictionary of the English Language written by Noah Webster, Hope differs from just a wish or desire in that it implies a certain expectation of obtaining what is hoped for. 2 Confidence in a future event or person. Such as The Hope of Israel is the Messiah, or The Lord will be the hope of His People. An opinion grounded on substantial evidence. To desire with expectation of receiving.

17 But as you can see there is a real war on for the minds of man, and not only have we seen the satanic rewriting of history, but we even see satan's hand in the rewriting of our language with the intent that language will no longer have meaning and thus the entire population will become so dumbed down, that they will not be able to understand the Scriptures for themselves.

18 That is why the Catholic church never allowed the people to read the Scriptures, so they placed it in the Latin language so the common person would not be able to read it for themselves. And when any Spirit filled man endeavored to translate it into the language of the people, the Catholic church persecuted and even killed those individuals who so dared.

19 Therefore the word Hope means to earnestly expect what you hope for to actually happen. The thing hoped for has not happened yet, but we earnestly expect that it will. So we see the scripture tell us the Revelation is the Assurance of things earnestly expected, and then the 4th word we will examine is evidence.

The word Evidence simply means conviction. Therefore we can read what Paul said as The `Revelation is the Assurance of things we Earnestly Expect and it is the the Conviction of things we do not yet see.'

Now, the word conviction is used when referring to someone who has been won over from one thought to another. Or from one opinion to another. It is the state or act of being convinced.

20 And the word "convinced" means to overcome all your doubts. So if "Faith is the conviction of things not seen," then we can say that Faith convinces us of the reality of those things we don't even see.

21 Faith then is more of a reality than, than what we actually do see with our eyes.

22 Now, with this in mind let me read a few translations of this scripture to you so you might see that most

translations of the scripture have translated the word for "substance" as "Assurance" and the word for "evidence" as "Conviction"..

From the Amplified Bible we read, "Now Faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed of 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 by the senses."

23 So then what we just read tells us that "Faith is the actual proof" itself.

And from the New American Standard translation we read, "Now Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

24 Again we read from the NIV "Now Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

And in the Weymouth New Testament we read, "Now Faith is a well grounded assurance of that for which we hope, and a conviction of the reality of things which we do not see."

25 Let me read on emore Translation called the Rotherham Bible "But Faith is of things hoped for a confidence, of facts; it is a conviction when they are not seen."

Now, the word that was translated in the King James version as the word "substance" was the Greek word Hupostasis.

26 This word is rendered as the word "assurance" or "confidence" in most scriptures. This word "Hupostasis" is also translated in the KJV of Scripture as the word "confidence" as we see in the following scripture.

Hebrews 3:14 KJV For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end. (The word steadfast means firm, and without wavering).

Again this word Hupostasis is used in Hebrews 1: 3 and in this Scripture it takes on more than just a thought of being sure or confident or assured, because it is used in expressing the very "person" of God Himself.

Hebrews 1:3 KJV Who being the brightness of His Glory, and the express image of His Person and upholding all things by the Word of His power.... (note that this word "person" was translated from the same Greek word Hupostasis),

In the Amplified Version we read, "He is the sole expression of the Glory of God - the Light being, the out-raying of the Divine, and he is the perfect imprint and very image of God's Nature....."

And in the New American Standard we read, "And He is the radiance of His Glory and the exact representation of His Nature....."

And in the NIV we read, "The Son is the radiance of God's Glory and the exact representation of His being..."

Now here we see this word Hypostasis is used not only as the blessed assurance that comes by Faith but is also used in a more real sense when it is actually used in reference to the Father's very Person or Being. Thus Christ is the very Image of God's Hypostasis, substance or person .

27 Here the word has its significance in that it addresses the very Nature of God in contrast to just the outward manifestation of a flesh body. So actually it speaks of the Divine Essence of God that was existent and expressed in the Revelation of His Son. The very Nature or Character of the Person of God Himself.

Therefore in getting back to Hebrews 11:1 Amplified where we read, "Now Faith is the Assurance (The confirmation, or title deed) of 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 by the senses.

Now in examining this thought on Faith being the Assurance, we must ask ourselves what this means. Faith is the Assurance.

The word Assurance means "the State of being certain and confident". "Having a firm belief and trust in". And "without any doubt!".

28 On the other hand the word Conviction speaks of "a state of being convinced"... and "overcoming doubts".....

29 So we see here "a state or condition of having no doubts toward God at all." This means that no wavering is even considered.

In Romans 4:20 We read, "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;"

30 Now remember, Paul is talking about Abraham, and he is considered to be the Father of our Faith. And when God first revealed Himself to Abraham in Genesis 15, we hear Him tell Abraham, "I am thy shield and exceeding great Reward."

31 So then, what does Abraham do? He says, "OK, then, if you are my reward, I need a son." "How about it? I believe what you said, so how about a son!" And God said, "that will be fine with me". And so though the promise tarried for 25 years, we are told by the apostle Paul in speaking of Abraham, "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief." That means Abraham never vacillated back and forth, but was firm and sure in his confidence and assurance towards God and His Promise..

In the Greek Lexicon the word `Staggered` was taken from the Greek word diakrino {dee-ak-ree'-no} which means. "Doubt , judge discern , contend, waver to separate one's self in a hostile spirit, to oppose, strive with dispute, contend, to be at variance with one's self, hesitate, doubt"

Again we read from Matthew 21:21 Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this [which is done] to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

And again in Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

You Must not doubt what God has promised you because we read in Hebrews 11: 6 That God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

32 Let's turn in our Bibles to Hebrews 11:6 and read for ourselves. "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."

33 And again in Matthew 7:7 Ask and it shall be given you; seek , and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you: for everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. ... or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in Heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Now "to doubt" shows you have a lack of understanding who you are dealing with. If Faith or Revelation of God is the Assurance of things earnestly expected, and the very conviction or being convinced of those things which you have not yet seen, then when He is truly revealed to you, you are very sure and need no further convincing. Therefore the Revelation stands on its own. As the scripture tells us, "More blessed are you which have not seen yet believe."

Now, let's turn in our Bibles to I Peter 1:7-9 and read for ourselves, ... `That the Trial of your Revelation, being much more precious than of gold that perishes, may be found after scrutiny to result in praise , honor and Glory at the Appearing of Jesus Christ: ... (Now notice what else Peter says here) Though you have not seen Him, yet you love Him; in Whom, though now you see Him not, yet because you believe, you are rejoicing with joy unspeakable and full of Glory; because this will bring forth the receiving of your goal and your reward, even the salvation of your souls.

Though we see Him not, yet we believe... anyhow. And what is that called? Faith! wkich we know is a Revelation! Revelation is the Assurance of things earnestly expected and the conviction or being convinced of the reality of things you don't even see. ... `Yet, though you see Him not, you still believe and rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of Glory!`

Now after brother Branham preached the Rapture sermon, we believe that The Lord Himself has descended with a Shout! And `As a man thinketh in His heart,' Jesus said, `So is He.' And "out of the abundance or the overflow of the heart the mouth must speak," Right?

34 Then the Revelation of Jesus Christ in this hour is what brings the very Assurance of things earnestly expected, the conviction of things not seen. Did not brother Branham say, `My ministry is to declare Him, That He is here!' Then this Revelation is to bring forth joy unspeakable and full of Glory.

Is not Ephesians 1:17 the Father of Glory Who gives us in this hour the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the Knowledge of Himself. Then is not this "Faith" or shall we say, this "Revelation of Jesus Christ" the very Assurance of things hoped for of things earnestly expected, and the vindication is the convincing of things not seen.

35 Does not Ephesians 1 end up with telling us that He gives us this Revelation that we might understand that He has come forth to give us our inheritance?

Ephesians 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, may give unto you the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the knowledge of Him. Why does He want to do this, and why has He done this in this hour? ... So that the eyes of your understanding may be enlightened; that you may know what is the earnest expectation of His calling, His what? His calling!

36 Matthew 25 "Behold He is Here, come out to meet Him".

37 Revelations 3:20 "Behold I stand at the door knocking , if any man hear my voice and open up to me, I will come in to Him and sup with Him,"

38 He has come forth calling, but He is on the outside, so He has come forth to call by a shout, so you who are on the inside can hear Him and come forth to meet Him. "That the eyes of your understanding might be enlightened; and that you may know what is the earnest expectation of His calling you, and what the riches of the Glory of His inheritance in the saints. And what is the exceeding greatness of His power is to us - ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power."

39 Friends, listen. You must not doubt any longer, Hebrews 10:37 "For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry." (And hasn't He already come or appeared in this hour? Is His presence not here? we are not speaking of the body, but we are speaking of the very God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!)

40 And Paul goes on to say, "Now the just shall live by Faith: but if any man draw back my soul shall have no pleasure in Him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe tot he saving of the soul."

41 Therefore, "if Faith is the Assurance" and we know that "Faith is a Revelation", then Who gives us this Revelation that gives us the assurance? Didn't Jesus Himself tell Peter, that flesh and blood can not reveal, so then who does reveal?

42 Jesus told us who reveals when he answered peter and said, Peter, you did not receive this revelation by any man but by "My Father which is in Heaven, He has revealed it to you."

And Who was it that came down with a shout? The Same one who gave peter the revelation of Jesus Christ. It was the Father of Glory Himself, who came down to bring this revelation of Jesus Christ to us personally. What for? To give us the Revelation of Himself. Why? So that we might receive the reward. Our inheritance. He has come to give us our inheritance, but it takes laying in the revelation of Jesus Christ to become mature in it, in order to become adoptable sons.

Colossians 3:23-24 `And whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord you shall receive the reward of the inheritance:´

So adoption does not come by a man, but by the Father of Glory Himself.

43 That is why brother Branham could say in his sermon, Anointed ones at end time 65-0725M P:193 Now, I want you to know this is sure. And you that listen to this tape, you might have thought today that I was trying to say that about myself, being that I was packing this Message. I have no more to do with it than nothing, no more than just a voice. And my voice, even against my better judgment... I wanted to be a trapper. But it's the will of my Father that I declare to do, and determined to do. I wasn't the One that appeared down on the river; I was only standing there when He appeared. I'm not the One that performs these things and foretells these things that happens as perfect as they are; I'm only one that's near when He does it. I was only a voice that He used to say it. It wasn't what I knew; it's what I just surrendered myself to, that He spoke through. It isn't me. It wasn't the seventh angel, oh, no; it was a manifestation of the Son of man. It wasn't the angel, his Message; it was the mystery that God unfolded. It's not a man; it's God. The angel was not the Son of man; he was a messenger from the Son of man. The Son of man is Christ. He's the One that you're feeding on. You're not feeding on a man. A man, his words will fail, but you're feeding on the unfailing Body-Word of the Son of man. If you haven't fed fully on every Word to give yourself strength to fly above all these denominations and things of the world, will you at this time do it, while we pray?

44 And again from his sermon, Invasion of the USA 54-0509 P:46 I, sometimes I think of my ministry, and see people come. And I'd get in a hotel room, say, "God, who's the people coming to see, me or You?" See? "If they're coming to see me, they're lost yet; but, O God, tear me down and take me away. I want to represent You, the One Who'll stand before someday with trembling hands and trembling, feeble body, looking at You, knowing that my soul hangs by Your decision." Let us exalt Christ.

45 In Revelations 22:12 Jesus said, ` Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, `

And Paul spoke of Abraham in Romans 4:20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; He didn't fuss and stew, he said, Lord, what will you give me. What is my reward!

And in James 1:6 we see that faith does not waver, but is certain. "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

We see this same thought again in Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;)

But here is the key..., It is not our being full of Faith, but His Faithfulness.

46 God is the one Who is faithful! Deuteronomy 7:6-9 "For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto Himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not choose you because you were more in number than any people; for you were the fewest of all people: But because He loved you, and because He would keep the Oath which He had sworn unto you fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, the Faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations;

So then our ability to have faith in God is because God is Faith-full to keep what promise he makes.

47 Paul reminds us of this in 1 Thessalonians 5:24 "Faithful is He that calleth you, Who will also do it."

48 And again in 2 Thessalonians 3:3 "The Lord is Faithful, Who shall stablish you , and keep you from evil."

49 Why 60-1126 P:75 Now, listen. Don't no one disturb, make any noise. Just believe and pray now for a moment. As I turn my back, see if we're at the end of the road. God, it's to Your honor and glory we ask it. Almighty and all faithful God, Who keeps Thy Word in every generation, never failing but always there to prove Yourself alive.

50 1 Corinthians 10:13 "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is Faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that what you are able to bear; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

51 Let us pray