







WALKING BY FAITH

An Article by
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KEY TEXT: 2Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

KEY STORIES:

-  Peter walking on the water – Mark 6:45-52
-  Abraham's pilgrimage – Genesis 12:1-4
-  Isaac's time of famine – Genesis 26:1-6
-  Gideon's three hundred men – Judges 7:1-7
-  Ruth's journey to Bethlehem – Ruth 1:16-18
-  David's flight to the land of the Philistines – 1Samuel 22:10-15; 27:1-7

In order to walk by faith:

1. We need to accept and rejoice in the inscrutable will of God, that which cannot be foreknown because He chooses to conceal it from us:

1Cor 2:9 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

Mt 24:36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

Acts 1:6-7 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

2. God's promises and plans are often meant for the future. No quick fix, no living just for today, God is constantly looking forward to things that are yet to be established. We are a people of the future.

Jer 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ps 37:37-38 Mark the blameless man, and observe the upright; For the future of that man is peace. But the transgressors shall be destroyed together; The future of the wicked shall be cut off.

Deut 28:1 "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

Isa 10:27 It shall come to pass in that day that his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, and his yoke from your neck, and the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.

3. We are a people of action who, believing in God's mercy and favour, move according to knowledge and wisdom.

1Sam 2:3 "Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the LORD is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed.

2Chron 1:10-12 "Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of Yours?" And God said to Solomon:

"Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked long life-but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king - wisdom and knowledge are granted to you; and I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like."

Prov 24:4 By knowledge the rooms are filled With all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong, Yes, a man of knowledge increases strength...

What we gain when we walk by faith and not by sight:

Sanctification by faith

Acts 15:9 "and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

Acts 26:18 'to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'

Justification by faith

Rom 3:28-30 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.... since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.

Rom 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...

Gal 2:16 "knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

Gal 3:8-11 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed.... But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."

Gal 3:22-24 But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Righteousness by faith

Rom 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Gal 5:5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Phil 3:9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

Rom 9:32 Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone.

Gal 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.