

## Faith Review +

### The cure for Doubt & Unbelief

#### Review: In Faith – Part 1 we learned the basics of Faith

- What is faith? – substance and evidence
  - **Hebrews 11:1** - Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen
- How does faith come? – By hearing
  - **Romans 10:17** - Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God
- How is faith released? – By speaking
  - **Mark 11:23** - Verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed, and be though cast into the sea, and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he says shall come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he says.
- How much faith do you need?
  - **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.
  - **Matthew 17:20-21** - And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

#### Review: Faith – Part 2 we learned

- The tactics and characteristics of the enemy
- The devil, our adversary goes about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he “may” devour
  - **1 Peter 5:8**
    - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour.
- We learned that the devil comes not but for to kill, steal, and to destroy
  - **John 10:10** – The thief comes not but for to kill, steal, and to destroy
- We learned that there is no temptation that is so strong we cannot resist it
  - 1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation take you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.
- We learned that the word of God is quick, powerful and sharper than any two edged sword
  - **1 Corinthians 2:16** - For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
- We learned that if we submit ourselves to God, resist the devil – that he will flee from us
  - **James 4:7** - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

- And we learned how to submit ourselves to God by coming into agreement with what he says in his word:
  - We respond with
    - It is written
      - Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God
      - Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and him only shall thou serve
      - Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God
  - And when the Devil comes at us with fear we say
    - It is written - God has not given me the spirit of fear

### **Review: In Faith – Part 3A – Powerful acts of Faith – We learned**

- That faith won't work in an unforgiving heart or in an environment of strife
  - Mark 11:25
    - And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.
- We learned through examples that those who speak and act in faith do so boldly
- We learned that Jesus released faith in every word that he spoke
  - He spoke the desired end result
- We learned that David also spoke in faith and spoke the desired end result
  - David spoke with such authority that the scared unbelieving men of Israel were convinced to take him before King Saul
  - We learned that David was not afraid of a Giant
    - He shall be as a lion or a bear
    - David ran towards the giant – there was not fear in him at all
    - God delivered Goliath into David's hand and he cut off his head

### **Review: In Faith – Part 3B – Powerful Acts of Faith – We learned**

- Not to flinch in the face of 450 evil prophets
- To believe in what we can't see even if there aren't any rain clouds
- To get down the mountain because there is an abundance of rain coming
- Not to be sore afraid
- To speak boldly about God
- That God chose the foolish things of the world to confound the wise
- Not to accuse God of bringing us out in the wilderness to die
- That faith never considers the circumstances but to believe what the word of God says: Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen

### **Review: In Faith – Part 3C – Powerful Acts of Faith – We learned**

- That not to take wine, no strong drink, or unclean thing – when God is preparing you
- Not to be quick to fear

- Not to sacrifice a goat to an angel
- Not to play with the Devil – Riddles & Women
- Not to believe in your own strength, but believe in God
- That when God gives you an extraordinary gift – don't squander it!
  - Also – the parable of the talents

## What is Doubt?

- Doubt means to hesitate, to contend, to differ, to stagger, to waver
- Doubt is not always bad
  - If you don't know something, you will have some doubts
    - Doubt is when you just don't know
  - But if you choose to doubt by looking at the wind and the waves...
- Doubt feeds on ignorance – the cure is the knowledge of the truth – you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free
- Doubt is a common temptation among believers and can be described as wavering between two minds or lacking confidence in God.

## Examples of reasonable doubt

*The leper believe that Jesus could heal him – but honestly didn't know if Jesus would heal him – but as soon as Jesus solved his doubt, he believed*

Matthew 14:31

<sup>2</sup>And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

<sup>3</sup>And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

## Examples of unreasonable doubt

*Peter stopped believing and started doubting because he believed more in the power of the wind and the waves, than in the word when Jesus said come.*

Matthew 8:2

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?



## What is Unbelief?

**Unbelief means to separate thoroughly, withdraw from, to oppose**

**Unbelief is when you know, but you have decided not to believe**

*Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.*

*Thank God for mercy and grace because this is unbelief at its maximum!*

[John 20:24-29](#)

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

<sup>25</sup> The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

<sup>26</sup> And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

<sup>27</sup> Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

<sup>28</sup> And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

<sup>29</sup> Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.



### What is the cure for doubt?

- Saying what God said will cure your doubts

### What is the cure for unbelief?

- The cure of unbelief is to find out what God said and make a decision to believe it

### Abram started with doubt

#### *Abram speaks out of the abundance of his heart*

Genesis 15:2-3

<sup>2</sup>And Abram said, Lord God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?

<sup>3</sup>And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.

### God changed Abram's name to Abraham

#### *Abraham means the father of many nations*

Now everywhere Abraham goes – he hears people call him the Father of many nations

Romans 10:17

<sup>17</sup>So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Genesis 17:1-8

**17** And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

<sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

<sup>3</sup>And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,

<sup>4</sup>As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

<sup>5</sup>Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

<sup>6</sup>And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

<sup>7</sup>And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

<sup>8</sup>And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

### **Abraham now believes**

**Abraham didn't have to wait 25 years to believe – he could have believed at day #1 when he was 75.**

[Romans 4:20-21](#)

<sup>20</sup>He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

<sup>21</sup>And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

*Once God changed his name, the promise child came in a year when he started using his faith.*

[Genesis 21:5](#)

<sup>5</sup>And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

### **Jesus gives his disciples power to heal and cast unclean spirits**

[Matthew 10:1](#)

**10** And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

[Luke 9:1-2](#)

**9** Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

<sup>2</sup>And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

[Luke 9:37-43](#)

<sup>37</sup>And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him.

<sup>38</sup> And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child.

<sup>39</sup> And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.

<sup>40</sup> And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not.

<sup>41</sup> And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.

<sup>42</sup> And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.

<sup>43</sup> And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God...

### **The one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind**

[James 1:5-8](#)

**5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.**

**6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.**

**7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.**

**8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.**