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 Faith Produces What You Believe

 “Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him

 that believeth” Mark 9:23 KJV

 “What do you mean, ‘If I can” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a

 person believes” Mark 9:23 NLT

When we speak about this subject of faith we must remember that this is the most important principle of the Christian life. Hebrews 11:6 clearly states that “without faith it is impossible to please God”. Faith is the vehicle by which we get every provision God has made available to us in the heavenly places into the earth realm. Faith is the pipeline God uses to funnel everything to us that grace has already provided. Ephesians 1:3 says that we have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places, but we must live by, (Habakkuk 2:4/Romans 1:17/Galatians 3:11/Hebrews 10:38) and operate in this law of faith (Romans 3:27) in order to move those blessings from the realm of the spirit, into this earth realm in which we temporarily reside.

The dominant New Testament term for faith is the Greek word “pistis”, which conveys the idea of trust. It is defined as persuasion, trustworthiness, moral conviction (of religious truth, or trustfulness of God or a religious teacher), and credence, which is acceptance based on the degree to which something is believable. Its’ synonyms are, assurance, belief, fidelity or loyalty). Pistis derives from another Greek word “peitho”, which means to convince. Its’ synonyms are to have confidence, be confident, trust and persuade. The Microsoft Encarta College Dictionary defines faith as belief in, devotion to, or trust in somebody or something, especially without logical proof. It also defines faith as devotion to God, and allegiance or loyalty to somebody or something.

Bible faith, that which the just shall live, is defined as a practical expression of your confidence in God and His Word. Faith is the trustful human response to God’s self-revelation by His Word and His actions. It is expressing confidence in what you believe about what God has revealed to you through His Word, thus displayed by your actions. Faith’s origin is by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17) and believing the gospel message of Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection. God activates faith when you hear, and this causes you to have the confidence to trust God and His Word. Faith is a spiritual concept. It is based on trust and confidence in that which we cannot see. It is the acceptance of what God says in His Word, and practically expressing this trust through statements of confession and by your actions. It is how we live; trusting God and believing His Word.

In our text Jesus makes a very profound statement in which every believer must absolutely grasp hold of if he desires to see the manifestation of the promises of God. He simply tells us that if we can believe what God has spoken to us through His Word then it is possible. This takes what I call radical faith. It’s that believing of what seems totally unreasonable, and yes impossible. Radical faith believes God for something in which you have to be careful when sharing it with others because it seems too ridiculous to believe. Remember the dreams of Joseph in Genesis 37:5-11, they were so far-fetched that his family thought he was a fool to believe such a thing. When you have radical faith and have received a word from God nothing can shake you from it. It becomes so imbedded in your thinking and you began to live it out although there is no physical evidence to support what you believe. Because you have the faith to believe it, then you can be assured according to the Word of God that you will receive what you believe. When God speaks you must have faith to receive it, you must also have courage; it will always be in line with His Word, and will produce peace within, and generally goes against the reasoning and rationalizations of the world….this requires radical faith; the ability because of what you believe to stand in the midst of trouble, toil and turmoil. You are completely and absolutely sold out to what you believe. Jesus gives this simply but profound truth that if you have the faith to believe it, then, He has the ability to bring it to past. Nothing pleases God more than to see His saints operating by faith. Romans 4:21 Amplified said that Abraham was “fully satisfied and assured that God was able and mighty to keep His Word and to do what He had promised”. He was so sure that God would do what He said that he also after believing God for this promise child, was willing to sacrifice him at God’s command because he believed that “God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure” (Hebrews 11:19). Faith bridges the gap with what you are believing and your present reality. Because you believe it your faith will produce it. The woman with the issue of blood believed in her healing if she could just touch the hem of Jesus’ garment while her present reality was she was still hemorrhaging. But her faith produced her healing because she received it as more real than her present situation. Faith will go and get what you believe when you stand on it with a confidence that He will do what He said. Faith has been given to every man, and Jesus makes it clear in our text that if you can believe what God has promised and made available to you, then it is possible if you can believe.