

FAITH: POWER OF THE AGE

Faith is not native to our planet but penetrates our dimension from the Kingdom of God dimension. It is native to God's dimension.

The faith at work in you is not an attitude, mental effort, religious concept or ideology.

Faith is a living, trans-dimensional power.

Faith came to you because of your having heard 'the word of God' and God Himself having then dealt to you "the measure of faith," **Romans 10:17; Romans 12:3.**

More happened than your physical ears hearing the gospel.

The faith received wasn't a psychological cause-and-effect.

Scripture makes it very plain that faith is a spiritual life-force extended to you.

Hebrews 6:4 "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, **5** And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come.(have experienced)

Faith is Spirit

2 Corinthians 4:13 "We have the same spirit of faith."

Galatians 3:5 "Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?"

It is the hearing of faith, not works of the law that produced the ministry of miracles and spiritual impartation in the Galatian Church.

Faith is Alive and Has a Voice.

How can one hear faith? Jesus said "My words are spirit and life."

John 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice."

John 12:49 "I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a **command** what I should say and what I should speak."

Matthew 28:20 "Then instruct them in the practice of all I have **commanded** you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

Mark 16:17 "These are some of the signs that will accompany believers: They will throw out demons in my name, they will speak in new tongues, **18** they will take

snakes in their hands, they will drink poison and not be hurt, they will lay hands on the sick and make them well." **19** Then the Master Jesus, after briefing them, was taken up to heaven, and he sat down beside God in the place of honor. **20** And the disciples went everywhere preaching, the Master working right with them, validating the Message with indisputable evidence.

The Voice of Faith is not Separate from the Voice of Jesus.

Signs and wonders occur during the laying-on-of-hands because our bodies are Temples of Holy Spirit. The hand is an extension of that Temple and faith becomes the vehicle accompanying the release of power. Holy Spirit frequently overwhelms the person and they drop to the floor. That manifestation happened because Holy Spirit moved visibly from the person ministering to the person receiving.

In the same way, Holy Spirit's power passes through a living body bringing healing. The power of faith passes through a living mind bringing the penetration of God's dimension into our dimension.

Matthew 16:28 "This isn't pie in the sky by and by. Some of you standing here are going to see it take place, see the Son of Man in kingdom glory." **MESSAGE**

Matthew 17:1 "Six days later, three of them saw that glory. Jesus took Peter and the brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain. **2** His appearance changed from the **inside out**, right before their eyes. Sunlight poured from his face. His clothes were filled with light. **3** Then they realized that Moses and Elijah were also there in deep conversation with him." **MESSAGE**

It was this kind of Glory that appeared on Stephen when he died

These two dimensions became visible shortly before Stephen was stoned to death when something happened that astonished his attackers.

Acts 6:15 suddenly, "All who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel."

What caused this sudden change of Stephen's appearance?

Did his physical body momentarily disappear and another became apparent?

Did his appearance changed from the **inside out**, right before their eyes?

Stephen was prepared for his death and the "inner person" of his spirit momentarily became visible.

Flesh is weakest at point of death or foreknowledge of dying. Spirit is strongest then.

Deathbed accounts of people whose appearance became bright and shining.

Experience with Ed Palka who saw my face shining with a brightness.

Acts 7:55 "But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, hardly noticed - he only had eyes for God, whom he saw in all his glory with Jesus standing at his side. **56** He said, "Oh! I see heaven wide open and the Son of Man standing at God's side!"

It is possible that as Jesus gave up His Spirit from the cross, so Stephen gave up his.

He simply crossed over into the dimension he was seeing because he desired it.

John 1:51 "Before this is over you're going to see heaven open and God's angels descending to the Son of Man and ascending again."

Jesus was telling Nathaniel what he and the other disciples would be seeing.

Remember: Faith is Spirit

2 Corinthians 4:13 "We have the same spirit of faith."

Without spiritual faith, as opposed to flesh faith, it is impossible to please God.

Romans 8:8 "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God."

Hebrews 11:5 "By an act of faith, Enoch skipped death completely. They looked all over and couldn't find him because God had taken him. We know on the basis of reliable testimony that before he was taken **"he pleased God."**⁶ It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that he exists and that he cares enough to respond to those who seek him."

The same promises Jesus gave to His disciples belong to us.

Let us endure all things so that we may obtain these promises that we have inherited.

OPENING THE "DOOR OF FAITH"

There is a distinct moment for many believers in which the "door of faith" is opened. Scripture explains: "Now when they had come to Antioch and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that *He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.*" **Acts 14:27** This opening can be both corporate as with the gentiles or singular as with an individual today. Another example: "Jesus said to them, 'These are the words which I spoke to you ... And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.'" **Luke 24:44-45.**

GRACE AND FAITH

Grace makes it possible for us to receive faith; similarly, faith makes it possible for us to step into saving grace. In salvation, **peros-faith** must first penetrate us then continue its journey out of us--"believing in the heart" followed by "confessing with the mouth". **Romans 10:10.**

Why is faith essential in salvation and how does it work? "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" **Ephesians 2:8-10.** In salvation, grace and faith are inseparable spiritual-companions; neither are native to our cosmos and because they do not share our inferior nature are able to perform, perfect, and impose, their own nature into ours.

Grace--as the companion to faith--follows that "echo", the Holy Spirit transferring His regenerating-power into man while transforming his nature from sin and uncleanness to the imputed righteousness of Christ. In all this eternal activity of faith, grace, regeneration, Holy Spirit remains the active Agent. Faith and grace cannot operate alone, each is dependent on the other, both dependent on the Holy Spirit.

DOING THE "WORKS OF FAITH"

"What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Depart in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, 'You have faith, and I have works.' Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?"

If your concept of "works" in this Scripture is merely giving someone a blanket, a pair of shoes, or a bowl of food, etc., I want to destroy your concept. Obviously, giving those things is important. But someone totally devoid of faith can do works like that. The Apostle is speaking here of the "work of faith" that "pierces through" and comes from the "other side", the "beyond," "farther," "over," "across." James refers to the works to which Jesus referred when He said, "He who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father." **John 14:12.**

This is the only faith-work that can heal the body, restore the mind, drive out a demons, by penetrating our physical realm and bringing to us the "power of the age to come."

Faith: Age-to-come power.