

Course 106
The Ultimate Three: Faith, Hope and Charity
An apostolic teaching of the Global School of Ministry - UK

This course examines the words of 1 Corinthians 13:13 to understand what, in God's mind constitute some of the essential things to pursue in this present life.

1 Corinthians 13:13

King James Version (KJV)

13And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity ... The idea is to refocus our hearts and minds on them so that we can truly live in the light of eternity. One of the most profitable engagements of the redeemed is to set our sights high on what God Himself esteems highly.

From the last two lessons in Course 123: Rewards of the Faithful, we saw that the Kingdom of God is already in our hearts when we receive Jesus into our lives and submit to His authority and sovereign rule(Luke 17:21). We also saw that when Jesus asked us to seek first the Kingdom in Matthew 6:33, He clearly was speaking of the necessity of latching our hearts and minds on the fullness of the Kingdom which will manifest when He returns to planet earth to rule and reign with those who overcame the pressures of the enemy and this present world.(Revelation 1:5-8; Revelation 5:8-10)

A careful reading of the words of Matthew 6:33 reveals that Jesus clearly asked His disciples to seek that Kingdom which is to come(Matthew 6:10) and its righteousness (which is the life, character, conduct and culture of the Kingdom attained in the present time by His grace). In other words, there is a certain degree of righteousness that assures one of full participation and rulership in the Kingdom to come! Paul the Apostle put it into context in these two verses of 1 Corinthians 15

1 Corinthians 15:19

King James Version (KJV)

19If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

1 Corinthians 15:50

King James Version (KJV)

50Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit in corruption.

Though we are born again as a free gift of the grace of God through faith, it is important to realize that God wants us to press into a state of life where nothing of Satan, the world and flesh come between us and His holy and loving nature. Contrary to the claims of those who aver that once someone is saved, it does not matter how you live because eternity is assured, the uniform testimony of scripture is that those who are careless will find three critical adversaries: Satan, The world and the self life as great hindrances which can cause saints to stagger, backslide, apostatize or simply miss the eternal state of life.

Let us see the potentials of missing the mark as detailed in some critical scriptures:

Galatians 5:16-21

King James Version (KJV)

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

And read the verses of this scripture carefully:

2 Peter 1:5-11

King James Version (KJV)

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Apostles Paul and Peter were simply echoing the teachings of our King and Saviour Jesus Christ who spent the better part of three and half years emphasizing through personal examples, preaching and teaching the need for saints to allow God to work out inside of them, His righteousness while on this side of eternity as a precondition for continued eternal fellowship. The Sermon on the Mount is a classic exposition of the God kind of life He wishes to impart in saints so that walking in them; they prove their allegiance to Him.

The Sermon on the Mount is far superior to the Laws of Moses! Instructions for holy living in the Sermon represent the reality of the New Life in Christ who came to fulfil the Law and release the God nature to humans. Take special note of what the Law of Moses said and the superior requirements for New Testament saints in verses 27 -30(Immorality); verse 31-32(Divorce); 33-37(Swearing of oaths) 38-41(Vengeance); 42(Sharing); 43-47(Attitude to those who hate us or those who injure our feelings)

Matthew 5:17-48

King James Version (KJV)

17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

19Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

20For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

21Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

22But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

23Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;

24Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

25Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

26Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

27Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:

28But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

29And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

30And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

31It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:

32But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

33Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

34But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:

35Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.

36Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

37But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

38Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

39But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also.

41And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

42Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

In verse 48 of this epic instruction, Jesus asked his followers to be perfect just as our Father in heaven is perfect. Till He was arrested and crucified, Jesus was teaching and preaching on how humans can move, through the agency of His Blood, from a life of sin and sinfulness to a life of His righteousness and holiness.

When Jesus resurrected, He spent an extra forty days teaching His now enlightened disciples the nature and principles of the Kingdom that now is (in our hearts) and which is to come (at His second Coming). When He ascended to heaven to remain there until the appointed date of return, the responsibility to continue to prepare saints for effective kingdom life and the world to come fell on His disciples along with the vessel He later arrested on the way to Tarsus, Paul the Apostle.

Acts 1:1-11

King James Version (KJV)

Acts 1

1The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

We all who are in Jesus today are living proof of how successful those 120 saints in the Upper Room on the day of Pentecost carried out their assignment diligently. In the closing chapter of the age, God is looking for those who will tarry in another kind of Upper Room! These are saints who will give Him right of way to be all in all in their lives and who will declare the truth of the Holy Scriptures with which they will contend for the faith once delivered by Jesus Himself! In these days when error and Satan doctrines are embellished and presented to beguile and mis-direct the hearts of saints, a remnant will still stand faithfully!

Jude 1:3-4

King James Version (KJV)

3Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

4For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faith: what is it + Dimensions of Faith

An excellent definition of faith is found in this scripture:

Hebrews 11

King James Version (KJV)

... 1Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Faith unites two seemingly contradictory concepts: The seen and the unseen. It is the bridge that connects what we hope for (expect) with what we have (the substance). As the definition reveals, Faith is the evidence (or proof) of what is yet unseen.

Faith therefore brings alive into the realm of assurance in the heart and mind, a settled knowing that what God says He has already done; will do or give us is beyond question. In effect, a person of faith is one who has allowed God to conceive within his/her spirit man, an assured understanding of the reality of what is promised. Because it emanates from our spiritual faculty, Faith sees the invisible and rests without any doubt on the Word of God!

This assured reality then shuts the faith faculty (the spirit-man) from the seeming realities of the natural as perceived by the five carnal senses of the fleshly nature (the soul – mind, will, emotions and the physical body). These five carnal senses are the sense of Sight – what we see with the natural eyes Hearing – what we hear with the physical ears Smell – what we perceive with our nostrils Touch/feel – what is transmitted to our brain by physical contact Taste – what we interpret as our taste buds go to work. These five senses have been wired into us by God as instruments of knowing and interpreting our environment so that we can live in the natural. Because we are created as triune beings, the Lord also wired in our spirit man, an extraordinary capacity to bypass these natural senses in order to make contact with Him and receive His blessings.

2 Corinthians 5:7

King James Version (KJV)

7(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

Because the Lord ordains that we be driven by the Holy Spirit at work in and through our spirit-man and the unprofitability of the flesh, the walk of faith is not negotiable! Hebrews 11 says in verse 6:

6But 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.

God wants us to be constantly conscious that He is our Father. As a Father, He cares for us and has made all provisions for our well being during our earthly walk.

Matthew 7:11

King James Version (KJV)

11If 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?

Those provisions are stored up in the heavenly places so that saints can tap into them through their faith senses in prayer!

Ephesians 1:3

King James Version (KJV)

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

2 Peter 1:3

King James Version (KJV)

3According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

Saints, we must begin to take every word of God seriously! We are ordained to live above the natural senses! We are ordained to transact in the miracle realm 24/7 in virtually every aspect of life! A life of dynamic faith which rests on the Word of God and releases its potent creative energies by the spoken word in fervent prayers and faith decrees will mark us out as the sons of God and co-heirs with Christ Jesus.

Mark 11:22-24

King James Version (KJV)

22And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

23For 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.

24Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

It was Jesus Himself who challenged us to dare believe that we can do greater works than Himself who opened blind eyes, brought the dead back to life, caused the deaf to speak and changed situations and circumstances. Who will believe this report from the King Himself:

John 14:12

King James Version (KJV)

12Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

The Good Report of Faith

Faith is real and substantive and not a feeling! It is so serious that Hebrews 11:3 records that even our knowledge of this physical world (Geography) has been shaped by faith.

3Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

The great men and women of Old were simply men and women of faith. A careful examination of their lives, as documented in the Bible shows that the distinguishing feature of their lives was the degree of faith they exhibited which led them to be used of God to do extraordinary exploits. They exhibited various dimensions of faith: saving faith, living faith and possessing faith. Some were led by faith in what God promised to make very critical choices which have become the basis of our Kingdom culture till today. Let us go to the great chapter of faith, Hebrews 11 to see how these faith worthies lived.

2For by it the elders obtained a good report.

13These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

15And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

16But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

Profiles in Faith!

Abel – Saving Faith: Saw the Blood as the only substitutionary sacrifice that is acceptable to God

4By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

Enoch – Living Faith led to the first experience of rapture from earth to heaven

5By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

Noah – Saving & Living Faith: was saved with his whole family while carnal contemporaries perished

7By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Abraham – Living & Possessing Faith: relocated by faith and held onto promise beyond reason

8By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

17By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

18Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

19Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

Genesis chapters 12-22 contain the extraordinary account of Abraham's faith walk with God. In Romans 4:15-23, we see his faith at work:

Romans 4:16-24

King James Version (KJV)

1What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?

2For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.

3For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

4Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

5But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

9Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.

10How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision.

11And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

12And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.

13For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

14For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:

15Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

16Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

16Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

17(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

18Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

19And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:

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

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

22And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

23Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

24But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

This extraordinary faith walk of Abraham with God established a principle which pre-dated the Law by about 430 or more years: righteousness does not come by the deeds of the Law but by faith in God! It was fitting therefore that God chose his seed, Jesus Christ to be the instrument of offering the entire human race a pathway into the Kingdom.

Galatians 3:13-14

King James Version (KJV)

13Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

14That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Parents of Moses - Saw, by faith, Great Destiny of their son!

23By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

Moses – Living Faith: chose temporary pain for eternal gain!

24By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

28Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

Rahab was inducted into the Common wealth by the choice of faith!

31By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

The Scope of Faith – Limitless!

33Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

34Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

35Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

36And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

37They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

38(Of whom the world was not worthy) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

39And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

40God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Contemporary Applications

Faith is both an action as well as a lifestyle. Let us see what the New Covenant says of its applications.

Saving Faith.

This is the faith sinners are called to exercise on the person and substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ which activates receipt of the grace of God for salvation without any works (or attached human effort other than simply believing and receiving what is freely offered!)

John 3:16

King James Version (KJV)

16For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

No matter the height and depth of the sins of any one, what it takes to become saved is so simple that no one should have any excuse!

Romans 10:6-12

King James Version (KJV)

6But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)

7Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)

8But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

12For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

Ephesians 2:8

King James Version (KJV)

8For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

The Critical Nature of Faith in the Walk of Saints

Faith – In Jesus Christ/Saving Faith

... Because of the central importance of faith in the Kingdom of God, we may need to back up a little and gain a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

Access into the Kingdom of God is only on the basis of faith in the person of Jesus Christ and the substitutionary sacrifice He made on the Cross of Calvary. This is a non-negotiable proposition from God for redemption of mankind under the terms of the New Covenant. The outcome of receiving a revelation of, believing in, exercising faith in a personality we did not see and a sacrifice which was done outside of our normal knowledge is conveyance from the kingdom of darkness/dominion of Satan and translation into the Kingdom of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:12-13).

Trying to know, understand or study about the Kingdom without this first step of faith in the ONLY access to God and the Kingdom is an exercise in futility! Jesus is still the ONLY Way, Truth and Life!

John 14:6

6Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

It must also be said, categorically, that saving faith is ONLY effective when it is released concerning the unique personality, Jesus Christ who the Word presents as EMMANUEL – God who was incarnated for the purpose of becoming the only acceptable sacrifice to pay the just price for the sin of Adam and Eve and take away, by so doing, the legal basis on which Satan exercised dominion and rule on planet earth.

John 1:1

1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14

14And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Faith in a Jesus who was a mere man or simply: a King who is like a Prime Minister to the real God(as the pseudo-Kingdom movement teaches), an agent of God or a prophet is not saving faith and cannot procure translation into the Kingdom of God.

Those who purport to preach the Kingdom and have denied the divinity of Jesus Christ or depreciated His central role or essential persona in the Kingdom of God may be doing so ignorantly or wilfully (only God will reveal the full truth on the Last Day). One thing, we know for sure is that they are leading saints astray and making shipwreck of the faith of many. This is why we are enjoined to contend earnestly for the true Faith that was originally delivered to the saints:

Jude 1:3-6

3Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

4For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us take a detailed survey of the various applications of saving faith in the New Covenant. It will be obvious that faith in Jesus Christ is a core issue and the basis of the righteousness of God which is part of what Jesus says we should seek along with the Kingdom(Matthew 6:33)!

We will also see that faith based on the Name of Jesus Christ, runs through the gamut of the New Testament. Take this dramatic account of the encounter of Peter and John with the Jewish High Council and note that the core of the controversy was faith in a person and a name!

Acts 4:5-12

King James Version (KJV)

5And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

6And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

7And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

9If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

10Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

On another encounter, the Apostles were again forbidden from preaching in the Name of Jesus to which they boldly preferred further affliction and persecution rather than back down!

Acts 5:40-42

King James Version (KJV)

40And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

41And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

42And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

To buy the argument, made by one of the high priests of the pseudo-kingdom movement that saints should not preach Jesus is the height of heresy! The Kingdom of God to which humans are translated hinges on a person, Jesus Christ! He is at the centre and circumference of the Kingdom

and cannot be devalued, degraded or side-tracked. Heaven and earth may pass away but this reality is too solid to melt! The events on the Old Rugged Cross, at the place of the Skull outside the city of Jerusalem about 2,000 years ago sealed the deal concerning the exalted position of Jesus Christ in the Kingdom of God!

Philippians 2:9-11

9Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Before we undertake the survey of Faith in the New Testament, let us examine a critical issue as a follow up to the previous lesson. It is what the Holy Spirit, speaking through Paul the apostle, defines as the “Shield of Faith” (Ephesians 6:16). It will be beneficial to examine the whole of the passage now that the very things they speak of have come upon the Household of faith world-wide. The issue of saving faith is so fundamental that once a saint walks in the reality of the right belief and Kingdom life, living faith for possessing the blessings stored up for fulfilment of destiny on earth will flow without hindrance.

Ephesians 6:10-18

King James Version (KJV)

10Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Please notice the weight of the words that are declared here! The Lord reveals that principalities, powers and rulers of the darkness of this age will be utilizing anything they can to destabilize, deflect and disconnect saints from a vibrant relationship with God and the purpose for which they live. Note the components of the whole armour of God and their contextual applications: V.14 – Truth to gird ourselves with! The battle of the Last Days will be a battle of Truth! Truth about Jesus and the true nature of the Kingdom of God will be central. There will be a determined effort by Satan to deconstruct Jesus and present to saints a personality other than who He is. Not only has Satan tried to question the divinity of Jesus, he has also gone ahead to twist His words in a way that is so subtle that only the Holy Spirit can help a saint escape such snares. Whoever builds his/her spiritual life with anything other than the rightly divided Word of Truth will miss it in these last days.

V.14 – Breast plate of righteousness. The only righteousness recognized at the Throne of Grace is the one which is based on the Blood that Jesus shed at the Cross of Calvary. It is the basis of the great exchange where we traded our filth, sin and sinfulness with the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Is it not interesting that several pseudo-kingdom groups now teach righteousness you can attain to outside of faith in the name, person and propitiatory work of Christ? How can any saint stand a teaching or preaching which consistently makes light of salvation by grace through faith? V.15 – Feet clad with the gospel of peace. One sure place of safety is engagement with the Great Commission! Preaching the Cross and of it's outcome: translation from the kingdom of darkness to conveyance into the Kingdom of God is still central to defeat of satanic plans to cause many to stumble! Anyone who asks you to stop preaching the gospel is simply asking you to make room for Satan to smite! Paul the apostle had this to say of him and the gospel: Romans 1:16-17

16For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

V. 17 – Helmet of Salvation and The Word of God as Sword of the Spirit. These two equipments are critical for surviving spiritual warfare. Salvation by grace, which is the entry point into the Kingdom of God is described as a helmet. Helmets protect the head from bullets, arrows and other offensive ordnances. Any one purporting to do anything in the present phase of the Kingdom of God without the helmet of salvation securely on is engaged in an exercise in futility! While the Helmet defends, the Word of God is described as a Sword of the Spirit. In the hands of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God can be rightly divided and skilfully applied to expose every hidden agenda in the hearts of men and women Hebrews 4:12, 13. It can also be used to fight Satan and his demons effectively, just as Jesus did during the temptation in Matthew 4:1-11. We are called to allow God to store His Words in our heart so that we can release them as appropriate. Colossians 3:16 V. 18 – Praying all prayers and supplications in the spirit for all saints. As members of the same family of God, we must go beyond ourselves in prayer and spiritual warfare. We cannot be indifferent to attempts of Satan to corrupt the gospel message and make shipwreck of the faith of multitudes including people we know and love. We must stand strong, praying both in the natural and in the Spirit at all times, as prompted by the Holy Spirit peradventure God will have mercy and rescue those who can still be delivered.

V. 16 - Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. It is obvious here that God knew that saints will face sustained attacks (fiery darts) directed at their minds. There would be teachings whose principal objective is to displace the true knowledge of God in the mind of saints. The bible says clearly that the Last Days will be perilous times featuring clever false hood dressed up and served as kingdom truths.

At the arrow head of this deception is the way some saints have believed the lie that the person/name of Jesus and the physical return of Jesus to rule and reign on earth for one thousand years are non or side issues. Believe this double faced lie and you have effectively missed the core of the gospel of the Kingdom. In this present life, the Kingdom of God is received in the hearts of those who repent of their sins and willingly submit their lives to the sovereign rule of Jesus as their Supreme Monarch or King. Their lives no longer belong to them to pursue vain ambitions but to rather to live for He who redeemed them with His own blood.

They in effect, “die” to self so that He alone lives within and through them. Galatians 2:20. They become, in a sense, living expressions of Jesus Christ anywhere and everywhere. He uses them to demonstrate the reality of His awesome Kingship in preaching the gospel, manifestation of the miraculous and as they put their spiritual gifts to work. With the power of the Holy Spirit, their presence makes a vital difference where God planted them as living “embassies” of King Jesus and His Blessed Kingdom. As individuals, such people are living temples of the Holy Spirit 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20. Where two or three of them gather together, Jesus, who is head of the Church is right there with them! Matthew 18:19, 20.

Because of this Truth, they are not bound by physical buildings or any material asset. Where they congregate is not any issue. They will, in a practical sense, be instruments of taking the “Church” from the religiously designed buildings to the Community! For them, there is no dichotomy between pulpit ministry and ministry in the Market place. There is no division between spiritual and secular pursuits. The presence of Jesus with them by the indwelling Holy Spirit effectively marks them out as the Fourth Race – the One New Man of God from among the remnant out of the races of Shem, Ham and Japheth (Ephesians chapters 1 and 2).

They speak the same heavenly language while on planet earth and have the same understanding that Jesus Christ is God made flesh on the basis of whose Blood redemption was made possible. They are no longer enslaved like their human neighbours to works of darkness and the flesh but are rather slaves of righteousness! (Romans chapters 6, 7, 8 and Galatians chapter 5 are recommended).

To such people, Jesus will return one day to rule and reign with them in a very physical sense with their eternal bodies! After the period described as a Thousand years in Revelation 12:1-6, Satan and all rebels will be judged finally. Then endless eternity will begin. These truths are so fundamental that they cannot be traded for anything on this side of eternity! Matthew 16:24-26

The entire New Testament is a book of instruction on how to get into this vibrant, intimate relationship with God in Christ Jesus; how to remain in that state and hold on till the consummation of all things. The body of knowledge which holds all these truths together is what is called our FAITH. It is faith in the person and redemptive work of Jesus which is our blessed hope. We are commanded in Ephesians 6:16 to use this FAITH as a dynamic warrior will use a physical shield in battle to ward off all errors, lies and heresies Satan is releasing with vicious strength. Saints, behold Jesus is near! Use the SHIELD OF FAITH to ward off all the lies which are peddled to deceive you!

Knowing what will happen in the last days, Jesus willingly released His fivefold headship offices and gifts as Chief Apostle(the Sent One from heaven); Chief Prophet(the One who knows the mind of the Father like no one else); Chief Evangelist (The great preacher who is and declared the Word of life like no other); Great Shepherd (Ultimate Pastor and Bishop of Souls); and Great Teacher (The Rabbi with all knowledge) to specific people to guide His Church into a full understanding of the FAITH and how to live it out.

Look at what happens where the five office gifts of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers are received and practised. The saints are perfected, matured and equipped to recognize their individual assignments or ministries. Immaturity and itching ears are eliminated and saints cannot be swept away by the various winds of doctrine which assail the Church.

Ephesians 4:11-16

King James Version (KJV)

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Any time you see a group of people speaking of the Kingdom, look at the fine prints carefully: do they boldly declare the divinity of Jesus? Do they boldly declare that salvation is only by grace through faith based on genuine repentance? Do they receive and walk in the five fold gifts? Do they embrace or despise Prophecy and Prophets? Please check out these and other tell tale signs!

2 John 1:7-11

King James Version (KJV)

7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

One of the assignments of the Global School of Ministry is to be used of the Holy Spirit to get the remnant rooted in the Word of God. That is the most secure insurance against the heavy winds of satanic doctrines and the new pseudo-kingdom gospel men have crafted to justify their worldly perspectives.

Outside of Jesus, there is no Kingdom. Within Him are ALL the things we need both in the now and in the hereafter. Those who have an issue with the centrality of Jesus Christ have no part in the Kingdom of God!

Faith in Jesus Christ: A New Testament Survey

Acts 3:16

And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Acts 6:7

And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Acts 13:8

But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

Acts 14:22

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Acts 14:27

And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Acts 15:9

And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

Acts 16:5

And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

Acts 20:21

Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 24:24

And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

Acts 26:18

To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Romans 1:5

By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

Romans 1:8

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.

Romans 1:12

That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

Romans 1:17

For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Romans 3:3

For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

Romans 3:22

Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Romans 3:25

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Romans 3:27,28

Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith 28. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Romans 3:30-31

Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith. Romans 3:31 Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

Romans 4:5

But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Romans 4:9

Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.

Romans 4:11

And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

Romans 4:12

And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.

Romans 4:13

For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Romans 4:14

For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:

Romans 4:16

Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

Romans 4:19

And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:

Romans 4:18-20 (in Context) Romans 4 (Whole Chapter) Romans 4:20

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

Romans 4:19-21 (in Context) Romans 4 (Whole Chapter) Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 5:2

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 9:30

What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the Romans 9:32

Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone;

Romans 10:6

But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)

34. Romans 10:8-10 (King James Version) 8But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 11:20

Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:

Romans 16:26

But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

1 Corinthians 2:5

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

1 Corinthians 15:14

And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.

1 Corinthians 15:17

And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.

1 Corinthians 16:13

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

2 Corinthians 1:24

Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

2 Corinthians 4:13

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

2 Corinthians 13:5

.to be continued.