

Only One Foundation!



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VIRTUAL

The only *Foundation of Faith* in God is the shed *Blood* of Christ the Son; and the *basis* of all answered *prayer* is believing in the *power* of that sacrifice. Mark 11:24 “*What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*”

The human heart has many desires—spiritually, physically, financially, and concerning many other things. We sometimes pray for wisdom—and God has promised *that* and *more*. Psalm 103:2 “*Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; 5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.*”

Those verses tell of the range of *possibilities* God has for us, but our *finite* minds have difficulty in comprehending it all. Ephesians 3:20-21 “*Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*”

When we pray, we are to *believe* we will *receive*—that is the Gospel message through faith in Christ. This includes forgiveness of sins;

divine guidance; deliverance from worldly influences; a right standing before God; health, healing, protection; financial needs met; and everything else promised in Scripture—when we *believe* in faith that the *Blood* of Christ paid for them.

There are two *types* of faith—**First**, faith that our believing *compels* God to give us our desires. This type, however, is centered on our *own* ability to believe so we can receive, which is really *self* trying to *accomplish* something. Having an *amount of*, or a *type of*, *faith* does not *produce* anything—but it does allow *God* to produce something.

Depending on our *believing* to *persuade* God to accomplish our *desires*, is like Cain bringing the *fruits* of the ground, instead of the *blood* of a lamb. This is really trying to *purchase* God’s gifts with the merit of good *works*. Self wants to *look* pious and tries to *do* things right—but it is separated from *believing* in *faith* on what *God* has *accomplished*.

Second, is a *faith* that brings results, because it is a faith that asks *God*, and then *believes* the work is already *finished* by someone else. *This* type of faith is what we *must* understand. We can ask ourselves: *What* is the foundation of my faith; and *Why* can I believe God—who never asks me to believe anything to *make* it true, but to believe something because it *is* true.

An analogy to consider: A suit of clothing is sent off to be cleaned and pressed. We are later informed that the work is completed and the suit ready for pickup. This is the same *type* of *believing* that God is wants *us* to *understand* and *apply*—*believing* that the healing; the finances; or the victory is completed and ready for pickup.

The *dry cleaner* is telling us the truth; just as *God* is telling us the truth. The work on the suit is completed, so it is cleaned and pressed; And the work of Atonement is finished, so our sins are

forgiven and erased. Whether we believe either one to be true or not—our *believing* or our *not believing* does not change the facts that the work is completed.

To receive any *benefit* of the pressed suit, we have to *believe* the words of the cleaner; and to receive any *benefit* of Atonement, we have to believe the Words of the Bible. If we believe the words of the dry cleaner, we will *go* to the cleaners—*before seeing* that the work is done. We act on the *words* and receive the *benefit* of the *work*. If we did *not* believe the cleaner, we would *not* pick-up the suit—and at that point, we *could resent* the store for not producing it.

It is all too easy to place the *blame* on the wrong source; or think someone else is the *cause* of our trouble. When God asks us to *believe* that our sins are forgiven, He is asking us to believe *facts*—which *continue to be* facts—whether we believe or do not believe. He says Isaiah 53:5 “*With his stripes we are healed,*” so when we confess and forsake our sins, we can *prove* it is true by *acting* on His Word.

God tells us that our sins; our sorrows; our diseases; and troubles were canceled on the Cross, and the moment we *believe* Him—as much as we believe the dry-cleaning is completed—victory *has* to be the result. The work of healing and deliverance was done two thousand years ago.

It is not our *faith* that pays for the victory, because we have no merit to *cause* God to do things for us—it is the shed *Blood* that compels God to act in our behalf. The shed Blood of Jesus—the Revelation 13:8 “*Lamb slain from the foundation of the world,*” destroyed the work of the devil and enables the victory to be claimed and received.

When we *believe* that Jesus *did* that for us—and we *know* He is standing at the door of our heart waiting for our *response*—we can *open* the

door, *hear* His voice, *act* on His words, and *enjoy* the victory. The *power* of God makes it a *reality* for us. No one *but* God could form such a plan.

When we *believe* what Jesus did for us on the cross, we have a purchased *right* to receive the victory. A faith that *believes* enables God's power to *work*. When the healing of a boy was hindered, Jesus told His disciples it was Matthew 17:20, "*Because of your unbelief.*" He added that if their *faith* is the size of a seed "*Nothing shall be impossible unto you.*"

The whole story of the *Gospel*, and the meaning of the *Atonement*, is Mark 11:24 "*What things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*" All our *illnesses*; our unscriptural *desires*; our *unbelief*; and our *anger* have been nailed to the cross—that is a reality when we *believe* the work on the *Cross* changes the attitude of our *heart*.

Instead of *glorifying self*, we are to *glorify God*, and exalt the work of *Atonement* Jesus made on *our* behalf—it is to *believe* that He has already *done* all that is required to *be done* for our deliverance, healing, and blessing. When we *know* there is no *virtue* in *our* faith, we will also *know* it is *all* in the *Blood*. If we will place our faith in God and the sacrifice of Jesus, He will lead us to victory—He *has* to do that because Jesus *paid* for it.

When a reliable person tells us some good news, we never take the *credit* for it; and saying—it is my *believing* and my *faith* that made it possible. No such thing happens in *natural* things; but the flesh wants to exalt itself in *divine* things. The apostle was aware of this trap and wrote to believers:

1 Corinthians 2:4 "*And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith [trust] should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*"

Some think it takes a great *amount* of faith to receive a *mustard seed* of blessing. If *that* is the way they *pray*, *that* will *determine* how the answer is *given*. If we concentrate on the *amount* of our faith, we can lose sight of what *paid* for our victory—the shed *Blood* of the Lord Jesus.

The value of the *Blood* is the only thing of interest. We are *not* to consider the *amount* of faith but only consider the *value* of the *Blood*—shed for us. Real *faith* really *believes* what Jesus completed. Hebrews 4:3 "*For we which have believed do enter into rest*"—because, "*the works were finished from the foundation of the world.*"

Another analogy: if we are told that a dinner—which we thought we had to cook, has already been cooked and prepared—we would enter into *rest* concerning that issue. If we did not *believe* what they *said*, we would still *worry* about fixing dinner. The *story* of the *Gospel* is a *finished* product—like the *words* of a builder that a house is *completed*—it is ready to move in and enjoy.

The *Truth* of the *Gospel* would *free* the whole world. Romans 6:1 "*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*"—or that God will give *more* forgiveness or show *greater* mercy? 2 "*God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*"

We should ask the Holy Spirit to make these verses real to us. Romans 6:3 "*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*"

When *Jesus* went into the tomb, God considers it as if we went to the *grave*. Romans 6:5-6 "*Since we have become one with Him by sharing in His death, we shall also be one with Him by sharing*

in His resurrection. This we know—that our old self was nailed to the cross with Him, in order that our sinful nature might be [destroyed], deprived of its power, so that we should no longer [serve] be the slaves of sin."

The old sin and the old life are *done away with*; we are now another *person* with a *new* life and a *changed* attitude. "*This we know—that our old self was nailed to the cross.*" Everything depends on the *Cross* and our *believing* we are *free*—because *God* says we are. Romans 6:10 "*For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*"

All the trouble, sorrow, sin, and sickness were borne on the cross two thousand years ago—we do *not* have to bear them. Isaiah 53:4 "*Surely our sicknesses He hath borne, And our pains—He hath carried them.*" The whole story of *deliverance* is right here in these *words*.

The door *out* of all trouble, poverty, illness, and pain is just *one step* out—but it must be the *step of faith*, by believing *just the Word* that tells us what the *Blood* has done. Our *believing* does *not* do one thing—it only *lets in*, what has already *been* purchased. There is *Only One Foundation* for Faith—it is the precious *Blood* of Jesus!



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