

# The Foundation of Faith

## PART 2 (Lesson 1)

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In part one, we were reminded that the majority of people think that the foundation of their hopes of receiving deliverance is the amount of faith that they have; however, faith is only the hand by which we take from God.

God does have foundations for faith, and the first foundation for faith is the work of His Son on the Cross, so when we go to God in prayer, we must never lose sight of that great work on the Cross.

God gives us pardon, cleansing, healing, health, protection, and the supply of every other need and desire simply because Jesus paid the price.

**1 John 1:7** *“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the Blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin.”*

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Who lived in great glory and abundance of peace, happiness and joy; had all power and authority in Heaven and on earth, came down to this earth, took the form of a slave, mingled with most common and poor people, was falsely accused and arrested and eventually suffered a horrible death, hanging alive for six hours on the Cross for just one reason—that you and I might be delivered from the power of sin and Satan, from the power of disease and trouble of every kind and might never have any trouble to bear.

**Matthew 26:28** *“For this is My Blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”*

We must base all of our hopes and expectations of answered prayer on that work on the Cross, not on any feeling or feelings of assurance we have within ourselves.

**Hebrews 9:14** *“How much more shall the Blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”*

**Ephesians 1:7** *“In Whom we have redemption through His Blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.”*

The second foundation of faith, which is of equal value with the Blood of Jesus, is the Word of God. When we go to God in prayer, we must never lose sight of His promises in His Word. Unfortunately, so many

people lay aside the Word of God, the promises of God.

**Isaiah 55:10-11** *“For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall My Word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent It.”*

People often lay aside the promises and say—“Lord, have mercy and help me.” That is no promise. We should take a promise which applies exactly to our condition. The Bible tells us what we are to do and how we are to pray, and also tells us specifically what God will do in answer to that prayer. The very moment we pray as a promise directs, and believe it just the same as if we had the deliverance, we shall receive what we have asked for.

**Numbers 23:19** *“God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?”*

For instance, you go to purchase a bill of goods; you step into the dry goods store and order some linen and other goods and say—“If you will wrap this package up for me, I will stop back for it later.” You pay for the goods and go out to another store and return later for your package. You do not see a thing you have purchased, all you see is several packages wrapped in brown or manila paper, tied with string, lying on the counter; all you can see is paper and string, and you do not know which package belongs to you; you simply say to the clerk, “Which is my package?”

He puts his hands on one of them and says—“Here is yours.” What does that mean? That his word, only his word, is the foundation that you have for your package; it makes no difference how much you feel that the package over on the left, or right side is yours; or whether you think one of the others looks more the size yours should be; you lay all that aside and take his bare word, without addition or subtraction as the only foundation of your confidence.

You take those goods home, without a question, just as sure that they are your goods, as if your hands had opened the package and your eyes had beheld them and your hands felt them. Well, beloved, the Word of God simply tells us, “Here are your goods,” when we pray; exactly so.

The pastor said, “I will illustrate that: suppose you went through Fairmount Park or on Broad Street—you were a stranger in Philadelphia—and you noticed the

automobiles going 25, 30, and 35 miles an hour, and you would say—'I presume the speed limit in this city is 35 miles an hour.' You would not be basing your conclusions on any law of the city; you would be laying aside the ordinances that councils have passed and be basing your hopes on what you see."

Well, what you see other motorists doing is no foundation for your knowledge of the city's law, your only foundation is the written law on the statute books of Councils. If you went to those statute books you would discover that the speed limit is 15 miles an hour. Which would you believe, the reckless motorist, or the written law?

You would base your faith on the written law, what the word said, and not what you saw in Fairmount Park or on Broad Street. So we are not to base our hopes and faith on what we can see or feel, but are to shut ourselves up to the bare, plain, and simple Word of God, and we are to say, after we have prayed—"I am delivered, not because I see anything; for if I saw it, I should not base my faith on that sight; I am delivered not because I feel I have the goods. I am delivered because God's Word says so."

Beloved, if we do not see a particle of deliverance, we are to take the same position that we take among men. We take the written law, or men's word above that we can see or feel, and it is only pure common sense to give God's Word the same consideration and weight.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

**Matthew 4:4** "*Jesus answered, 'It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'*"

*"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."* (**Romans 10:17**) Faith in the world comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of men; there is no difference in this matter of faith: one is in God, the other in men; the same principles are involved—pure common sense.

We have examples of this; two of which we desire to touch on. In the 8th chapter of Matthew there was a centurion who came to Jesus asking for the healing of his servant, who was grievously tormented in his body. Jesus said— **Matthew 8:7-8** "*I will come and heal him.*" *The centurion answered, saying— "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed."*

He practically said— "Your bare Word will be all the evidence I require." He did not want to feel anything, did not ask for any special assurance, did not think about how serious the case was, or anything else, but "Lord, Thy Word is sufficient evidence, it is all I require to know that my servant will be healed." That was the foundation for healing.

**10** "*When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*"

Jesus said He had not found such faith in the bare Word of God, based wholly on that Word, apart from everything else, and He said these are the kind of people **11-12** "*who are coming from the east and west, and sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven: But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*"

The children of the kingdom are those who are basing their faith in everything else but God's Word. We cannot receive our deliverances, nor be prepared for Heaven, unless we base our faith on the bare Word of God.

**13** "*Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.*" *"And his servant was healed in the self-same hour."*

The other example is that of the nobleman who came in behalf of his son, who was at the point of death. Jesus said unto him; (**John 4:48-50**) "*Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.*" The man was not worrying about signs, but he wanted to feel it was done in his heart, or he wanted some other evidence besides the Word of God that his son would be healed. So, he said— **49** "*Come down ere my child die.*" It was natural he would say that. Jesus did not go with him at all; but, He threw him a lifeline, which He has been throwing us for 2000 years— **50** "*Go thy way; thy son liveth.*"

He was miles away from home and there was no evidence, no assurance, but the plain, simple, bare Word of God, spoken by God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, in the flesh. "Your son is well, he is healed."

Now, the man had a struggle, I would not question that; but "*the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.*"

When he reached home, the servants ran out to meet him, saying— "Your son is delivered." He asked, "When did it happen." "At a certain hour yesterday, the fever left and the disease disappeared." The man knew it was just the hour that the Word was spoken, and he founded his faith on that Word.

**1 Peter 1:23** *“Being born again , not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, Which liveth and abideth for ever.”*

**Isaiah 40:8** *“The grass withereth, the flower  
fadeth: but the Word of our God shall stand for ever.”*

The pastor said, “If you will pardon this personal illustration—I had a dreadful attack in my body and I asked God, in the name of Jesus Christ, that deliverance might be wrought. You know the Lord said if we ask anything of the Father in His name, it would be granted us; that we should ask and receive, until our joy was full, and my joy was anything but full.”

After I was through praying, I began to grow worse immediately and Satan suggested—"That is your deliverance; you are not going to get any deliverance, you have no faith for that deliverance, and even if you do receive it, it will be a deliverance like you used to get, it will take several days. "That is the plan Satan presented to me. I said directly to him—"God's Word says I am delivered and that is all I require, I am going to be just as happy over this deliverance, as if I was perfectly well; if I feel three times as badly, I am going to rejoice in that deliverance, because God says the deliverance has been wrought."

It was only a few moments before the whole disease disappeared. Why? Because I based my hopes on the bare Word of God; I accepted that Word as sufficient evidence for the deliverance.

I care not what a person's sin is, what a person's disease is, whether it is a serious one, or of long standing, what their experience is, or has been, I know if they will base their hopes and faith on the finished work on the Cross, and claim their deliverance at once on that bare Word of God, these exceeding great and precious promises, and then start out acting like a well person, depending on God's power alone, they will be brought out into a place of perfect peace, righteousness and health. God's power will back up that Word. God's power is always manifested where the Cross is depended upon and always works through the Word and the work on the Cross.

The work on the Cross is the foundation of our faith. The price has been paid, the goods are ours, and God's Word says they are given **WHEN WE ASK FOR THEM!**

*“What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.”*  
**(Mark 11:24)**

Never think that God gives us the deliverance because we believe or that our faith is the foundation reason for God granting us these things; as faith is only the hand which takes from God, just as the hand of man takes his week's salary; it is the hand which takes what the Blood has provided and what the Word says is ours as we BELIEVE.

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