

# The Foundation of Faith

## (LESSON 2) PART 2

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Jesus died on the Cross to give us anything that we desire, and we must BELIEVE that it was done, that our sins have been pardoned and cleansed, that every sin, sorrow, and disease was borne on the Cross, all our temper, all our unbelief, all our lust, all these things are gone. They have been nailed to the Cross of Jesus Christ; it is a reality.

However, the Word says that our believing does not pardon us, neither does it persuade God to pardon us, it only causes us to believe they are pardoned because it is a real fact, because it has been accomplished through the Blood of Jesus Christ.

Instead of magnifying self and having such teaching and doctrine which thinks we can do something to persuade God to do for us; we simply magnify and exalt the great work of Jesus Christ and believe that He has already done all that is required for our deliverance and blessing. We discover that there is no virtue in our faith. We are simply believing something that is true whether we believe it or not. People become puffed up because of their faith.

Unless you have the faith of God it will take you nowhere; but His faith will lift you up and cause you to enter into perfect victory in all things. God will do it because Jesus Christ has already paid the price and accomplished the work for you.

Did you ever hear of anyone believing some news, which was true, and then taking credit for believing it; saying, "I am a person of faith, my faith is excellent." There is no such thing exhibited in natural affairs. That is only the flesh exalting itself when it comes to divine things.

No wonder Paul wrote: **(1 Corinth 2:4-5)** *"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power; That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."*

We put our faith in the wisdom and power of men and how unscriptural it is. The very moment we believe that our sins, sorrows, and diseases

were cancelled on the Cross and that the Blood has made us FREE; and that the only reason we are FREE is because of what the Blood has done—not because of our faith, not because of any virtue in us—it is true whether we believe it or not. Our faith just lets the blessings in; that is as much as it has to do with us. Let us put things where they belong and know what attitude to take to have our prayers answered. People argue that it takes great faith to receive a mustard seed of blessing. They try to convince themselves that it is the way they pray which will determine whether their prayers will be answered or not. They are so engaged with these things that they lose sight of the Cross and the work accomplished there; they lose entire sight of the greatest work ever accomplished.

The work on the Cross is the only thing of interest as far as merit is concerned, the only thing to accept or notice; that makes all the difference in the world. We are to lose sight of our faith, lose sight of what conditions we have to meet and just consider Jesus Christ and what He has done, what His Word says He has done for us.

Real faith considers only what Jesus Christ has done. All that is required of us is to BELIEVE just what the Word says, which calls our attention to the fact that we are FREE. **(Hebrews 4:3)** we read—*"For we which have believed do enter into rest."*

What does that mean? Suppose you came here on Sunday and were hurrying to get home to make supper, and you reached home worried and annoyed saying, "I do not know how I will get everything done." Someone would meet you at the door and say, "Supper is all ready, you do not need to worry one bit." The moment you believed that word, you would enter into rest. If you did not believe that message, you would be saying, "I only wish I had a mustard seed of faith, I wish I could please God. I wish I could find out what is the matter with me."

The Old Testament brings out this truth. **(Psalm 46:10)** *"Be still, and know that I am God."* That is what it means to have entered into rest. **(Hebrews 4:3)** *"For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into My rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world."*

Our pardon and cleansing was finished before the foundation of the world, our healing and protection was finished before the foundation of the world. If you were having a house built and the

contractor told you that your house was finished and would be ready for you to occupy; you would say, "I do not believe that statement, because I do not think they have had time enough." But if you accepted his word as sufficient evidence, you would prepare to move into your house.

That is the story of this Gospel, which is a finished product, finished from the foundation of the world, and we only have to enter in, by believing what has already been accomplished by Jesus Christ.

**Romans (6:1-6)** —which is the Gospel Story in a nutshell—there is enough truth to set the whole world FREE. **(1)** *"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound."*

That God can have greater forgiveness, that He may show unto us greater mercy, that He may better reveal to us what He is?

**(2)** *"God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein."*

We go over these passages very lightly and do not grasp their significance nor allow them to grip us. We are trusting the Holy Spirit to make them very real and clear to us.

**(3-4)** *"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?"* He was probably speaking to people who did not know. *"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," the glorious power of God even so we also should walk in newness of life."*

Paul tells us that Jesus Christ went into the grave and God counts that the same as if we went into the grave.

**(5-6)** *"For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."*

When we go down into the grave with Jesus Christ, we are to count that old sin, that old life to have gone down there and remained there and that we have come up an entirely new person in Christ Jesus. *"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified."*

Here we have a positive statement. This we know: justly in God's sight and legally, that the old man was nailed to the Cross and that the new man is just waiting to come in.

**(Revelation 3:18)** *"I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye salve, that thou mayest see."*

Then He adds— **(Revelation 3:20)** *"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock." That is the story which we are told. "If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."*

**(Romans 6: 6-7)** *"Know this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin."*

That is the boldness we have in taking our stand; the Blood which makes it doubly strong. God has given us a promise which is of double strength and through this we are to receive our freedom.

**(1John 1:9)** *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

**(Romans 12:1)** *"I BESEECH you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, and ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."*

Notice that the Blood has made us free; the Word also tells us that the work has been done. The Word is founded on the Blood, and it states that the pardon and cleansing has been accomplished. The confessing and forsaking of sin does not bring the pardon, but it gives us the Word through which to receive it.

**(Romans 6:11)** *"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

We need to ask ourselves a question: "Where do we believe we are living?" Do we truly believe we are dead indeed unto sin and living unto God in Christ Jesus? What is your attitude now? Are you dead unto sin, or not? Do you believe you have been delivered from sin and the power of darkness and translated into the image of God's dear Son; do you believe that you are a branch of the true Vine, Jesus Christ Himself? Do you honestly and truly believe you are free, really dead indeed unto sin and all its effects?

Everything depends on that. If Satan can convince us that there is one speck of the old self left, we will sin before twenty-four hours are over; we will stumble at the first temptation.

No one else may know that we are not dead; but we may have some evil hid away in our heart, some lustful desire, which only God and Satan know about; but we can go through if we depend on the merits of the Blood of Jesus Christ, and believe that Word which declares we are FIRST taking the position, through the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross, that we are dead indeed unto sin and living unto God in Christ Jesus.

**(Galatians 2:20)** *"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."*

This is Isaiah 53: 4-6 in a more concrete form; all trouble and disease gone. This is what Paul meant when he said— **(2 Corinthians 5 :17)** *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”*

That word creature means “creation”. It means that in every way all the old things have passed away and there is a new peace and spiritual life, new health and protection, new financial blessing- new life in every way.

**(Isaiah 53:4 YLT)** *"Surely our sicknesses he hath borne, and our pains—he hath carried them."*

What does that mean? That we are dead indeed unto sickness, pains, and aches, and are to see ourselves perfectly well, just through the Blood which was shed on the Cross.

(5) *“The chastisement of our Peace was upon Him;”* —this means that we are to reckon ourselves dead indeed unto sin, through God’s Word alone and then His power will come in and make it real. We are to count ourselves dead indeed unto sin. Why? Because 2000 years ago all our sins, troubles, and diseases were borne on the Cross, and we do not have to bear them any longer.

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