

GROUND ZERO IN THE BATTLE OF FAITH 06-30-19



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James Porteous, Gospel Ministries International

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Today's Message: THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

THE FAITH OF JESUS

(Gal 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.

- * **Living by the faith of Christ** is the privilege of every child of God.
- * The apostle's tone here is of joyous exuberance, not of remorse or sadness... "I am crucified... nevertheless I live... Christ lives in me..."
- * He was ministering to "saints" who were sinning by compromising their faith in not exemplifying the righteousness that is by the faith of Christ alone.
- * "They walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel" (Gal 2:14).
- * Paul led by the Holy Spirit said further:

(Gal 2:17) But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid.

(Gal 2:18) For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.

- * Compromising the "biblical faith in Christ" leads to more and more disobedience.

* Paul joyfully and faithfully proclaimed, "I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness came by the law, then Christ is dead in vain" (Gal 2:21).

* In effect Paul was saying, "I'm alive in Christ now and I'm not going back to that old way of sin and death."

* Like Nancy Harmon's song so adequately states – I've come too far to look back.

**I've come too far to look back again
There is nothing behind me
All the treasures I used to love
Have all faded from view
There's a new day ahead for me
All my heartache is over
For I left it at Calvary
Where my new life began**

* True believers continue to "fight the good fight of faith" even when most of the church is involved in unbelievable apostasy, false teaching, and blatant rebellion against God and His Word.

GOD SAYS WOE TO THOSE WHO REFUSE AND TWIST TRUTH

(Isa 5:20) Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

(Isa 5:21) Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

(Isa 5:22) Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

(Isa 5:23) Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

Ground zero in faith is the thoughts of the heart.
As a man thinks in his heart, so is he (Pr 23:7).

(Mat 12:34) O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

(Mat 12:35) A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

(Mat 15:18) But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

(Mat 15:19) For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Application of God's truth is the key to victory.

(Psa 119:11) Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

(Rom 12:1) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

(Rom 12:2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

(Isa 55:7) Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return

unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

(Isa 55:8) For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

(Isa 55:9) For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

(Isa 55:10) 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:

(Isa 55:11) 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.

(Isa 55:12) For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

JOY IN YOUR WORDS – JOY IN YOUR LIFE

Meditate on God's Word – pray God's Word – speak God's Word in faith – Let the Lord restore His joy and truth in your heart to fill your mouth with His powerful, efficacious, eternal truth.

SPEAK GOD'S WORD IN ANSWER TO YOUR AFFLICTIONS, TROUBLES, AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

BELIEVE GOD, STAY IN HIS WILL, AND SPEAK HIS WORD IN FAITH. HE WILL PERFORM HIS WORD IN YOUR LIFE.

What you believe and speak actually becomes how you will live out the rest of your life. You actually prophesy God's eternal truth into your life. You become your own personal prophet.

Psalms 119:50 This *is* my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.

Psalms 119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

Psalms 119:162 I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.

Psalms 119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments *are* righteousness.

Psalms 119:105 NUN. Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 37:31 The law of his God *is* in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

Proverbs 2:10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

Proverbs 2:11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

Jeremiah 15:16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

SPEAK THE WORD IN PRAYER FOR THE LOST AND DISOBEDIENT

Psalms 119:158 I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word.

* We are called to be lively stones, royal priests, on-fire examples of the new life in Christ, and as witnesses of His righteousness and holiness.

* Just as Jesus joyfully and obediently accepted the challenge to redeem us by the shedding of His blood (Heb 12:2), we who have been blessed by His sacrifice should gratefully and obediently return His love by accepting the challenge of our calling at

any cost.

Agree with me and make this sound declaration.

I do not and will not frustrate the grace of God. As for me, Christ did not die in vain (cf. Gal 2:21). Through and by God's all powerful Holy Spirit given unto me and by Whom I am baptized, I will be a witness unto Him and live the remainder of my life in the flesh pleasing to God by the faith of the Son of God Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

God bless you and may the joy and peace of God be your experience, establish you in His amazing faith, and build you up in Him.

(Col 2:6) As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

(3Jn 1:2) Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

(3Jn 1:3) For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth.

(3Jn 1:4) I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.