

## **Words!** **Part 8: "Faith!"**

**A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Proverbs 25.11**

"Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him!" **Hebrews 11.6**

***Faith is the way to please God!***

**(And we should all be living lives that prove we know that it is possible to please God, and, that we care about pleasing Him!)**

**The background...** "By faith Enoch was transported, without experiencing death he was gone in a moment, because God translated him; for before being taken up he had this testimony, that he pleased God!" **v5**

Whatever he was doing got him the ride of his life! Whatever else he was doing faith was his ticket... for "it's impossible to please God without faith!"

His faith is the stated reason for his ride! His faith brought him into constant interaction with God... *Living in the Divine presence! Intimate with God! Confiding in God! Witnessing for God (martureo)!*

**And, one day, God brought him home to His house!**

**If we want to please God and enjoy some really extreme favor, we're going to have to understand and exercise faith!** He that *comes to God* must *believe that He is* (GOD) and *that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him!*

**Obviously... We must come to God...** Faith always draws us near to God! Why it's so important, by faith, to defeat condemnation, which pushes us away! COMING to God is not a physical issue but moral/spiritual! Drawing near in heart and mind/not merely in words! **Mt15.8 Lk 7.6**

**We must believe that HE is GOD...** Enoch had a well-defined view of God! "*He is God and I am not!*" He knows everything I need to know! He has all the power I don't! He is the One who has everything! What about our view? "*He has good stuff. He has most of the answers. He is pretty much it.*"

**We must believe that He is available, entreatable and favorably disposed...** "A rewarder!" Strange compound word: pays, with benevolent compensation! "I know you always hear me **John 9.31 11.42**, that you always receive me **Heb 4.16 10.19**, and to a person positioned by faith, You respond!" **1John 3.22 5.14 Mark 11.22-24**

***Faith is the way to overcome the world!***

And the world does all it can to keep us from pleasing God by trying to stress and defeat our faith!

**"In The World" challenges/stressors! Sickness and disease!** "Don't have anything if you don't have your health!" Come to Him first/quickly/believing! Press forward while waiting for manifestation! "*We believe He is well able to keep what we have given Him...!*" Death! (should never be a stressor! SOVEREIGN issue!)

**Partnering!** Communication/sexual issues/money/ children (steps)/X's/Out-laws! **Parenting!** Behaviors/ "Phases"/ overindulgence/ over cautious! **Money!** "Great servant, lousy, mean, abusive Master!"

**The world throws everything possible in front of us trying to make us un-faithful and un-pleasing to God!**

**"In The World" distractions! Lust of the flesh!** "Where do your battles come from? Don't they come from the lusts at war in you?" **James 4.1** (hedonisms) Not only, to touch "strange flesh..." Dominated by flesh/senses: Vain indulgences/pampering of flesh... Living w/o faith... material things only. Living by self-rule! **Lust of the eyes!** "I see it, I want it, I'll be running after it, I don't know when I'll be back again!" Covetousness, curiosity,

captivated by outward appearances! Desires to captivate other eyes; be seen in the spotlight, glitzy, glamorous!  
**Pride of life!** Empty ambitions/vain but laudable pursuits! The desire/need to project something we are not!  
Sharing the worldly mind/sophistry that exalts itself against God! "Life is precious!" (Not this life: bios! But the life of God: zoe!)

**We must fight against a life that ignores God and the complex offers that stir up rebellion against the very idea of pleasing God with faith!**

"Whoever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcomes the world, but he that believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" **1John 5.4,5 How can any child of God fail when... We, children of God, now have the faith that keeps on overcoming (present tense), the faith that already overcame (aorist), the world!**

**SWAIGTDWWIKN?**

**I am going to please God by *coming to Him*, believing that He is... and that He can affect whatever it is I am facing!** *If He is God*, then follow Him! "Choose this day..." What can't your G-O-D do? Mine can do everything but one: override my will!

**I am going to *come to Him*, speedily, first, preeminently in all things believing He is a rewarder!** Going to require practice! *Must overcome our knee jerk reactions!* Going to require slower "outside" movements! *Must overcome our knee jerk reactions! Must overcome our knee jerk reactions!* Exposing hidden roots of self-rule!

**I am going to *overcome the issues I face in the world*...** Starting from the foundation of being right with God thru Jesus... And building up by the grace (favor, benefits and gifts)... Until I am dead to self and living my life by the same faith as the Son of God who overcame all things! **Gal 2.20**