

“The Power of True Faith”

Matthew 17:14-21



Mark 9:14

And when they came back to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them.

Mark 9:17,18

“Teacher, I brought You my son, because he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it slams him to the ground, and he foams at the mouth and grinds his teeth and becomes stiff.”

Luke 9:39

and a spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams, and it throws him into a convulsion with foaming *at the mouth*; and only with difficulty does it leave him, mauling him *as it leaves*.

Matthew 10:1

Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every sickness.

Acts 2:40

“Be saved from this perverse generation”

Acts 20:30

and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things to draw away the disciples after them.

Romans 1:18

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who suppress the truth in unrighteousness

Emphasis on Faith in Matthew's Gospel

1. *Matt. 8:10 – Jesus commends the Roman Centurion's faith*
2. *Matt. 9:2 – a paralytic is brought to Jesus, and seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, your sins are forgiven*
3. *Matt. 9:22 – woman with a hemorrhage – your faith has made you well.*
4. *Matt. 9:29 – two blind men that were healed. “It shall be done to you according to your faith.”*
5. *Matt. 15:28 – “O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish.”*

I. The Nature of Faith

“Anxiously anticipating the quite premature delivery of our triplets, I will never forget the moment that the doctor looked at me and announced, "They're all alive!" It was not a foregone conclusion (at least for one of them) and until that report, my wife and I were in suspense. All of the wishful thinking—even from certified medical professionals—could not alleviate that suspense, turning possibility into actuality. I could believe all I wanted in a successful delivery, but I had no promise to rely on, either from God or the doctors, and the intensity of my believing it had nothing to do with the state of affairs. My confidence developed entirely on the words that the doctor uttered.

Similarly, the gospel is news because it reports a completed event. Faith does not make something true, but embraces the truth.”

Mark 9:21,22

And He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to kill him. But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!”

Matthew 8:2

“Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”

- I. The Nature of Faith**
- II. The Struggle of Faith**
- III. The Power of Faith**

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved *through* faith;
and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

Mark 9:23

“All things are possible to him who believes.”

“Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man's power ends.” - George Muller

- I. The Nature of Faith**
- II. The Struggle of Faith**
- III. The Power of Faith**
- IV. The Expression of Faith**

Luke 17:5,6

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” But the Lord said, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and be planted in the sea’; and it would obey you.

Romans 10:9

“if you *confess with your mouth* Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Mark 11:23

“Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.”

- I. The Nature of Faith**
- II. The Struggle of Faith**
- III. The Power of Faith**
- IV. The Expression of Faith**
- V. The Strengthening of Faith**

Mark 9:29

“This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

- I. The Nature of Faith**
- II. The Struggle of Faith**
- III. The Power of Faith**
- IV. The Expression of Faith**
- V. The Strengthening of Faith**
- VI. The Results of Faith**

Faith begins where man's power ends.

