Welcome to HOPIC

We are excited to finally be back in the NEWLY RENOVATED KEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, at 6402 Franconia Road, Springfield, Va. Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr., want to invite you and your family to come and join us as we exalt and worship God in His Holy Presence.

Our Vision

Our Goal and desire is the same as that of our Lord Jesus Christ, to fulfill God's end-time calling to enlarge the Kingdom of God, by reaching the multitudes with the gospel of Christ for all levels of our society. We are bringing glory and honor to the Father of our Lord Jesus by teaching and preparing God's people for works of service through the Word and Anointed Worship, through the manifested presence and revelation power of the Holy Spirit.

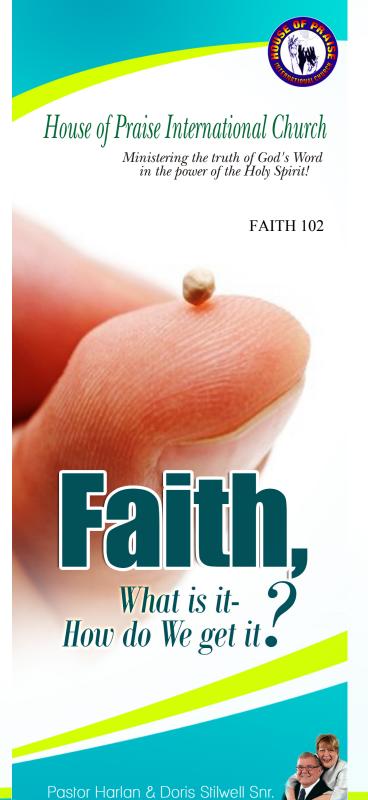


House of Praise International Church Where Christ Jesus is still Lord

Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr.

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Faith What is it-How do we get it?

Hebrews 11:1 says that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:2 tells us that "we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God so that the things which are seen were NOT made of things which are visible".

Therefore since we know that God is a faith God we look to the account of creation to understand the above statement. Proverbs 3:19-20 we see the 3 elements of faith used by God. "The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding He established the heavens; by His knowledge the depths were broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew". We see in this passage of scripture the 3 main elements of faith, WISDOM, UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE.

We all know people who are very educated, having several degrees, but have no wisdom or what we call "common sense." All the education, or **knowledge** which they have obtained, is not producing for them, **not having the wisdom** to use it productively. We see in James 1:3 that "if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God who gives to all liberally and without

reproach...", therefore we see that wisdom comes from God". James 3:15 tells us there is a wisdom which does NOT come from God "but is earthly, sensual, demonic." He then describes the attributes of both types of wisdom here. The thing which we always failed to understand was why do we have all this knowledge and no wisdom...where do we get it? I found that as we use that which God has given already, we increase in wisdom and stature before God and man.

There are several things that we <u>must</u> KNOW, in reality in our lives, in order to have the "great" faith that Jesus spoke of to the Centurion. The following outline provides an overview of the subject areas, in hopes of challenging you to search out the scriptures and MEDITATE upon them for yourself, that Jesus, who is alive today, will become the Lord of every area of your life.

The first thing to know is the INTEGRITY of the WORD; to know that this Word is actually what it declares itself to be——a Revelation from God to us. We should know it is God speaking to us; that it is not only a book of the past and future, but it is a book of NOW; that it is a God-breathed, a God-indwelt, a God-inspired message.

Secondly, it is necessary for us to know the actual **REALITY OF OUR REDEMPTION IN CHRIST**—not as a doctrine, not as a philosophy, but as an

ACTUAL redemption OUT OF THE AUTHORITY OF SATAN and that we have been, by the New Birth, translated into the kingdom of the Son of His Love; in others words, into the very Family of God. Satan's DOMINION over us as a New Creation is ended. JESUS is the Lord and Head of this new body. Satan is a DEFEATED FOE, over whom we reign, through the NAME OF JESUS. Satan has LOST his dominion over our bodies, over our minds, over our finances, over the circumstances of life. WHEN WE KNOW THIS, as we know 4 and 4 are 8, the problem of faith will never bother us.

Third, it is necessary for us to KNOW THE REALITY OF THE NEW **CREATION**; to know the legal side of it, that in the mind of Justice we were created in Christ Jesus WHEN HE was recreated, after He had been made SIN as OUR substitute. We should know that the manifestation occurs, the MOMENT WE ACCEPTED Jesus Christ as our Savior and confessed Him as our Lord; that God recreated us, made the legal thing a reality and that we have today, IN OUR SPIRITS, the very Nature and LIFE of God. It is NOT an experience, NOT a religion, NOT joining a church, but is the actual BIRTH of our spirits. We are the very sons and daughters of God Almighty.

We KNOW that we have passed out of Satan's dominion of spiritual death, into the realm of Life through Jesus Christ. WE KNOW IT! WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT of

this knowledge? Why, God is your very own Father and you are His very own child. You have as much freedom in His fellowship as Jesus had in His earth walk and the Father loves you even as He loved Jesus.

Fourth, we know the REALITY OF 4. OUR RIGHTOUSNESS IN CHRIST. There is no theory about this. We know Rom 3:26 is a reality. "that He might himself be righteous and the righteousness of him that hath faith in Jesus". God the Father became our righteousness when He imparted to us His own nature, Eternal Life, in the New Creation. Jesus became our Righteousness the moment we took Him as our Savior and confessed Him as our Lord. He then became our sponsor, our Lord, our Head, our very own Life. But in II Cor.5:21, the Holy Spirit through Paul says, "Him who knew no sin, God made to be sin; that we might become the righteousness of God in Him".

Not only is Jesus our righteousness and the Father our Righteousness, but WE have become "the Righteousness of God in Him".

This means that our standing before the throne is a standing sponsored by God Himself and by His Son; through His own works wrought in us, by the Holy Spirit, through the Word. We are what He says we are! This means that we can stand in His presence without any sense of guilt, condemnation or inferiority. This means that the prayer problem is settled. We are

no longer going into His presence tongue tied because of condemnation or fear filled because of ignorance. We know what we are in Christ and that He made us what we are. It is not a problem of feeling or of faith. This does not require faith any more than Jesus required faith to go into the presence of HIS Father. Jesus was—we are.

Fifth, it is necessary for us to know • the **REALITY OF INDWELLING**. Of all the mighty truths connected with Redemption, this is the climax: that God Himself, after He has recreated us, made us His own, is actually making our bodies His home. No longer does He dwell in an earth made holy of holies. Our bodies have become His temples I Cor. 6:19-20. What a vision of what we are in Christ. When we become God-inside minded, and take for granted that "greater is He that is in me than He that is in the World", we can face life's problems with a sense of a conqueror. Rom 8:26 becomes a reality in our prayer life and if the Holy Spirit is voicing the desires of the Father through our lips, they will be granted.

6. REALITY OF OUR FELLOWSHIP with the Father. This is the heart reason for Redemption. *I Cor. 1:9* says we were "called into the fellowship with Jesus Christ our Lord" Fellowship means sharing burdens, victories; called to share with His Son. *I Jn 1:3-4 & 7* says we have the joy of fellowshipping with Father, Son and Holy Spirit and walking in the light as He is in the Light. Fellowship is the very mother of faith, parent of joy, the source of victory;

and He has called each of us into fellowship with His Son. This makes prayer to become one of the sweetest privileges, one of the greatest assets we have fallen heir to in Christ.

7 • know the AUTHORITY OF THE NAME OF JESUS. Not as a creed or doctrine but in reality. The Father has given to us power of attorney to use the name of Jesus, the name that has ALL authority in heaven and on earth. Praise HIM!



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