

How to Have Faith that Moves Mountains

(By Rev. Anthony Menzel, April 24, 2022)

1) Faith works through love.

Galatians 5:6

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

When we give the Lord Jesus unconditional love through private worship, public worship, and obedience, we touch the heart of God.

Psalm 22:3

But You *are* holy,
Enthroned in the praises of Israel.

This verse speaks of the importance of praising God.

The following passage talks about the importance of both public and private worship.

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, You *are* my God;
Early will I seek You;
My soul thirsts for You;
My flesh longs for You
In a dry and thirsty land
Where there is no water.

2

So I have looked for You in the sanctuary,
To see Your power and Your glory.

3

Because Your lovingkindness *is* better than life,
My lips shall praise You.

4

Thus I will bless You while I live;
I will lift up my hands in Your name.

5

My soul shall be satisfied as with [a]marrow and [b]fatness,
And my mouth shall praise *You* with joyful lips.

6

When I remember You on my bed,
I meditate on You in the *night* watches.

7

Because You have been my help,
Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.

8

My soul follows close behind You;
Your right hand upholds me.

That worship has to be combined with obedience.

John 15:7,9-10,12-15

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you[b] will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. **8** By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

Love and Joy Perfected

9 “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. **10** If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

11 “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full. **12** This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. **14** You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. **15** No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

Worship without obedience is hollow.

Isaiah 29:13-16

13 Therefore the Lord said:

“Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths

And honor Me with their lips,

But have removed their hearts far from Me,

And their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men,

14

Therefore, behold, I will again do a marvelous work

Among this people,

A marvelous work and a wonder;
For the wisdom of their wise *men* shall perish,
And the understanding of their prudent *men* shall be hidden.”

15
Woe to those who seek deep to hide their counsel far from the Lord,
And their works are in the dark;
They say, “Who sees us?” and, “Who knows us?”

16
Surely you have things turned around!
Shall the potter be esteemed as the clay;
For shall the thing made say of him who made it,
“He did not make me”?
Or shall the thing formed say of him who formed it,
“He has no understanding”?

When we combine obedience with worship of the Lord Jesus, then we can worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.

John 4:21,23-24

21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. **22** You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. **23** But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **24** God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

2) Make sure that you are praying according to God's Will.

1 John 5:14-17

14 *Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. **15** And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

16 *If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. **17** All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not leading to death.*

The only sin that leads to permanent spiritual death is the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit...

Matthew 12:27-32

27 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. 30 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.

The Unpardonable Sin

31 "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. 32 Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

One thing we can pray is that the people we are praying for will never be involved in sin that leads to death.

That is part of why Abundant Love's prayer "God's Fast-Acting Vitamins" is so powerful: It extensively refers to covering people with the blood of Jesus Christ.

Such a covering will keep the darkness, including sin that leads to death, out of our lives.

The Scriptural foundation for asking God to cover us with the blood of Jesus Christ bears repeating because that spiritual covering is so powerful.

Leviticus 17:10-11

10 'And whatever man of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell among you, who eats any blood, I will set My face against that person who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people. 11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.'

The only blood we should drink is the blood of Jesus Christ in communion.

This is confirmed in the New Testament as well.

Acts 15:19-20

19 Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, 20 but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from [f]sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood.

That life that we obtain from being covered by the blood of Jesus Christ expels the darkness from our lives.

There will be consequences for disobedience, especially when we don't repent, but at the same time, anyone who is covered by the blood of Jesus Christ will receive special protection from God, even if that protection manifests itself as the discipline necessary to save that person's soul.

John 1:4-5

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not [a]comprehend it.

***When we talk about praying according to God's Will, an important area to understand is God's healing power, especially for the body.*

The only time it is not God's Will to fully manifest healing is when there is a specific purpose for the sickness

For example,

a) Sickness that leads to death...

2 Kings 13:14

14 Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!"

It is wonderful to see how God used Elisha even when he was sick at the end of his life...

b) The Lord Jesus wants to keep us humble.

1 Corinthians 12:7-10

7 And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to [b]buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. 8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times

that it might depart from me. 9 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Further confirmation that the apostle Paul battled with physical illness...

Galatians 4:13-15

13 You know that because of physical infirmity I preached the gospel to you at the first. 14 And my trial which was in my flesh you did not despise or reject, but you received me as an [e]angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. 15 [f]What then was the blessing you enjoyed? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me.

c) Sometimes physical sickness is allowed in our lives as a form of discipline to prevent us from falling into sin or even falling away from God...

1 Corinthians 11:28-32

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks [g]in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the [h]Lord’s body. 30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many [i]sleep. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

Like we said last week, Jesus Christ wants to heal every sickness...

Matthew 8:16-17

*16 When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:
“He Himself took our infirmities
And bore our sicknesses.”*

****Sometimes we simply lack faith.*

Hebrews 11:1-2

Now faith is the [a]substance of things hoped for, the [b]evidence of things not seen. **2** For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony.

3 By faith we understand that the [c]worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

Faith at the Dawn of History

4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

5 By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. **6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Sometimes we just can't see in the spirit realm.

When that happens, it's much more effective to admit that we don't fully believe that what we are asking for can come true, as opposed to living with the anxiety of trying to confess that we believe in something that we are unsure about in our hearts.

Mark 9:17-29

17 Then one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. **18** And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.”

19 He answered him and said, “O faithless[b] generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I [c]bear with you? Bring him to Me.” **20** Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.

21 So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. **22** And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

23 Jesus said to him, “If[d] you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes.”

24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter

him no more!” **26** Then *the spirit* cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” **27** But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

28 And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?”

29 So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer [e]and fasting.”

In verse 23, we see that there is support in the Scripture that sometimes the people receiving prayer can hinder their prayers from being answered.

However, by admitting that we are struggling with unbelief, we can overcome this barrier.

***Another key to having faith that will move mountains is fasting.

In this passage, we see that sometimes prayers don’t get answered because of a lack of spiritual preparation on the part of the intercessor.

***We have to show that we have faith through our thoughts, feelings, words, and actions.

James 2:20-26

20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is [h]dead? **21** Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? **22** Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made [i]perfect? **23** And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was [j]accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. **24** You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?

26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Proverbs 18:21

21

Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue,
And those who love it will eat its fruit.

*****Once we combine public and private worship, obedience, prayer according to God's Will; asking for God to give us faith when we don't have it; fasting as God leads us; and showing our faith through our actions, words, feelings, and thoughts, then we can move mountains of sickness, poverty, violence, and unbelief, and our prayers will bring salvation and healing to many.