

"WEEKLY WISDOM"
By Pastor Darryl Baker

For The Week of 01.18.10

"FAITH BELIEVES AND FAITH SPEAKS"

2Cor. 4:13 And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "*I believed and therefore I spoke,*" we also believe and therefore speak,

There is much spoken of as to what is needed for us to walk by faith and not by sight as a believer in Jesus Christ, putting our faith in who He is and what He has accomplished for us. Much is also spoken of when it comes to talking about the importance of our words. But it seems that they aren't often tied together and yet if you are going to walk by faith not by sight you will have to learn to not only believe in God's Word, but continually say what God's Word says. To walk by faith you must not only believe His Word is true, you must confess regularly what we are told we already have. You won't obtain what God has done for you through His Son without a good confession.

Paul in writing to the Corinthian church in our text this week declares first of all that we (the born-again believer) have the same spirit of faith. God did not give one type of faith to a certain believer, but then another type of faith to someone else. The word "spirit" in referring to the same spirit of faith is defined as, "*the disposition or influence which fills and governs the soul of anyone; the efficient source of any power.*" We all have the exact same source of power once we are saved. No one gets a different type of faith, but the way you activate this power within is by believing and speaking. There is much emphasis placed on believing when it comes to walking by faith and rightfully so, but if you don't start speaking by faith you won't tap into the power that is available.

Heb. 4:14 We need to hold on to our declaration of faith: We have a superior chief priest who has gone through the heavens. That person is Jesus, the Son of God.

Heb. 10:23 We must continue to hold firmly to our declaration of faith. The one who made the promise is faithful.

Here we find two significant verses in Hebrews that tells us of the importance of holding onto our declaration (confession) of faith. In verse 14 we are told to do so on the basis of the fact that we have a superior chief priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus Christ. The reference to Christ ascending to heaven means that Jesus has completed all that is needed for us to walk in our rights as a child of God because He fulfilled all that was needed to be done and this is proven by His ascension into heaven. Then in verse 23 we are told that we are to hold firmly to our declaration (confession) of faith because the Lord who has

given us promises is faithful to what He has promised. But to see His faithfulness fulfilled one must hold firmly to a confession of faith.

Rom. 10:8 But what does it say? "*The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart*" (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

What then is a confession of faith? Here Paul tells us that the Word, God's Word which he had preached was in two places, in their mouth and in their heart. A confession of faith is simply saying what God's Word says about our circumstances, about God, and just as importantly about what the Word says of us. The emphasis here lines up perfectly with our text from 2 Corinthians 4:13, that the Word of God must not only be in your heart, but it must also be in your mouth. It is the same as love. You can actually have a love for someone in your heart, but that love will never be released until you speak it and act upon it. So it is with faith. Faith can be in your heart but that faith will never be released until you speak the Word of God.

Far too often you hear those who are born-again say that they are walking in faith, and yet you rarely hear them consistently declare the Word of God in their life. Some only tend to do so when things get tough. Yet others even when things get difficult confess more about their problems than they do the Word of God. Again, to walk by faith one must not only believe in their heart, one must also confess with their mouth the Word of the Lord. The more that anyone who is born-again will fill their mouth consistently with the Word of God the more they are going to build and release faith in their life.

Gal. 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

One of the most valuable things to a Christians life is confessing daily who scripture reveals we now are. The more we do the more we will begin to see this image of the new man come into being. As stated here in Galatians 2 when you accepted Christ into your life you were crucified with Him. That means you actually died as it goes on to state that it is no longer I who live. There is a new you on the inside who is reborn and made into the very image of Christ. By way of the Holy Spirit you now have the Spirit of Christ living in you. The life that one then begins to live should be lived by faith in the Son of God who loves us and gave Himself for us. If you are living by faith in the Son of God you are boldly professing what He Himself says about you. You are declaring the fulfilled work of Calvary as a reality of who you now are.

1 Cor. 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

1 Cor. 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

1 Cor. 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

This here is one of the biggest problems with people staying consistent in walking by faith, putting God's Word in their mouth. Because we have been raised to focus primarily on the natural aspect of life, we often allow this to rob us of a faith confession. We may begin to declare that we are loved by God, but then we may begin to look at ourselves only from a natural prospective and then begin to wonder how could God love me? This begins to effect our words. We may declare the promises of God over our life, but when the circumstances don't change outwardly we allow that to rob us of our confession of faith and we begin to speak words contrary to God's Word.

We must realize that when we compare the things of God that are spiritual, including His Word as Jesus said that His Words are spirit and they are life to that of the natural realm, we will always see our confession change to declaring the problem and not what God has promised. As verse 14 above states, "...the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God...". We are not going to receive what God wants if we are going to live with a mouth filled with what is only seen in the natural. We will never fully discern or grasp the reality of what we have in Christ if we are allowing what is seen in the natural to take from our lips the declaration of the Word of God.

This does not mean we should never admit to a problem we are faced with. True faith does not deny the existence of a problem, but what faith does is deny it's right to remain. This is done through what we say. There are to many Christians giving glory to the work of the devil through their continual confession of how weak they are, or how bad their situation is. To bring glory to God we declare the truth consistently because walking by faith and not by sight means we both believe and we speak.

See You Again Next Week For More
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MAY GOD'S VERY BEST BE YOURS!
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