

Faith: the currency of heaven

by

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“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” Hebrews 11:6

In this world you cannot accomplish much without money. Money is a medium of exchange. With a lot of money I can do a lot, with little money I can do little. It is the same with faith. Great faith accomplishes a lot, small faith achieves little. Wherever Jesus found faith, he was able to act. Money gives me access to earthly goods while faith provides me with access to heavenly goods. Money can grow and increase; in the same way, faith can grow and increase. We take action with our money so that it increases and we should take action with our faith for God.

Blind Bartimaeus received his sight through faith. The woman who was subject to bleeding was healed through her faith. A lame man was able to walk again due to his faith. Wherever faith and the power of God meet, miracles happen. The eyes of God range throughout the earth to show his power wherever he finds faith. Jesus said: When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth? That means that God is seeking faith and where he finds it, he displays his power.

When the people of Israel went up out of Egypt they were laden with gold and silver and the treasures of Egypt. But all that gold was of no use to them in the desert. There they could not buy food, clothing or houses. God wanted them to learn to live by faith and get to know him as their provider. Through faith they received manna. Through faith they got water from the rock. Through faith they were protected and through faith their clothes and shoes did not wear out for forty years. Imagine a woman wearing the same shoes and clothing for forty years. No wonder some of them wanted to go back to Egypt, to go shopping.

Faith acts, because faith without works is dead. We want our money to work for us and Jesus compares faith to a servant who is working for us (Luke 17:5-10). The servant has to do his work and is not allowed to rest until he has done everything. Only then can he relax. A servant who does nothing and only sits around is useless. And faith that does nothing is worth as much as a dead servant. Faith without works is dead. Our faith should not rest

until we have done everything Jesus told us to do. When the work is done and our race is run, then we can rest. In heaven we will not need faith anymore since we will have gone from believing to seeing. In heaven we will not need money anymore, either.

Jesus also compares faith to a seed that a farmer plants and that multiplies. We can plant, use and apply our faith, thus making it multiply. The disciples wanted more faith and Jesus taught them that faith was like a seed. From one single seed, many seeds can grow if you keep on planting it. Small faith can turn into great faith if you start with the small things and do something in faith. Use your faith, even if it is small, and it will grow and multiply. Everything starts small, like the seed. That is the principle of the Kingdom of God, the principle of sowing and reaping. Be faithful in the small things and God will give you more.

Jesus says we should live according to the principle of the Kingdom of God and everything else will be given to us. Learn to live by faith and to develop your faith and your faith will produce and bring forth everything you need in life.

The people of this world have replaced faith in God with faith in money. Their money is their god. But with money I cannot buy eternal life, healing, forgiveness of sins or the gifts of the Spirit. Jesus paid for these things with his blood and by faith I can acquire them.

Money is transient, becomes worthless, can be stolen or get lost and you cannot take it with you when you die. That is why Jesus says we should invest in that which is eternal and invest our money where moths, rust and inflation cannot destroy it. Act with foresight, think of eternity. Jesus did not commend the dishonest manager because he cheated but because he acted with foresight (Luke 16:1-13). The people of this world act with foresight by providing for their pension, but faith sees eternity. Make friends for yourself with earthly mammon, Jesus said. What he meant was: Win souls for eternity and you will have treasures in heaven when you get there. Reinhard Bonnke once said: “I don’t want to be a dollar millionaire but a soul millionaire.” I want to be one, too. What about you?

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