Faith Without Flesh is Dead

There is a growing tendency in modern Christianity to spiritualize everything and leave all the work to God. But Scripture tells a different story. God works through the flesh of people, and what we say, do, and believe matters more than most of us realize.

Does God Just Do Whatever He Wants, or Does He Need Us?

A common phrase heard in Christian circles is, "If God wants it to happen, it'll just happen." It sounds humble, but it actually contradicts what the Bible teaches.

Romans 10 makes it clear: "How can they believe unless they hear? And how can they hear unless someone preaches to them?" People do not get saved by clouds parting and voices booming from heaven. They get saved because someone goes to them and shares the Gospel.

Even the Apostle Paul, who had a dramatic encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus, still needed a layman to come lay hands on Him before He received His sight and was filled with the Holy Spirit. God works through people. That is not a limitation of God. That is His design.

What Is the Antichrist Spirit, and Is It in the Church Today?

Second John 1:7 says, "Many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist."

This is not just about denying that Jesus came to earth 2,000 years ago. The deeper issue is about denying that Jesus continues to work through flesh and blood people today. First Timothy 3 warns that in the last days, people will have "a form of godliness but denying the power thereof."

Here is what is striking: in Jesus's day, the religious leaders had no problem with healing. Their problem was with forgiveness of sins. Today, it has flipped. Forgiveness is preached everywhere, but healing and deliverance are dismissed or called demonic. It is the same religious Spirit, just repackaged for a new generation.

What Does "Faith Without Works Is Dead" Really Mean?

Faith in your heart that is never acted upon is dead faith. You can believe something deeply and sincerely, and it still produces nothing if it stays locked inside you.

Think about a wedding ceremony. If a groom stands at the altar and refuses to say "I do" because he figures God knows His heart, there is no covenant. Nothing happens until words are spoken and action is taken. The same principle applies to faith.

Faith without flesh is dead. The works that James talks about are physical, tangible actions. What comes out of your mouth, what you do with your hands, how you live your life. These things give life to what is in your heart.

How Should Christians Handle Negative Thoughts and the Enemy's Attacks?

Here is something freeing: what is in your heart, whether good or bad, is dead until it is acted upon. That means when the enemy fills your mind with fear, doubt, or temptation, as long as you do not give voice to it or act on it, it has no power.

The strategy is not silence. It is replacement. When the devil suggests something contrary to God's Word, the response is to speak the opposite. Jesus modeled this perfectly in the wilderness. He did not ignore the devil's temptations. He answered them, but He answered with Scripture, not with His feelings.

Psalm 103:20 says, "Bless the Lord, you His angels, who excel in strength, heeding the voice of His Word." Someone has to give voice to God's Word. When we do, angels are empowered to act on our behalf.

What Happens When People Reject You for Doing God's Work?

Jesus said in Matthew 10:40, "He who receives you receives Me, and He who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." And in Luke 10:16, "He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me."

When you are doing what God has called you to do and people reject you, it is not really about you. It never was. Their rejection is directed at God. Understanding this protects you from two dangerous extremes: being crushed by criticism or being inflated by praise.

Moses endured an entire nation murmuring against him. His secret was knowing that the complaints were not against him. In Exodus 16:8, he told the people, "Your complaints are not against us but against the Lord." He said it twice, because they needed to hear it twice.

Why Did Israel Keep Rejecting God's Chosen Leaders?

Throughout Scripture, there is a repeated pattern. God sends someone in the flesh to represent Him, and the people despise that person while claiming to honor God.

In Exodus 32:1, when Moses was on the mountain, the people said, "As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." They dismissed the very vessel God used to part the Red Sea and deliver them from slavery.

Centuries later, the religious leaders said almost the same thing about Jesus in John 9:29: "We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from." Same Spirit. Different generation.

The pattern continues today. People are comfortable honoring leaders who are long dead and safely irrelevant. It is the living, present voice of God that gets rejected.

What Does "Blessed Is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord",

Have to Do With Seeing God's Power?

In Luke 13:34, Jesus said, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!"

He then said they would not see Him until they said, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." There is a direct connection between how we treat those God sends and how much of God's power and presence we actually experience.

As long as the body of Christ despises or dismisses those God has sent, we will not see the level of power and glory the church needs, especially in these last days. Honoring God's messengers is not about flattering people. It is about recognizing God when He shows up in the flesh.

How Do We Know If We Are Truly Right With God?

How a person treats those God has sent is a direct reflection of where they stand with God. You cannot claim to love God while consistently rejecting, criticizing, or dismissing the people He sends into your life.

Feelings and opinions are not the final authority. The Word of God is. If you cannot point to a Scripture to back up your complaint or your rejection, then what you are standing on is not solid ground.

Building your life on the Word of God gives you stability. When storms come, you are anchored. When people reject you, you are not shaken. When people praise you, you are not puffed up. Everything flows back to Him.

Life Application

This week, pay attention to where you have been leaving everything up to God while doing nothing yourself. Identify one area of your life where faith has stayed locked in your heart without any corresponding action or declaration. Then take a step. Speak the Word over that situation. Pray specifically and boldly, not with "if it be Your will" when Scripture has already told you His will. Give voice to what God has already said.

Ask yourself these questions:

- Is there an area of my life where I have been passively waiting on God to act, when He may actually be waiting on me?
- When I face rejection or criticism for doing what I believe God has called me to do, do I take it personally, or do I recognize it as a spiritual issue that has nothing to do with me?
- Am I honoring the people God has placed in my life to lead and teach me, or am I dismissing them based on feelings and preferences rather than Scripture?
- When the enemy brings negative thoughts, am I staying silent and letting them fester, or am I actively countering them with the Word of God?

God has chosen to work through people. That includes you. Do not let your faith stay buried. Give it flesh, give it a voice, and watch what God can do.

Quotes

1. God doesn’t cast out demons; believers do it in His name!

2. The world can't believe what it hasn't heard, and it can't hear what the Church refuses to preach!

3. God has given us the authority, but our faith, prayers, and actions must cooperate with His power!

4. Faith without action is nothing more than an unfulfilled confession!

5. Faith without flesh is dead! What you believe must become visible in what you do!

6. What you claim is in your heart means little if your words and actions contradict it!

7. Faith that never leaves your heart to move your hands is faith that accomplishes nothing!

8. How you receive God's messenger reveals how you receive the God who sent him!

9. When someone rejects you for faithfully representing Christ, they're rejecting the One who sent you!

10. It's not about the messenger. It's about the One whose message he carries!

11. What sounds like a complaint against God's servant may actually be a complaint against God!

12. You cannot separate your treatment of God's representatives from your attitude toward the God they represent!

13. You cannot dishonor those God has sent to you and pretend you're honoring the One who sent them!

14. Until we learn to say, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,” we may fail to recognize the very help God has sent us!

15. You cannot continually despise God's messengers and expect to fully receive the ministry God sent through them!

16. Your heart is revealed not merely by what you profess spiritually, but by how you conduct yourself naturally!

17. Your attitude toward those God sends often reveals your attitude toward the God who sent them!

18. Before you turn against what God is doing, make sure your reasons are grounded in His Word, not your emotions!

19. Build your life on the Word, and when everything around you starts shaking, you'll still be standing!

20. When you know you're walking according to God's Word, you can have peace in your heart even when there's a storm all around you!

21. God's power is not the problem. Our willingness to act on His Word is!

22. The invisible God has chosen to work through visible people. Don't despise the vessel and miss the treasure!

23. You can't claim to honor the Sender while dishonoring those He has genuinely sent!

24. Faith isn't merely what you believe in your heart. It's what your belief moves you to say and do!

25. When God's Word becomes the foundation of your decisions, His peace becomes the anchor of your life!

Verses

1. Psalm 103

2. Mark 16

3. Romans 10

4. Second John 1:7

5. First Timothy 3

6. First John 4

7. Matthew 10:40

8. Luke 10:16

9. Luke 13:34

10. Exodus 16:7

11. Exodus 16:8

12. Numbers 16:11

13. Exodus 32:1

14. John 9:29

Summary

God has always worked through people, and that is not a limitation but His intentional design. Faith that stays locked in the heart without action or declaration is dead faith. The antichrist spirit is not only about denying that Jesus came in the flesh 2,000 years ago but also about denying that He continues to work through flesh and blood people today. When we speak the Word of God over our circumstances, we activate what heaven is waiting to respond to. How we treat those God sends into our lives is a direct reflection of where we stand with God. Rejection from others is rarely about us personally. It is a spiritual issue directed at the One who sent us. Build your life on the Word, give your faith a voice, and trust that God will move through you.