FAITH THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM: EVERYTHING BEGINS WITH FAITH

Hebrews 11: 6⁶ 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.

Romans 10:17 ¹⁷ So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (NO WORD OF GOD NO FAITH)

1. What is Faith?

Hebrews 11:**11** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

- Moffatt(i) 1 Now faith means we are confident of what we hope for, convinced of what we do not see.
- Faith is giving substance to things we hope for,
- Faith is the substitute for the promise of God you are believing for,
- Faith is acting on what you believe in God's word is true and belongs to you,
- Faith is the vehicle that drives you to the promises of God,

Abraham's Faith: Romans 4: ¹⁷ (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations" [d]) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; ¹⁸ who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." [e] ¹⁹ And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹ and

being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. ²² And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." [f]

Abraham had God's promise and he acted as though it were true,

2. WHY WE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN OUR FAITH

- Faith based on two things: Who God is and what God said,
- We cannot separate faith from the character of God,

Hebrews 6: ¹⁸ that by two immutable things, in which it *is* impossible for God to lie,

Matthew 24: ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

Psalms 138: 2 I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

3. FAITH BEGINS WHERE THE WILL OF GOD IS KNOWN

1 John 5: 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.

Ephesians 1: ⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

His will has been revealed to you by His Spirit

4. FAITH IS THE TITLE DEED

Ephesians 1:11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

• Faith is the Title Deed to the promises of God, a Title Deed is a piece of paper that says you own it,