

BATTLE TESTED: The Victory Of Faith

JULY 14, 2024

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Our Chief Battleground Is In The Spiritual Realm

(Eph 6:12 NIV) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

The Plan Of Jesus For The Church Is: On To Victory—by Faith

(Mat 16:18 NIV) And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it

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One Day We Can Be On The Mountain Experiencing God's Manifest Presence. The Next Day We Can Be Confronted By An Attack From The Pit Of Hell

READ: Mark 9:14-24

The Time Will Come To Come Down Off The Mountain

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(Mark 9:14-16 NIV) When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. (15) As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him. (16) "What are you arguing with them about?" he asked.

When We Are In Our Greatest Time Of Need -- We Are Not Alone. Jesus Will Show Up.

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This Is A Spiritual Battle – And A Battle Of Faith

The Father Tells Of His Son's Demonic Possession

(Mark 9:17-18 NIV) A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. (18) Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not."

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As Much As Anything We Need Faith To Know That God Can – And Will – Bring Us Through

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The Lack Of Faith Leads To A Lack Of Power

(Mark 9:19 NIV) "O unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me."

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Jesus Takes A Tough Moment And Turns It Into A Teaching Moment

He Gathers Information & Builds Faith

(Mark 9:20-22 NIV) So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. (21) Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered. (22) "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

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The Cause Of Destruction In Lives Is Satan.

The Cure For Destruction In Lives Is Jesus.

(Mark 9:23 NIV) "If you can?" said Jesus.
"Everything is possible for him who believes."

Faith Is The Switch That Connects And Activates
The Power Of God – We Engage The Switch To
See The Power Flow

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There Is A Faith / Belief Crisis

(Mark 9:24 NIV) Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

- **To Approach Anything In The Spirit Of Hopelessness Is To Make It Hopeless**
- **To Approach Anything In The Spirit Of Faith Is To Make It A Possibility**

Wm. Barclay Mark The Daily Bible Series

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Q. *What Should We Do With Our Faith?*

A. **We Should Use It.**

Q. *What Should We Do With Our Unbelief?*

A. **We Should Resist It, And Pray Against It.**

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“If we believe the promise because we know God is faithful, then it doesn’t matter whether it takes 10 minutes or 10 years. God is still faithful.”

Pierce, C. D., & Heidler, R. (2004). Restoring Your Shield of Faith

It Is Not -- Can You Believe? It Is -- Will You Believe?