



Session 2 - Faith Continued

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14 Then the anger of the LORD burned against Moses - Why was God so angry at Moses?

We are going to take a Deep Dive into something that will help us understand God's anger and why He is justified in it with Moses.

There is an overriding theme in scripture. That theme is this:

Jeremiah 29:13 (NASB) 13 You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.

Jesus said the following:

Matthew 22:37-38 (NASB) 37 And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' 38 "This is the great and foremost commandment."

If one does a word search in the Bible for the word heart, they will find that it appears well over 700 times.

God doesn't put something in print that many times if it wasn't really, really important to Him.

So why does He list it that many times?

Because that's what He wants from you...a wholehearted walk with Him.

Why does He ask for a wholehearted walk from you? Because He needs it?

He does not need it!

Acts 17:24-25 (NASB) 24 "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; 25 nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things;"

If He doesn't need us to love Him wholeheartedly **than why ask?** Because we are the ones who need it. Because He knows that it's the only thing that makes you and I whole.

He doesn't need it, He is an all knowing, self-sustaining God but He knows you and I need it.

There is **one thing that must be present** for us to love Him wholeheartedly. That thing is **TRUST**.

Without trust an individual cannot love Him wholeheartedly. Which is why He says the following:

Hebrews 11:6 (NASB) And 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 seek Him.

What is faith? Simply put faith is trust.

The word faith has probably been used so much and many times taken out of context so often for our purposes in this study we will substitute trust for faith when discussing it the rest of the time. So in our verse above we would say "without **trust** it is impossible to please Him..."

We are going to dig deeper into this idea of faith or trust by talking about **one very big misunderstanding and misapplication of faith** or trust by many Christians today.

We will do that by looking at a section of scripture where Jesus is talking about just that thing:

Mark 11:22-23 (NASB) 22 And Jesus *answered saying to them, "Have faith in God. 23 "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him."

So many believers see this and miss the point. The point in trust will always, always be the object of our faith or trust. Jesus said it in verse 22...Have faith in God.

The object of our faith will always be Him, it will never be you.

In other words if God has told you that He wants that mountain taken up and cast into the sea and He is going to do it through you then don't doubt for a second that He can do that through you. He's plenty big enough to do it through you.

Here's another:

James 1:6-8 (NASB) 6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

When one understands the object of faith in these verses is not your ability to have faith but to have faith that nothing is impossible with God.

We are left with a rather comfortable, abiding place. It isn't up to me, it's up to Him and whether or not He wants to do it through me as well as how and when.

So many have misinterpreted these kinds of verses to be about your ability to have faith and that the more confidence and positive thoughts that you have about your faith then God will do these things because you proved worthy by continuing to believe that it would happen.

That's not biblical faith! That's actually just you propping up you!

It's actually putting your will power to have faith above what faith actually is which is simply put, Trust in Him.

Here is biblical faith:

Hebrews 11:1 (NASB) Now faith is the assurance of [things] hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Assurance - hypostasis (hü-po'-stā-sēs)

1. a setting or placing under
 - a. thing put under, substructure, **foundation**
2. that which has foundation, is firm

Jesus Christ is the foundation.

1 Corinthians 3:11 (NASB) 11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Let's look at some examples in scripture.

Matthew 8:5-10,13 (NASB) 5 And when Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, imploring Him, 6 and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, fearfully tormented." 7 Jesus *said to him, "I will come and heal him." 8 But the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 "For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it." 10 Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who were following, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel...13 And Jesus said to the centurion, "Go; it shall be done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed that very moment.

Marveled - This is the only place in scripture where we are told that Jesus marveled or was amazed at a human's response.

With anyone in Israel - Jesus had not seen this kind of trust in Him with anyone that He had chosen.

What is so impressive about this man's faith that it causes Jesus to marvel? It is what the centurion said...the centurion understood Christ's authority. Read verses 9&10. The centurion understood that we all may have some authority in some form on this earth (real or perceived). But Christ's authority was supreme and therefore His ability to heal His servant had no boundaries. **VERY FEW INDIVIDUALS UNDERSTOOD THIS PRINCIPLE AT THIS TIME!** Christ was amazed.

Mark 9:21-24 (NASB) 21 And He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. 22 "It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!" 23 And Jesus said to him, " 'If You can?' All things are possible to him who believes." 24 Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "I do believe; help my unbelief."

"Help my unbelief." - This man probably without quite realizing says an incredible truth. He turns to the only one who can help his trust grow.

How many of us spend time being frustrated on trying to have enough faith in Him. How much more freeing would it be to simply turn to Him and ask Him to "help our unbelief" in other words it's asking Him to help our trust grow in Him.

How does He help our trust grow in Him?

Romans 10:17 (NASB) 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Why does our faith grow when we get into His word?

Remember how Jesus taught the men on the road to Emaus?

Luke 24:25,27 (NASB) 25 And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken..." 27 Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

All of scripture is about Him! He is all of scripture!

He is the one who gives it:

Romans 12:3 (NASB) 3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

It is God that gives the faith...He has allotted to each their trust in Him.

How cruel must He be then if the only signs He gives are signs that He knows are beyond your measure of faith. Is He really that kind of God?

What we learn from this then is that God knows the amount of faith that we have when He comes to us. He knows the amount of faith that we have because He's the one who gave it! How cruel of a God must He be to ask of us something that is beyond our trust in Him at that point.

So, this brings us all the way back to Moses and God's anger with Moses.

Exodus 4:10-14 (NASB) 10 Then Moses said to the LORD, "Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." 11 The LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? 12 "Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say." 13 But he said, "Please, Lord, now send the message by whomever You will." 14 Then the anger of the LORD burned against Moses, and He said, "Is there not your brother Aaron the Levite? I know that he speaks fluently. And moreover, behold, he is coming out to meet you; when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart."

Why is God justified in His anger with Moses?

- God had performed signs and miracles. Because God knows the measure of faith or trust each person has. **God knew that Moses had been given what was required for Moses to believe.**
- The **object of Moses faith was in the wrong place**. The object of Moses faith was himself and not God.
- **Since we know this then Moses lack of trust in God becomes sin for Moses**. Instead of this being humility on Moses part this is really self centered-ness on Moses part. Somewhat of a pity party that Moses is throwing himself. It's wrong because in doing this Moses is saying "**God you are not big enough**".

When we don't keep our eyes fixed on Him it means we have lowered them to looking at ourselves to meet our needs and we are incapable of meeting our spiritual needs.