

Certainty... in a world of doubt

The Gospel of Luke

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, April 8/9, 2017 Ray Davis

“Faith” Luke 7:1-17

We are saved through faith (Eph2:8). It is by faith that we understand that the universe was created by the word of God (Heb11:3). Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb11:6). Those who are of faith are blessed (Gal3:9). The righteous will live by faith (Rom1:17). We walk by faith and not by sight (2Cor5:7). Faith apart from works is dead (James2:26). Trials test the genuineness of our faith (1Pet1:7) Faith comes from hearing the word of Christ (Rom10:17).

This whole chapter seven is about faith.

The definition of faith vv1-10

The object of faith vv11-17

The struggle of faith vv18-35

The product of faith vv36-50

The Definition of Faith: vv1-10

- 1) Everyone has faith vv4 & 6
- 2) It is best revealed in crisis vv2-3; 1Pet1:7
- 3) Three Elements of Saving Faith: Heb11:1, 6
 - ✓ Knowledge about God (Content) v3a; Rom1:32; 10:14
 - ✓ Belief that it is true (Conviction) vv3b, 7-8; John 3:2; Acts 26:27
 - ✓ Trust in Christ as Savior & Lord (Commitment) vv4, 6-7; John 1:12; 3:16

The Object of Our Faith: vv11-17

- 1) Faith is not a feeling, a force, or a formula, but Fellowship (relationship) with Christ Jesus. Heb11:6
- 2) It's not the strength of your faith but the object of your faith that matters most. Matt17:20
- 3) Your faith will rise or fall with your confidence in your Savior's goodness (wise love v13) and greatness (unlimited power v14). Ps9:9-10
- 4) Spiritual Disciplines + Holy Spirit + Trials/Temptations = Exceptional Faith (Relationship with God)! 1Tim4:7-8; Rom8:10-13; James 1:2-4; 2Pet 3:18

Faith Statements:

- No need to worry about image management, because your Savior not only forgives you but gives you a new identity as a child lavished with your Father's love. (Rom8:1; 2Cor5:21; 1John3:1)
- No need to worry about ever being left alone or forsaken, because your Savior has made you the place where He dwells. (Heb13:5-6; 2Tim4:16-17)
- No need to worry about not having what it takes, because your Savior will empower you to be what He wants you to be & to do what he wants you to do. (2Pet1:3; 2Cor9:8)
- No need to worry about the future, because all the mysteries of what is to come are held in your Savior's loving, wise and powerful hands. (Jer29:11; Pro3:5-6)
- No need to worry about facing difficulties or suffering, because your Savior will not only walk with you but will also use all things for your good & His glory. (Heb13:5-6; Rom8:28; Gen50:20)

Growing Notes

- 1) Who in your life would you consider to be a person of exceptional faith? What are the characteristics of someone with exceptional faith? How important is faith to the Christian life (See introduction faith verses)?
- 2) Read Luke 7:1-10. What stands out to you? What does it mean that everyone is betting their life & eternal destiny on something? What do the Elders of the Jews believe (v4)? What does the centurion believe (v6)?
- 3) Why is faith revealed best in crisis (vv2-3)? What are the three elements of saving faith? Why is knowing and believing the content of the Christian faith not enough (James 2:19)?
- 4) Read Luke 7:11-17. What stands out to you? What happens when you see faith as a feeling or force or formula rather than fellowship with Christ? Why is the object more important than the strength of your faith? What's the key to growing exceptional faith? What is God speaking to you? Pray