

STUDY THREE – REVELATION FAITH!

Introduction

HERE are three great scriptures in the Old Testament on which the Pauline Revelation is based.

The first one is Gen. 15:6 *"And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness."* This means that he had made an "unqualified committal" unto Jehovah and He accounted it unto him for righteousness.

This "unqualified committal" is identical with the thought in Romans 10:9-10, *"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart, one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."*

Revelation Faith as given to Paul demands a confession with our lips of the Lordship of Jesus. This means an "unqualified committal" to the Word, because the Word takes the place of the absent Christ.

The second Scripture, Isaiah 28:16, *"Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily."*

There are two other translations: "Whosoever believeth on him shall not wander about distractedly seeking another foundation," or, "Whosoever believeth on Him shall not be put to shame." It says that whosoever does this shall not be put to shame. Regardless of circumstances, of appearances, or sense evidence, he rests his case absolutely on the Word.

The third Scripture is Habakkuk 2:4. *"But the just shall live by his faith."* It carries us a step further. "My righteous one" or "the just" has been made Righteous by a New Creation. He is to walk, not by sight or by feeling, he is to walk by faith. In other words, he is to walk by the Word. 2 Cor. 5:7 *"For we walk by faith, and not by sight."*

Hebrews 10:38 *"Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, my soul has no pleasure in him."* You notice in each one of these scriptures a challenge for our confidence. You are His Righteous one. You are to live by faith. You are not to draw back to Sense evidence and to Sense Knowledge, but you are to walk on with Him in the light of the Word. You will do as Abraham did.

You are looking at the Word, and you wax strong through faith, giving glory to God, for you reckon that God is able to make good in you all that He has promised in His Word. You can see how these great Scriptures become the foundation of the Revelation of Righteousness by faith in the Word as it is found in the Pauline Epistles. You will find at the beginning of his great argument in the book of Romans that Paul uses Abraham's faith as a type.

Romans 4:3-5 *"For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness."*

Righteousness means the ability to stand in God's presence without the sense of sin, guilt, or inferiority. You will notice that after God accounted Righteousness to Abraham that he made his great appeal for the salvation of Sodom and Gomorrah. Read carefully Genesis 18 and see the fearless faith of Abraham. He was not Righteous as we are Righteous. His Righteousness was merely accounted to him. It was set to his account. It gave him credit with God. The Scripture we just read from Romans 4 tells us that

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Righteousness is not reckoned on the ground of works. This Righteousness is granted on the ground of faith. One does not work for it. He accepts a gift.

Eph. 2:8-9 *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast."* Salvation, Redemption, Eternal Life, the New Creation, the Indwelling presence of the Spirit, the legal right to use the Name of Jesus, and all of our privileges as sons and daughters of God, are based upon grace through faith. No one earns them. No one has a better position than another. Every person has the same Righteousness, the same privileges, the same standing, for it is all of grace. Abraham's faith is described in Romans 4:18. *"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.""*

Hope is always future. Faith is always now. Hope would have robbed Abraham of a son, but faith combatted with hope, defeated it, and received as the reward, Isaac. 19th verse, *"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. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform."*

This is a beautiful picture of faith. Abraham had nothing to rest upon except the Word of God. Yet he believed that Word; he looked upon his own body and said to himself, "I am ninety-nine years old. I have passed the age where I can be the father of a child." He thought of Sarah, ninety years of age. He knew that she was too old to bear a child. Yet, turning away from the evidence of his Senses, he looked at the Word that God had spoken to him, and he waxed strong through faith, giving glory to God. For he said without doubt or fear, "God is able to make good what He has promised." This is not Sense Knowledge faith. This is Revelation Faith. This is the kind of faith which Paul has given to us in his Revelation.

Notice the twenty-second verse: *"And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness.""* He did not have the Righteousness we have. He had it set to his credit. Romans 4:23-25 *"Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification."* (Lit. trans.)

The Pauline Revelation shows that God wrought a perfect Redemption in Christ. Col. 1:13-14 *"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."*

Eph 1:7 *"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace."* Romans 3:26 *"to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus."* That Redemption was a redemption from Satan's dominion. It was a redemption from the guilt and penalty of sin. It was a Redemption of our physical body from the dominion of disease. It was a Revelation of a New Creation created in Christ Jesus. That becomes a reality when we accept Christ as our Savior and confess Him as our Lord. God gives to natural man His life and nature.

2 Cor: 5:17-18a *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ"*

Eph. 4:23-24 *"and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."*

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This Revelation of a New Creation is the most amazing fact of the grace of God. God can take a Satan-ruled man, one who is called "sin" (because he is identified with Satan, he is a child of Satan), He can redeem him, take him out of this condition and impart to him His own nature, making him His own child.

1 John 5:12-13 tells us what he has received. *"He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."* John 6:47 *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life."*

A believer is a possessor. There is no believing without possession. If I believe that God laid my sins upon Jesus and that Jesus was my Substitute, that He died in my stead, that He arose because He had put my sin away and had obtained justification for me, the moment I believe I receive Eternal Life and become God's child. Believing is having. Next, He gives to us Righteousness. It is a Revelation of the Righteousness of God that becomes available to the man who has faith in Jesus.

(Romans 3:21-26) God becomes the Righteousness of the man who takes Christ as his Savior and crowns Him as Lord of his life. 2 Cor. 5:21 *"Him who knew no sin, He made to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the Righteousness of God in Him."* He not only becomes our Righteousness, but by the impartation of His nature we become His Righteousness, His sons and daughters. Heb. 10:38 *"My Righteous one shall live by faith."* We are called His Righteous ones.

Not only are we the Righteousness of God, but we have become the sons and daughters of God. The climax of the Revelation that God gave to Paul, recorded in Romans 8:14-17 states this clearly. *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.'" The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."* This is sonship with all its glorious privileges. Paul does not stop there. These sons and daughters are partakers not only of God's nature, but of God Himself in the person of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:11 *"But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."*

1 Cor. 6:19 *"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you?"*

This all comes to the believer by faith. There is no Sense Knowledge faith required. You do not need to have any feelings to prove that you are Born Again. All that is necessary is the Word of God.

Romans 10:9 declares: *"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."* You do not need Sense Knowledge evidence to prove that you have received the Holy Spirit. Luke 11:13 *"How much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him."*

Your confidence is not in any physical manifestation or physical evidence. It is always in the simple Word of God. Luke 1:37 *"No Word from God is void of power" (or ability to make good).* These mighty Scriptures give one ground for Faith. We have confidence when we know what we are in Christ. Unbelief is largely the result of ignorance of what we are in Christ. When I saw what God had done for me in Christ, my whole being was thrilled, faith was an unconscious fact, it was mine, He did it for me, I said, "Thank you Father" and I began to enjoy my rights in Christ.

