

Limiting God: Not Being a Good Mixer

Donald Mann

You go to a party or gathering, and you stand against the wall, ignore all attempts when people try to talk with you, and then complain, “No one likes me.” You go to a networking event and do the same, and say, “This stuff does not work.” You may have read some books or gone to seminars on how to talk with strangers and network, but if you do not practice what you learned, you do not provide a path for success. God’s word is the same way.

At that same party, perhaps you did talk to a few people, but you did not remember what they told you, all you were interested in was immediate answers to your own problems. You made the party, or the networking event, all about you and not them.

Or perhaps you met someone you like. But instead of rehearsing in your mind all the facts about what you liked about them, you drop them from your thoughts, and go back to worrying about your own needs. This is poor networking and poor making new friendships. These are cases of poor mixing, and God’s word is the same. If you do not force the word of God into yourself, you will never extract the value, benefits and love of God in them.

The Bible says it this way: James 1:21 “Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and *lambano*/receive (*hold onto against all pressures like holding on to a life preserver when adrift in a stormy sea*) with meekness (*no bitterness, fault finding or argument, but glad cooperation*) the engrafted word, which is able to *sozo*/save (*make just like Jesus*) your souls (*hearts, minds, wills and emotions*). 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” This passage tells us to mix the word of God so that it changes our souls to produce the benefits of God in our lives by doing it. This is our calling in this life for now. It also tells us it takes intentional effort.

The challenge is, not is God speaking, but are you making what He has said a “big deal” in your life? Are you making intentional decisions to drive these words into your heart and make them part of your life? This is part of the process of *lambano* receiving or mixing the Word of God into your soul. Enlightened self-interest is a basic Bible principle. It is OK with God if you learn His ways and do them to reap the benefits.

Acts 10:34 “Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: 35 but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.”

That God is no respecter of persons means that He cannot chose who to bless and who to curse, otherwise that would be respecting one person over another. Instead it is what we do that releases or hinders God from blessing us. God has, in His sovereign will, set it up this way. God is in charge by making you in charge for Him. What you tolerate, you force Him to tolerate.

Open your eyes, do you possibly think that all or any of the evil in this world is the plan and will of a good, kind and loving God. Of course not! Yet we know He wants heaven on earth for us all. So what is missing? The answer is amazingly simple: You being Jesus where you are.

Gal 6:7 “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap *zoe*/life everlasting. 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

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Sowing is the thoughts, words and actions that we do every moment of every day. Every thought, word or action is planting a seed, or nurtures existing planted seeds. The kind or nature of the seed determines the harvest. Notice, God is not in control of this process of planting and nurturing the seeds of His word, we are. God, in His sovereign will, has set it up this way. Our thoughts, words and actions count and determine what we reap or harvest in this life, and establishes our rewards for the next. You are the one, who chooses your harvest, not God. If it is in the hands of God, that means He has provided the words in the Bible, and now the ball is again back in our court.

Much of this may be new to you, so please, bear with us until the full message. This is one of those messages that was so common in Bible times, yet we may consider it strange and rather legalistic. Read through this article and make notes of your questions. Most of them will be answered as you read on, and in any of our Power Trilogy books, referenced at the end of this article. This article is designed with enough information to get you going if you are in a crisis situation. In the case of an urgent need, I suggest you read this and then get any of our Power Trilogy books. You can always contact us for prayer support.

MIXING: Let us look at this word in the Bible, called “mixing.” This word is used relevant to having the word of God, the message of God that tells you how to get the answers you need, but so far, you are not getting the results of that word. That means the Bible is on the shelf, or maybe you read it, or preach it every day, but the awesome wonders are not present in your life as you would like. Your heart cry is, “There has to be more!” All the words of blessing, healing, prosperity, wealth, peace, love and joy are useless if you do not get them to produce the promised results in your life, and in the lives of your loved ones.

Here is where this word, “mixing,” is used relative to walking to conquer the Promised Land, and by extension, into your Promised Land on earth right now. The word of God is to be heard and understood to glad obedience, believing God will perform it to produce the fruit of the Kingdom of God. Heb 4:1 “Let us therefore fear (*phobos*), lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, **not being mixed with faith** in them that heard it. ...6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it (*the gospel*) was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:”

Here is a new definition of unbelief. If you are not mixing the word of God into your heart, you are mixing some other word into your heart, and this “other mixing” is called unbelief. As a human you are always believing something. This is how we operate. You are alive and thinking 24 hours a day, awake and asleep. 24 hours a day you are doing something. If you are not mixing the Word of God leading to life, you are mixing another word that leads to death.

This whole passage in Hebrews 3 and 4 is relating what happened to the people with Moses so that Christians can live blessed and abundant lives in the here and now. That this message in Hebrews is talking about the context of blessings in this life, and not just in the next, needs to be understood. Do not spiritualize this so that you do nothing now, and expect it to happen in heaven for you later. The message of the “gospel” to the people in the desert was not about a heavenly home, but heaven on earth in the here and now for each Israeli and their families. It was not “pie in the sky, but meat on the table now.”

So our goal in this article is to give you enough basic concepts so that you can effectively mix the word of God, to produce the benefits of His goodness in yours, and your loved ones’ lives. Yes, that is right; it is up to you and not God. Reading our other articles will help expand your understanding, so you can see the benefits that a willing and loving God, who is good, wants for you, but needs you to be doing the right things so His love can manifest tangibly in your life, and in those you care for.

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The Greek word translated as “mixed” is also translated as “tempered together,” the way two pieces of metal are beaten together under heat to make into one piece, like a damasked sword. It means great effort is required to mix or comingle together. This is not a drop of ink or dye in water, and stronger than the effort to mix water and concrete. It is like the work of a blacksmith with fire and force. This process of properly mixing the word of God with faith is a strong and continuous labor. There is nothing casual about it. It will not happen by even paying attention in Sunday school, during preaching or reading. It requires much daily, continual and diligent effort to make it happen.

Notice that this command to mix the word with faith, is a righteous work commanded of us by God in this life. As Paul says, this takes labor, work, diligence when it is no fun, and the impelling drive is grace, Holy Spirit within us: 1 Cor 15:10 “But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.”

Remember, the purpose of all the Scriptures is to get us to work rightly in and with the Lord. Phil 2:12 “Wherefore, my *agape*/beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own *soteria*/salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. 14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15 that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; 16 holding forth the word of *zoe*/life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain.”

While it is God working, Paul is telling them they may be missing what God is doing in them. This is the God of awesome power speaking in a small voice. If you do not pay attention, you will say, “But God does not talk to me.” That is the statement of tragedy in the making. If you want to hear God, just read the New Testament out loud, and work to recognize that people died so God could get this message to you.

It is God who is working in each of us to will and do, to labor, in the right things that bring heaven to earth. So God is working in us to get us doing the right works, the works of righteousness and with a willing heart. This is where our joy behaviors in the Lord is our strength.

GRACE VS. WORKS: If you have confusion over this with extreme concepts of “works versus grace,” consider that these above passages came from the original author of that concept, Paul. We are saved to do good works. “Do” means to be in action, labor, work, effort and not hearing only. So the issue is doing works of righteousness and stopping works of death. We will be discussing a righteous work commanded by God, how to mix the word of God with faith to produce the results promised.

Acts 10:34 “Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: 35 but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.”

It is diligent work in God that allows to us please Him and for Him to give us rewards. Heb 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

That word “diligently” tells us that doing this work of seeking the Lord is not always easy, and it is not always fun, and you will not always feel like doing it, but the reward goes to those who do this work diligently. You determine that, not God. And that sounds lot like “labor” to me.

It is in doing right works, such as effectively mixing the words of God with faith actions, which makes you accepted to God now, past your initial salvation event. You may have heard the words of the gospel preached to you, but until you acted, they did not do to you the saving work within them. You got born again when you believed God raised Jesus from the dead. The most awesome miracle in the universe

of being made a new creation in God, was released when you did the right thing. And everything else of God works the same way.

We are saved by grace to do such works. Eph 2:5 “Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are *sozo*/saved;) 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 that in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace are ye *sozo*/saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

Notice we are saved by grace to do good works. If that is our calling, then not doing these works is disobedience, rebellion and sin. Not doing these works is sowing to the flesh to reap corruption, because you are doing something all day, every day. The issue is, “What is the source and fruit of what you are doing?” So it is vitally necessary that we show you how to effectively mix the word of God with faith actions, so you can produce the *zoe* life in abundance that God so eagerly desires for you.

John 10:10 “The thief (*Satan, the devil*) cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I (*Jesus*) am come that they might have *zoe*/life, and that they might have it [*this zoe life*] more abundantly.”

This *zoe* life is what Jesus came to give us. It must be important if it took Jesus to bring it to us. This *zoe* life is the nature and characteristics of God. It is life that blooms the desert, raises the dead, and gives wisdom to the simple and every part of good life. It is the force or power of God’s love that did every miracle God did through Jesus. It is the opposite of sin, misery, pain, suffering or darkness. It is the Kingdom of God in operation. It is the power of Holy Spirit in blessed operation. And Jesus came to give us this *zoe* life in abundance. And it is released by proper mixing of faith with the word of God to manifest that word.

FAITH: Notice that the word of God, the scripture promise, is to be mixed with or by faith to produce the results promised. **So what is faith?** As this is often a misunderstood word, we will go into more detail. Faith is not a set of facts you ascribe as true, but a series of outward actions that are the evidence that you are holding or doing faith. Faith is an active process of re-affirming certain assertions of unseen facts, beliefs and what the future will be. Without the necessary process actions, there is no faith.

This is like the word, “mix.” To mix means to be at the work of mixing things together. If you have a mix, that means the mix is completed. If you do not mix cake batter completely, you will not get a complete mix. You may claim you have a good mix, but the proof is made by looking at where you stopped. Mix is a verb, and it means to be doing something. Faith is a verb and it means to be doing something. A lumpy faith mix will not produce the *zoe* life of God we need for victory.

I know this may be a radical departure from how many talk about faith. As we will discover, faith is a series of actions. So saying you are “in faith” means you are doing continually and as occasion serves, the actions of faith concerning a promise of God, BEFORE and UNTIL the answer is manifest by God. Faith starts at the point of need, BEFORE the answer and keeps going UNTIL at least one second longer than it takes the answer to manifest. Faith is a thing you operate and not just look at.

Hebrews chapter 11 says without faith you can't please God. It also says these are the heroes of faith. It goes through the entire list. It says, “By faith.” That is consistent. What is not consistent is the names of the people. What is the important thing? That these people are special, or that faith can allow you to become special? The people weren't special; they were ordinary people just like you. The difference is they held faith in God against big and long term impossibilities. What makes you special is operating faith in God for the long haul.

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The trigger do decide to stay in faith actions is the first thought that God or you can fail.

Have you ever noticed the spectrum of Hebrews 11? On one side, you have Sarah, the mother of purity, and on the other hand, you have Rahab and she was a harlot. You think, "Why would God put the mother of faith in the same chapter as a harlot?" I believe it was to show these are the bookends, and everyone else falls in between there somewhere, and you can be in Hebrews 11 just like they are. It wasn't because they were special. It was because they held faith in God with faith actions, and if you have, or hold onto, or operate faith like they did, you can be in Hebrews 11.

It says in Hebrews 11, "By faith the walls of Jericho fell." What brought down the walls of Jericho? Faith brought down the walls. That is the fruit of right mixing of the word of God with faith. I challenge you to go to a concordance and look up the word faith anywhere between Genesis to Malachi, because you will only find it two times in the entire Old Testament and both times is a mistranslation. The first is in Deuteronomy and it says, "There rose a generation in whom there was no faith." The second is in the book of Habakkuk and it says, "The just shall live by faith."

That is because "faith" is a noun in English and Greek, while all Hebrew words are verbs. In English, faith is a noun, but the verbs are "believe" and "trusting." The actual Old Testament words translated "faith" can be better translated as "faithfulness," which means keeping in faith actions until victory.

So that famous passage of, "The just shall *zao*/live by faith," (Rom 1:17; Gal 3:11 and Heb 10:38) can be expanded to read, "The just, those made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, shall operate and release the *zoe* life of God to make heaven on earth in this life, by faithfully and continually doing faith actions on a regular schedule and as occasion serves. And those faith actions will contain outward actions of gladness and joy that others can see and hear, so they are observed as the evidence of faith, by others." We will explain more about this massive expansion as we go on, so please keep reading.

The verb "believe" is found some 45 times in the Old Testament, and the verb "trust" some 165 times. Faith is a noun that describes continually, on a schedule and as occasion serves, doing faith actions BEFORE and UNTIL the promise of God manifests. Thus faithfulness is the characteristic of continually doing faith actions, when it is hard, and when it is easy.

The noun, "Faith," is just like the noun, "Run," and the verb, "Running." To run means to move your legs faster than walking. Taking a run means to go move your legs faster than walking. If you are a runner, you run on a regular basis. If you say you are a runner, and you seldom run, then, in spite of your profession, you are not a runner. Faith is the same way. If you are not on a regular schedule of faith actions, in spite of your profession, you are not holding or having faith. You are "in faith," only when you are doing faith actions.

This is like the word, breath. Breath is moving air out of a body. If there is no breath, there is no life. If you are breathing, air is moving in and out and there is life. The noun, "breath," is air in motion by a body. To "breathe" is to move air. Faith is the same way. Faith is the evidence seen by the faith actions. No faith actions, means no faith. No action faith does not give *zoe* life. Faith actions release *zoe* life.

Thus a believer does, on a regular daily basis and as occasion serves, the actions of faith. No faith action means no faith or believing. Little faith action means little faith or believing. Just like a weak breath may give up breathing at the signs of trouble, so weak faith gives up faith actions at the thoughts and signs of trouble.

You would think that if the walls of Joshua fell down by faith, there would be some mention of faith in the book of Joshua. There is no reference to faith in Joshua. What you do find is this.

1:1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them.

7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 1:1-9

Here God tells Joshua that He will be with Joshua always. Notice that in spite of Joshua and the people being the move of God on the earth, unless Joshua did certain things day and night, then the plan of God would not happen, even though God was with them in power. So yes, God is in charge, but He needs our active and glad cooperation to get His work done.

What would make Joshua successful was the continual, day and night, keeping the book of the law in his mouth to keep him doing what it said. It was his doing that would make Joshua successful. No doing or not enough right doing, and the plan of God would die on the vine. It is still the same for us today.

In paraphrase, it says that Joshua was on the side of the mountain looking out over the Promised Land. God said, "Joshua, Moses is dead get up and get these people over on to the other side of the river. Only have courage. Only be of good courage. Only be very courageous. Be not dismayed. Fear not. As I was with Moses so I will be with you." God says that over and over, about four times in eight verses. God never tells him to have faith; He only tells him to have courage. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down. So what is faith? Faith is just like courage. Thus by courage the walls of Jericho fell.

Courage as a word is found some 45 times in the Old Testament, KJV. Courage, as a noun, describes a set of behaviors. You cannot have courage without corresponding courageous actions. The evidence of courage is the presence of courageous actions.

Or courage is only evidenced, seen by others, in the face of trouble by your actions in the trouble. Faith is the same; it is seen or evidenced by how you act in trouble. No glad faith actions in the face of trouble, means there is no, or only weak faith, which stops faith actions in the face of trouble.

Like faith, courage is only measured by action. Courage is measured by the thoughts, words and actions you do BEFORE and UNTIL the victory. To be courageous usually means, not only the physical action, like David charging Goliath, but the words and controlled thinking continually before you make your battle charge. The final attack is the fruit of the previous faith actions.

Faith is only necessary when the answer seems impossible, just like courage, trust, confidence or persuasion. To keep the faith and to be courageous, look and sound the same.

All faith is, is the courage to keep going, using your spiritual weapon of the Word of God in your mouth, when everyone else is running. Whenever you are the last one standing there, doing faith actions over and with the promises of God, and everyone else is gone, guess what, you are in Hebrews 11, because you had the courage to stand in faith actions.

I can tell you whether you have faith or not. If you have courage to stand up and speak the Word of God, in the promises with faith actions, and still when everyone else is running, and telling you it's crazy, and it isn't going to work, and you say it will work because, "I believe. I believe that is the promise, and I will keep doing the faith actions until victory."

The answer comes to those who believe God by faith actions BEFORE and UNTIL the answer manifests. In order to believe you must be doing faith actions, or there is no believing. Faith actions can be seen by others. They translate into faith behaviors and words or sounds. So you spend time encouraging yourself in the Lord, like David did at Ziklag (1 Sam 30). That is faith actions in the face of impossibility.

Heb 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

The substance of faith is the evidence others can see. If there are no or few outward actions, there is no evidence for others to see. Assertions of courage only are considered "real," when others can see or hear your courageous actions and/or words. The same is for faith.

The Greek word pair translated as the noun faith and the verb believe is *pistis* the noun, and *pisteuo* the verb. *Pisteuo* is translated as the verbs, having or holding faith, believe or trust. In English we have no direct verb form for faith, as faith is a noun. The Greek noun, *pistis*, from *pisteuo*, is translated as faith, confidence, persuaded, trust, or belief. Since faith is action, look at what happens to Heb 11:1.

Hope means the joyful expectation of coming good. Joy includes exuberant thanksgiving and praise BEFORE and UNTIL you see the answer. Hope is general, faith is for a specific thing or situation. Faith is what you do in the "mean" time. That period between you hearing and taking the promise of God as yours, and when the answer manifests.

Expanding the definition of joy it becomes: Heb 11:1 "Now *pistis*/faith is the substance of things (*you are in joyful expectation of good based on God's promises*) hoped for, (*and these joy behaviors are*) the evidence of things not (*yet*) seen."

Evidence means what others can attest to as facts. Evidence is what others can see, taste, hear, smell or touch. So the evidence of biblical *pistis* faith is the expressions of exuberant praise, thanksgiving and joy you express, so that others can see and or hear them, in the face of trouble. This eliminates "silent" joy as part of the normal process of working the laws of faith in God.

Expanding this verse again: Heb 11:1 "Now *pistis*/faith (*by continued faith actions*) is the substance (*the converting power of the word of God into tangible manifestation*) of things (*you are in joyful expectation of good based on God's promises*) hoped for, (*and this exuberant thanksgiving, praise, joy, confession and aiteo of the promise is*) the evidence of things not (*yet*) seen (*and this exuberance continues as the evidence BEFORE and UNTIL the goodness of the Lord "thing" is manifest in the earth*)."

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Here we introduced a new concept Greek word, *aiteo*. For a more complete understanding of *aiteo*, please see the companion article, “Power Key: *Aiteo* – Demand as Due,” on our website at www.CovenantPeaceMinistries.com on the Articles page.

Aiteo is a Greek word that means to demand, require and expect as due by promise. In the case of God, it means to demand, require and expect as due by covenant promise of God because of the work of Jesus. *Aiteo* is more about the intent and desire of the *dabar* or *logos* words. *Aiteo*, in the noun or verb form, is found in almost every passage on prayer in the New Testament, such as John 14:12-14 covered below.

Affirmations, confession or anything else without joy behaviors unto joy emotion is not biblical faith. It may be your religious practice, it may be what others around you do, but without the exuberant actions of thanksgiving, praise, joy, affirmations, *aiteo*, etc., then you are not in biblical faith. As such there remains a large realm of answered prayer or faith you have yet to enter. That realm is available, but only to those who learn to do the basic actions of biblical faith.

Jesus said it this way: John 14:12 “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that *pisteuo*/believeth [*considers Me and all that I am as the source of your blessing over any conflicting, resisting or negative circumstances fears, worries, concerns or facts, unto thanksgiving, praise, joy, blessings, courage, patience, aiteo commands, affirmations and acts of agape love in confidence that I have the ability and will bring the promise to pass, by your continued faith actions, BEFORE and UNTIL it manifests*] on me, the works [*miracles, energy and power results of God as opposed to normal men*] that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13 “And whatsoever ye shall *aiteo*/ask (*demand, require and expect as due by covenant promise*) in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall *aiteo*/ask (*demand, require and expect as due by covenant promise*) anything in my name, I will do it.”

Here Jesus said those who *pisteuo* believe on Him will release the power of God by the acts of believing which include *aiteo* asking. We will address *aiteo* a little later.

As part of the Jesus-defined law of faith, that means if your believing actions do not include *aiteo* asking in prayer, you will not be assembling the necessary parts of the law of faith for at least the “same works,” much less the “greater works” that Jesus did and promised.

And since “will do” could also be considered a prophesy; that means there will be a people who will learn to *aiteo* ask in prayer to produces even greater works than Jesus did. And while you are already qualified by Jesus to do them, you have to do your part of mixing the word of God with faith actions to produce them.

And access to that prophesy is by learning to *aiteo* ask in prayer effectively. And by the definition of faith/believing, this will include stirring yourself with thoughts, words and actions unto exuberant and biblical thanksgiving, praise and joy.

The bottom line is that if your so-called profession of faith does not include exuberant joy you are not in biblical faith. (We add exuberant to help our modern sensibilities cross the gulf between modern joy and biblical joy which is always exuberant.)

So unless your process of believing does not stir you up into exuberant joy, along with thanksgiving and praise, you have not yet believed by biblical standards.

2 Tim 1:6 “Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou **stir up** (*like stirring up dead embers back into a roaring fire*) the gift of God (*Holy Spirit*), which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. 7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of *dunamis*/power, and of *agape*/love, and of a sound mind (*a right and disciplined mind like Jesus has*).” FAITH KEY: Notice Timothy already had Holy Spirit but it requires stirring up with faith actions to get Timothy back “in tune” with Holy Spirit who is the joy of the Lord.

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The evidence of faith in the meantime is your joy. Biblical thanksgiving and praise are similar to biblical joy. The difference is in joy, the sounds are unintelligible, while in thanksgiving and praise, they are understandable, while doing the other actions of joy.

Biblical joy is outwardly seen actions such as yelling, screaming, laughing, dancing, shouting, arm waving, jumping, bubbling over, etc. Think what happens when a favorite team score a goal, or you just won a billion dollar lottery. That reaction is joy. Modern joy may be silent, but both Old and New Testament joy is exuberant and always outwardly visible. So the evidence of faith, the fruit of continued faith actions, is the joy others can see in you while the present circumstances are “mean.”

The only valid form of quiet thanksgiving, praise, joy and speaking in tongues is when you must restrain yourself to not disturb people around you, where you mouth the sounds and words, but let no sounds come out, and you may temper your dancing, clapping and arm waving a little. Sometimes you just have to go outside and let it out.

Note: If you see me in a hospital parking lot walking around, that is probably what I am doing. If you do see me, please come on over and join me in blasting the devil off of people.

Believe is a verb; if you are not doing believing actions, there is no belief. The same thing applies to “trust.” No continual trust action means you are not trusting continually. Assertions that you “have” or “are in” faith without the biblical faith actions, is a deception and will not produce the results of God. If it did, you or others may have been doing the necessary faith actions, and did not know it as such.

This is a major change to most modern people’s thinking. Saying you are in faith without continual faith actions is mental assent, and will get you and others killed. Saying you are in faith with a regular daily schedule of faith actions, will raise people from the dead. Saying you are trusting God without faith actions, means you are not trusting God, but you are in mental assent, and that can get you and others killed.

To have or keep faith means to be believing or trusting by doing faith or trust actions. As *pistis* is a noun of a verb, to be in *pistis* faith means you are continually doing *pisteuo* faith actions. If you are a coffee or tea drinker, you continually drink coffee or tea. It is the same way with faith, belief, trust, courage, persuaded, or confidence. It takes actions to be in the state of faith, belief, trust, courage, persuasion or confidence. The good news is that the actions for faith, belief, trust, courage, persuasion or confidence are the same.

GOD’S DEFINITION: Believing is defined by God this way:

2 Cor 4:13

“We having the same spirit of *pistis*/faith, according as it is written, I *pisteuo*/ believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also *pisteuo*/believe, and therefore speak.”

If you are *pisteuo*/believing, trusting, having or holding *pistis*/faith in God, you are speaking! You are in belief, trust, confidence, persuaded, or faith only when you are speaking God’s words over the situation, with the intent that it be subdued and be conformed to God’s will. You usually start with speaking words of belief, trust, confidence, persuasion or faith to get in that state of continued action.

This passage of 2 Cor 4:13 is repeating and applying Ps 116:10.

Ps 116:10

“I believed, therefore have I spoken,”

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UNIVERSE SHAPING: That word “spoken” is from the Hebrew word, *dabar*, (Strong’s OT: 1696) and it means to speak to make something change, to subdue or transform the situation:

Dabar is translated in the KJV as, answer, appoint, bid, command, commune, declare, destroy, give, name, promise, pronounce, rehearse, say, speak, be spokesman, subdue, talk, teach, tell, think, use [entreaties to force a change], utter, well, work. In its various forms *dabar* is found some 2600 times, so it is a major Old Testament word.

Dabar means to speak so the Universe becomes ordered the way you want it. It is not idle chatter. It means the words of command or instruction as well as the result of the change happening.

In the Septuagint, an ancient Greek translation of the Old Testament, *dabar* is translated with two different Greek words, *logos*, a word of command, instruction or direction, and *rhema*, a word done as the result of the *logos*. *Dabar* includes both the command and the resulting action.

The emphasis in Ps 116:10 is words spoken that cause a change, and likewise subdue, destroy, build up, or declare to become. For example, when a police officer says, “Stop,” this is *dabar* or *logos*. It has all the information you need to obey. When you stop, it changes the *logos* to *rhema*, because you did the *logos*. In the same way, when you command a situation to become heaven on earth in accordance with God’s covenant promises, in the name of Jesus, that command is *logos*. When it does, that is *rhema*. If you are believing, you are commanding with *dabar* or *logos* words BEFORE and UNTIL it obeys.

Remember when God told Joshua not to let the words of the book of the law depart from his mouth in Josh 1:8? Here Joshua was to also tell others to do what the law said, and even what the enemies of God were to do. Joshua was to keep speaking those words until they were fulfilled on earth.

So, if you are believing, you are continually speaking words that command the Universe to fit the will of God in your situations in the name of Jesus. This is just one form of a faith action, but it makes the point. No speaking to command compliance to God’s will, this means no believing, trusting or having faith. This is not begging God to intercede, but speaking as God would speak to make it happen.

PROCESS OUTLINE: Relative to the mixing or tempering process, it is taking the promise of God, the Word of God, and mixing or tempering those words into your soul – heart, mind, will and emotions, with constant glad repetition, in constant force, until it is now the way you think, speak and do. This process takes place with two different approaches. (Note: this is covered in more detail in any of the Power Trilogy books, especially “OK, GOD, Now What.”)

I am sure you have heard the expression, “She built this idea up in her mind so much, and no one can convince her differently.” When we talk about the noun, faith (belief, trust, confidence, courage or persuasion), we are talking about the same kind of process being completed. When you are done building up in faith, no one can convince you that God will not do what He said, and at every doubt, fear or challenge, you will immediately affirm it with exuberant thanking, praise, joy and affirmation magnets.

Remember, per Hebrews 11:1, faith, in order to be evidence, means that others can see these outward actions. No outward actions and there is little or no evidence, and therefore no or little, or only weak faith, trust, confidence, or courage.

Here is an outline of the Faith Building Process (Trust, Confidence, etc.) concerning the Bible promises of God.

1. **Cramming**, where you fill your mind with the relevant Scriptures on a promise for 6-20 hours a day, much like a college student cramming for a final exam with one or several “all-nighters.” I have used this process for decades to get answers to prayer, but never knew what I was really doing. Now both you and I do.

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- a. This is that tempering, intermingling process of adding the energy of the glad repetition, writing, recitation, etc., just like the successful “cramming process” for a test.
 - b. It usually takes 1-3 days of such study and cramming to pass a one or three hour exam. The problem is that, when the test is over, even if you got an “A” on it, the information and attitudes are gone in 3-5 days. This is because it is an intentional, cognitive mind process, but it is not written on your subconscious mind, or heart, for a lifestyle change. The same is true for prayer cramming. That confidence in God will dissipate over those same 3-5 days, and so will your answers to prayer.
 - c. During this cramming process, you just ignore all doubt and conflicting considerations, over the goal knowing that cramming will work and you will pass the exam, because you are doing the necessary work as you know many others have done. Your confidence comes as you know you are doing what it takes to “mix” this word, the subject matter, into you enough to pass a test or finally speak the words that manifest the glory of God in answered prayer.
 - d. Notice, this cramming process is not a variety of different information, but the same information repeated and worked with until you understand what it says and can apply it. So the process is one of constant repetition of the same material.
2. **Lifestyle change**, here you do the cramming process, but at a slower rate of 3-6 hours a day, but it must be done for a continuous period of around 90 days, depending on where you are starting from. By lifestyle, this means that whenever there is a countering report or thought over what you are having faith for, you immediately replace those thoughts with faith actions. This is now your lifestyle and you are now effectively operating faith almost automatically.
- a. This is that tempering, intermingling process with the added energy of the glad repetition, writing, recitation, songs, etc., just like the successful “cramming process” above
 - b. You do this daily, continuously, i.e., on a regular schedule and as occasion serves, (the biblical definition of the word “continually,”) for 3-6 hours each day. You must do this for at least 90 days for the lifestyle effect to be established. If you stop, depending on when you stopped, it will fade away in 5-90 days.
 - c. During this process you will start with just ignoring all doubt and conflicting considerations over the goal knowing that cramming will work and you will pass the exam, and the temptations to give up, because you are doing the necessary work as you know many others have done. This is what Paul urged for Timothy, 2 Tim 2:15. This is not about academic study, but how to produce the works of God as an effective workman. Study that does not lead to manifestation is deception.
 - d. Also you will include in your efforts each day attacking the various doubts and negative situations to fulfilment of the promise with assertions of God’s reliability, power and faithfulness while giving God glory.
 - i. For this purpose, keep a journal of all the relevant Bible promises and passages, all the negative issues and thoughts you or others have, with tailored overcoming Bible passages as part of your affirmation magnets.

- ii. It is the affirmation magnets that will “magnetize” your inner man so that your automatic response to these doubts and conflicting situations brings an immediate response of faith actions to replace and overcome these negative things with exuberant thanksgiving, praise and joy. This is having faith in God.
- e. As in cramming, this is working with constant repetition of the same material. So using the time to read the entire Bible through or 3-15 different books, is not lifestyle building of the words you are reading. You work with the same Bible material in 90 day sets of constant repetition over 3-6 hours a day for development.

So for an immediate need, you can cram to see short term results, but the mental mixing of the word of God will be only temporary, and last 3-5 days after you stop. For a lifestyle change, you must continue mixing with faith actions for a continuous 90 days of the same material. This is the difference between cognitive learning most of us experienced in school where, even if you got all “A’s,” most of the material was lost relatively quickly after you stopped studying it.

The lifestyle change is subconscious behavior modification such as experienced in learning skills. For example, that kid who draws so well, spent years not doing other things, and instead perfected the drawing art through constant repetition and development. For example, while I am no artist, in college I majored in pre-med which included drawing lots of various biological structures with colored pencils. For years afterward I had good drawing skills, as they had been written on my subconscious from over 8 years of doing it as a student.

As you transition to lifestyle faith, it is not that you do not have to do faith actions anymore and can go back to watching TV or searching the Internet, but that now at every care, concern, worry, anxiety, fear, negative report, need or terror, you immediately obey Phil 4:4-9 with much exuberant thanksgiving.

APPLYING IT: So if you are going to be setting people free by faith, which means you are going to be speaking words that command the situation to fit the will of God, calling those things that be not as if they are, and you will not stop until it does. Believing to failure means you stopped speaking before the desired result manifested. Believing to victory means you kept speaking the faith words and doing glad faith actions to the desired result.

This may be a bit outlandish to some. Rather than telling you how I recently used this mixing process to get a deep cut on my finger healed, an hour before I had to go work on my roof, listen to this. David Hogan shares how two sons spent 6 hours commanding their dead father to come back from the dead, and he did (this was sometime around 2000). These sons understood the spiritual principle of continual speaking for results, BEFORE and UNTIL you get the results.

For most modern Westerners, we have so many distractions, if we can find time for 6 minutes; we consider that a long time. It may be convenient for you, but it also means you will see few divine results. Not because it is not the will of God, but because you did not exert the necessary *dabar* or *logos* words in *aiteo* commands to make it happen, and the faith actions to stir yourself up into the attitudes of Holy Spirit. This is forcing your soul to get into agreement with the mind of Christ within you to speak as He would speak with the same results. This is true taking charge of your life.

This this whole process of mixing the word of God with faith actions is how God reigns through us. We are co-laborers together. Your first sickness divine healing or resurrection may be 6 or 60 hours of *aiteo* commands, but as you continue to renew your mind by mixing the word with faith actions, and keep yourself stirred up in God, you will need less time.

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Notice, in the Bible, when David charged Goliath, courage is LOUD! Loud enough to drown out the doubts attacking you. Courage is a pep talk while you wait, and as you go into battle. Continual pep talks, faith actions, prepare you for courage in battle. Faith is the same way.

FAITH ACTIONS: What are biblical faith actions? The process of faith, having or holding faith, mixing or tempering the word of God to produce the results of God, believing or trusting God, can be summarized as the decision to continue on a regular schedule and as occasion serves the actions of faith BEFORE and UNTIL the answer manifests, for the issues you are believing God to manifest His answer(s).

The basic actions of believing, trusting, courage or having faith are to take information and make that information stir you up into exuberant thanksgiving, praise, joy, blessings, courage, patience, affirmations of God's truth, *aiteo* commands as if God were speaking through you, fasting, right Holy Communion, blessings, courage, operating gifts of Holy Spirit, especially prophecy and diverse tongues, Bible study and meditation by chewing the word in your mouth, right Communion, right judgment, and acts of *agape* love. Among many other things, ministering divine healing in the name of Jesus can be such an act of *agape* love.

In actual practice, you may not do all the faith actions, but a mix and match of them. The key for power release is effectively stirred up into Redemption facts with *aiteo* commands. For example, you may need to pray in tongues for several hours during a "life speaking" process to charge-up your spiritual batteries.

Or a David said: Ps 42:11 "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God." Remember, hope means the joyful expectation of coming good. You cannot be in biblical joy without joy behaviors done until you are joyful. Feelings come AFTER the matching thoughts, words and actions, not before. Faith does not run on feelings but on the facts of Redemption in the blood of Jesus.

These faith actions are usually done in the face of negative circumstances, turmoil in your head, and often mockery and fear around you. You start this as a process or project, and keep doing the faith actions until they are your new normal. So you may start in the flesh, or out of duty, but you keep doing the faith actions until they are your habit of lifestyle. Then you are "in" or "have" faith. Diligence essentially means the same thing; you keep at it when it is no fun.

DOING THE MIXING: Now you understand a little of what Jesus was doing in His normal habits as a man walking with and in God by the Scriptures. If Jesus spent 3-6 hours a day, 1-4 all nights a week, and often arose early in the morning for Scripture prayer and other faith actions, and Peter, James, Paul and other disciples did the same, and all taught their disciples to do the same, along with 1-6 hours a day in Holy Spirit tongues, why not you? So if you wonder where your answers from God are, now you know.

If you do not yet speak in Holy Spirit tongues, (or even if you do speak in Holy Spirit tongues) then preach any of the letters of Paul until you are in glad exuberance. Easiest are Galatians to Colossians. Of course this is organized for you in our Power Trilogy book, "*Battle Prayer for Diving Healing – Field Manual 2.*" While the focus on FM2 is healing, the principles are the same, and with small wording changes, will fit any situation.

Here is one Bible command on doing these faith actions. Eph 5:14 "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. 15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. 18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein

is excess; but be (*continually being*) filled with the Spirit; 19 (*continually*) speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 giving thanks always for all things (*of our redemption*) unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.”

I am sad to say that few so called “Christian songs,” new or ancient fit the above criteria. I suggest you only sing Scripture songs, that is, pure verses set to music. Do an Internet search for “Scripture Sings” or “Scripture Songs” or “Scripture Memory Songs.” As for other songs, do a thorough validation of all the words where you can find the exact verses, which describe the words. Even one line is corruption you do not need. You will be amazed at how few contain pure Bible. While the Bible contains the Word of God, not all words are from God. For example Job says some crazy things, and many of the curses of the enemies of Israel, much less the leaders who sought and killed Jesus. New Testament verses are usually best.

Most churches sing many of these non-scriptural songs, so heed the command of Eph 5:19 and sing in tongues while the congregation sings these other songs. Do it with the attitude that you are helping and interceding for the others to seek God in Spirit and in truth.

Since you have the nature of Jesus in the new birth, doing these faith actions are part of that new nature. You do them because you are right with God and want to relate to Him better. Your new nature only wants to do and see the will of God done, so you do faith actions to keep your soul a happy dwelling place of God, where He can freely manifest through you, just like He did in Jesus. It is part of being born-again. Any resistance is your old man of the flesh, so you do these faith actions to keep your flesh down and your spirit up. Being in the Spirit means the Word of God is primary in your mind for anything.

You do faith actions, not to attain some spiritual level, because you are already there in the new birth, you are complete in Christ. You do faith actions to exercise, as in a gym, to be in strength of whom and what you are in Jesus. Else you become hardened and bitter against God, as one of the living dead. If you are not exercising with faith actions, you are going to sleep and living in the carnal mind of the flesh. It is that simple.

What is this “regular schedule and as occasion serves” of doing faith actions?

One level is whenever you have occasion to. So when someone says, “Believe God,” your first response is to start doing faith actions for that situation and then commit to a regular schedule of 3-6 hours a day in faith actions UNTIL victory. As the psalmist wrote: Psalm 119:164 “Seven times a day do I praise Thee for Thy righteous judgments (*against the devil and for my blessing and prosperity*).”

You can do the faith actions on a regular schedule and as occasion serves. The Bible describes schedules such as: all night and day; day and night; all day; morning, noon and night; seven times a day, rising at midnight for an hour, waking on the night watches (every 2-3 hours), and before dawn, praying without ceasing, giving thanks always and in everything, and in Phil 4:4-9, whenever you have a care that the answer is not there (this is included in “as occasion serves.”) You see all of these in the lives of Jesus and effective believers. As a matter of fact, doing these faith actions is part of the definition of BEING a believer. A BEING believer is a faith action DOER.

WHAT ABOUT ME? People have been and are mystified for all ages and everywhere. No one is immune. Some seek it, others give up hope and become skeptics, but all wonder. Why have some individuals been empowered of God? Why have other individuals not been so empowered? How can the difference be accounted for? What is the secret to answered prayer?

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There is a unique relationship between the believer and Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Savior of Mankind. “I in you, and you in Me” – the relationship is so unique that no single analogy can completely illustrate it. No parable can picture this relationship in its fullness.

The degree to which a believer enjoys this relationship or union with Christ depends on the vision the believer has of the possibilities that are inherent in it, and the faith actions they do. In other words, to fully enjoy this relationship to its ultimate is to know one is in Christ, to be filled with all the fullness of God based on constant exposure in the Scriptures of the facts concerning our Redemption in the blood of Jesus. It is not “either or,” but “both and.”

There is a great potential in this relationship with Christ. The realization of that potential makes the difference. It is not just hearing the word, but doing it, expecting God to manifest AFTER you do it. Realization is based on a revelation of the Word of God from a foundation on the Word of God. Holy Spirit has had the Scriptures written for us. That is His primary tool. Your accurate revelation will depend on the foundation you develop in the Scriptures.

This is not impartation from another’s hands, but renewing your mind into the facts of Redemption. One must know in order to achieve. It takes a vision built on eternal truth. It takes connecting the dots of Scripture into a Holy Spirit inspired understanding.

Even after you have the theology down, you must still work it into your soul with constant repetition in a variety of forms. As you do, you will know who you are in Christ. You will know what you are in Christ. You will know the privileges of being in Christ. You will know the responsibilities of being in Christ. You will know the promises of God are yea and amen in Jesus and therefore in you.

God is no respecter of persons. That means He cannot pick one over the other. It is what and how you do it that makes the difference. What God says is that you have all of God that you have done the faith actions to develop in yourself. If you want more of God, you must do righteous faith actions based on Scripture and do more of them. This is right “mixing” of the commanding and instruction word of God with faith actions. If you want to reap, you must sow rightly until you get it.

The first step is to stop all action to so-called Christian music. If you cannot find all the words in the Bible, do not sing it, instead sing in tongues while the others sing the corrupt words. To do this you will spend much time in the Bible validating the songs. And sing only Scripture songs.

Most importantly will be the godly development of God’s concept of God in your own mind. Not your view, but His. I suggest you start with reading Ephesians three times a day for three months and see what happens.

The truly difficult thing is the consequences of not managing your thought life with regular and continual godly faith actions. The Bible word “continual” means on a regular schedule and as occasion serves.

You build up yourself into something you are believing, so that when the issue is challenged, or as regular maintenance, you immediately go into right faith actions. For a deeper position of knowing, your immediate response is faith actions at any challenge.

The difference is that in believing, your faith actions may have to start in the flesh. In knowing, your faith actions start almost immediately in the Spirit. In believing someone may be able to talk you out of it; in knowing no one, man or devil, can talk you out of it.

After ministry or speaking words of *zoe* life, take time to believe God with thanksgiving, praise and joy for at least a few minutes.

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For example, right after being ministered *zoe* life for healing, you say with joy: “I got *zoe* life, Jesus is healing me, that *zoe* life is growing, and I am healed and will walk in it. That *zoe* life of Holy Spirit is healing me now. Thank You, Lord Jesus, thank You!” And then you repeat every time you are tempted to doubt it is not working.

Faith is the evidence. Evidence is what others can see and hear. Hope is the joyful expectation of good coming to you. Joy is exuberant happy behaviors. Faith is exuberant happy joy behaviors others can see and hear concerning a specific issue.

Hope is general; faith is a specific good coming to you. The evidence of faith is the faith actions that lead to joy. No joy behaviors means no faith. As a process, you do the faith behaviors BEFORE and UNTIL they become your lifestyle, then you are “faithful,” with continued faith actions. This is what it means to be “in faith.”

The fact that you believe, by bold speaking and joy behaviors, is the evidence that it is going to happen. All you have to have is courage. All courage is, is not showing fear a little bit longer than the next guy, and keep going or doing faith actions. When you do that, all of the sudden, you are courageous.

CONSEQUENCES: And what does God say was the fruit of this poor mixing of the promises of God by a lack of right faith or believing actions? Ps 78:41 “Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel. 42 They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.” Yes, your lack of faith actions limits the Almighty God, because in this dispensation, He moves through men, not around man.

The process of “remembering” God’s recorded victories is a faith action. It means to recall the stories in such a way that you stir yourself into exuberant thanksgiving, praise, joy and affirmation magnets, in such a way that you apply them in *aiteo* commands to your current negative, unhappy and less than heaven on earth situations. Like all the principles of God, you start in the flesh to enter into the Spirit.

Or as John Lake said, “It is easier to act your way into believing, than it is to believe your way into acting.” Or as Smith Wigglesworth said, “If the Spirit is not moving, I move the Spirit.” And as Smith said again, “You pray to see if heaven moves, when I pray, I move heaven.”

Such is the power of those who walk in: Matt 16:19 “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Notice heaven is waiting on you to move it.

In the Bible we are commanded to give thanks, praise, rejoice, call to remembrance, fear not and affirm God’s goodness some 1500 times, yet not once are we told to “feel” like it first. Instead we are told to call to remembrance the recorded victories of God to stir ourselves up by right behaviors into the necessary emotions.

Even though these passages are describing the sad failure to walk in God’s promises for the ancient Israelites, the point is being made in Hebrews, that this fits Christians of today. Can you hear God begging you to pay attention? Heb 3:15 “While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation (*on and after the escape from Egypt*).”

The result of not doing the necessary mixing with faith actions is not static, but bitterness against God and those who do operate the faith actions.

Eph 4:17 “This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 having the understanding darkened, being alienated from (*at war with*) the *zoe*/life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: 19 who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with

greediness.” If you are not intentionally giving yourself to producing the *zoe* life of God, you are giving yourself over to the evil mind of the flesh with all its sad fruit of bitterness against God.

And here is a plea to not only take care of yourselves, but others in your family and group to make sure bitterness does not take root, and limit the promises of God you actually walk in and experience. Heb 12:15 “Exercise foresight and be on the watch to look [after one another], to see that no one falls back from and fails to secure God’s grace (His unmerited favor and spiritual blessing), in order that no root of resentment (rancor, bitterness, or hatred) shoots forth and causes trouble and bitter torment, and the many become contaminated and defiled by it” AMP

Notice this same condition of bitterness leads to blindness that stops you from hearing to glad obedience Jesus, even if He walked into your room right now. Mat 13:15 “For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and [their] ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with [their] eyes, and hear with [their] ears, and should understand with [their] heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.”

GOD IS NOT THE PROBLEM: We have covered a few Scriptures to set the point that there are certain things that you must do if you want to walk in what God has for you. Redefining your theology to say God does not care and will not help in this life, or that evil events are somehow the hand of God teaching you, does not change these passages. Every one of these passages lays the blame on the people with the word of God, and not on God. And we have the full disclosure of God in the Bible. So we in our age have no excuse except failure to “mix” the word effectively with faith actions.

You do not have to be perfect to start, nor do you have to start perfectly, but you do have to start doing faith actions.

If you do not make these promises a “big deal” in your life, it will not happen otherwise. The people in the desert who did not mix the word with faith were the same ones who saw the presence of God in a fire by night, a pillar by day, food every working morning and water from a rock in the desert that followed them around. It is not a matter of God’s sovereign timing, but a failure for us to do our part. Remember Joshua in Jos 1:8 had to mix the word day and night to produce success. This is what Jesus did, and it is no different for us today.

Fasting by itself will not produce the necessary mixing that leads to supernatural blessings. Isa 58:1 “Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. 2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God. 3 Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labors. 4 Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high.” (*Note they fasted, God spoke through the prophet, yet they did not hear.*)

Notice the issue here is wanting the blessing while living in indifference to your fellow man. In verse 9 of this passage God mentions to stop pointing the finger, where He is talking about faultfinding without doing the redemption work of faith actions for those not living up to God’s, or your standards.

This is not academic theology, but real life consequences. Obeying the voice of the Lord starts with mixing that word with faith actions, and failure to mix the word with faith actions can be terrible. Jer 42:20 “For ye dissembled in your hearts, when ye sent me unto the LORD your God, saying, Pray for us unto the LORD our God; and according unto all that the LORD our God shall say, so declare unto us, and we will do it. 21 And now I have this day declared it to you; but ye have not obeyed the voice of the LORD your God, nor any thing for the which he hath sent me unto you. 22 Now therefore know certainly

that ye shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence (*sickness*), in the place whither ye desire to go and to sojourn.”

Here is another New Testament passage on the need to mix the word with faith actions. James 1:21 “Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and *lambano*/receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to *sozo*/save your souls. 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.” Hearing the word of God without corresponding faith actions leads to self-deception. This makes one a hearer, but not a doer of the word. Get free by doing faith actions now.

Jesus spoke specifically to this here: Matt 7:24 “Therefore whosoever heareth these *logos*/sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these *logos*/sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.”

Here Jesus is talking about what He says in Matt 5-7, and what we summarize as “faith actions.” Do the faith actions, and even though storms will come, you will continue to thrive. Do not do faith actions, and the storms of life will overpower you, and make you bitter toward God.

In order to walk in faith, you must know and remember what word you are believing. Jesus explained how you can look into the perfect law of liberty and not remember what you read in the parable of the sower: Luke 8:10 “And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand. 11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be *sozo*/saved. 13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. 14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. 15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience (*faithful faith actions*).”

Notice Jesus’ definition of keeping or *pisteuo* believing the word by faith actions to producing salvation, or heaven on earth. They hear, understand and hold onto the promise of God in the face of devil attacks of evil circumstances and distracting good circumstances. This is done by continual mixing the word with faith actions in the face of these doubts, distractions and negative situations, on a regular schedule and as occasion serves.

No one said this was easy until your mind is renewed, and this parable proves it. In the parable version in Luke 8, notice that the seed falls on all the soil types. The difference was in the one who heard and did what the word said, and not just heard it. Saying you are going to pray regularly, give alms, not be a respecter of persons, do good deeds or continually give thanks for your Redemption in the blood of Jesus is very different than actually doing them. It is in the doing that separates the wheat from the chaff and brings forth the harvest.

Immediately after the word is sown, Satan comes to steal it, and you no longer remember it. For example, the hearer cannot even remember what was said, or immediately discounts it as not useful. So that seed is not understood and is never mixed with faith. The wonder and the power of the promise are

there, but no harvest is made. The seed of the word of God is perfect, but harvests are made from right soil and proper nurturing from continual faith actions.

If that does not work, then Satan sends afflictions, trials, tests and tribulations to attack that word. For example, if you hear the word on obedience, immediately you are tempted to disobey. Or if the word is on financial prosperity, you suddenly have money problems or family problems that distract you from giving. Here the faith life of continual faith actions is lost as problems loom bigger than the word in your mind. If that does not work, or at the same time to cover all his bases, Satan entices you with desires for “good things” such as wealth or pleasurable distractions such as a new house or business parties to make deals, etc.

James 1:13 “Let no man [*or woman*] say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14 but every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. 16 Do not err, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. 18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.”

For all those preachers who tell you that your troubles are the hand of God trying to teach you lessons, ask them to explain how they can say that heresy and still obey this message in James.

All these troubles and distractions are designed to get your mind off of the word, cause you to lose faith by stopping the faith actions that mix the word of God, and look to seemingly good worldly activities to provide your needs. In all cases, you no longer keep your praise and confession of faith, and the seed is overcome with no fruit. Remember, our battle is not against flesh and blood, and this parable illustrates how the devil works to make the word of God of no effect, no fruit, or inadequate mixing of the word with faith actions.

Holy Spirit tells us in Mark 4:13 that this parable is the key to understanding the kingdom of God. Mark 4:9 “And he said unto them (*after telling the people the parable of the sower and the seed*), He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. 10 And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable. 11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: 12 that seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them. 13 And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables? 14 The sower soweth the word. 15 ...but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.”

And Holy Spirit summed up this parable in this way through Paul: 2Cr 4:4 “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”

2 Cr 4:4 is not to the heathen, but is explaining how Satan is stealing the power of the promises of God from God’s people through blindness that comes from a lack of forcefully mixing the word with faith actions.

1Cr 1:18 “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish (*in the oppressions of the devil in the kingdom of darkness and death in fast and slow forms, including sickness and poverty*) foolishness; but unto us which are *sozo/saved* it is the power of God.”

1 Cor 1:18 is not about eternal salvation only but how to walk in heaven on earth in this life now.

The message is clear, we are not alone. Not only do we have God helping us by His word, but we also have an active, aggressive and focused enemy whose primary purpose is to keep us from believing and acting on the word of God by mixing it with faith actions. This is the devil's primary tool to prevent God's life from growing in us so that, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." As the Kingdom of God comes, the kingdom of the devil is destroyed.

Here is an example of the word of God being heard and growing: Acts 19:19 "Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all [men]: and they counted the price of them, and found [it] fifty thousand [pieces] of silver. 20 So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed." The word grows by acts of righteousness, which is another way of saying effective mixing with faith actions so the results are produced as Jesus, the early disciples, and as seen all over the world today.

Therefore: Eph 6:12 "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places]." 2Cr 10:3 "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 For the weapons of our warfare [are] not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity **every thought** to the obedience of Christ;"

The devil's primary weapon is getting us to think like him. Mark 8:33 "But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men."

God is not our enemy. God is our helper. Jesus described our enemy this way: John 10:10 "The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy (*effects of the law of sin and death in abundance*). I came that they may have and enjoy *zoe/life*, and have it (*zoe life*) in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)." AMP

Just like he did in the Garden with Adam and Eve, Satan's primary weapon is to get us to doubt God's word and to believe Satan's lies, so we do not continually mix the word of God with faith actions, and instead grow bitter at God and others, so we believe lies about God.

What God uses to save, heal or prosper us is His word, His scriptures, that is, the words of the Bible mixed with faith actions to produce His *zoe/life* in us. If not mixed with faith actions, if you do not stir yourself up into the mind of Christ, Holy Spirit within you, in the coming goodness of God per that word, the word has no effect. It is a key unused, and a seed unharnessed.

We are not talking exotic revelations; we are talking His word as revealed by Holy Spirit in the simple written words of the Bible. The secrets of God are hidden in plain sight, not some "special" revelation. I am trusting Holy Spirit to take this word and quicken each reader to *zoe/life*. Each "revelation" makes the existing words more powerful.

For example, one of the keys to growing in God is to become skilled in the word of righteousness through Jesus Christ (Hebrews chapters 5 and 6, and 2 Corinthians 5). It is the same word that by Jesus, God has made us the righteousness of God in Jesus. 2 Cor 5:21 "For he (*Father God*) hath made him (*Jesus*) to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him (*Jesus*)."

Now look at verse 20 and verse 6:1 where God is begging us to not receive His word lightly, but to let it, or work to make it, control our lives. 2 Cor 5:20 "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though **God did beseech you by us**: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 6:1 We then, as workers together with him, **beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in**

vain. 2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of *soteria*/salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of *soteria*/salvation.)”

To put this into your mind and then your heart, so it governs every aspect of your life is to be a “good mixer.” Failure to mix the word with faith actions can mean you will not walk in all the goodness of God given by grace, but released by faith works. No faith works means the gifts and blessings are there, but you do not walk in them.

And this brings us right back to Holy Spirit’s lament that we, the people of God, are not walking in all God has for us in this life. Heb 4:1 “Let us therefore fear (*phobos*), lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, **not being mixed with faith** in them that heard it. ...6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it (*the gospel*) was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:”

Just to make this final point, if you are not in faith actions, then relative to the promises of God, you are in unbelief or mental assent. The answer is to start doing faith actions over the promises of God for you. You can start with just a few minutes a day. Pick some issues in your life. Search out the relevant Scriptures on it. And then start doing this list of faith actions concerning them.

The basic actions of believing, trusting, courage or having faith are to take information and make that information stir you up into exuberant thanksgiving, praise, joy, blessings, courage, patience, affirmations of God’s truth, *aiteo* commands as if God were speaking through you, fasting, right Holy Communion, blessings, courage, operating gifts of Holy Spirit, especially prophecy and diverse tongues, Bible study and meditation by chewing the word in your mouth, right Communion, right judgment, and acts of *agape* love. Among many other things, ministering divine healing in the name of Jesus can be such an act of *agape* love.

Note: See our book, *OK, GOD, Now What*, on a very efficient way how to mix the word of God into your heart so it does change your life. Paul said it this way: 1 Cor 15:10 “But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.” So it does take right labor to grow in knowledge that accomplishes what God desires.

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