



Fighting for Faith

Greg Haswell

A GREAT PROMISE FULFILLED

48 You are witnesses of these things. **49** I am going to **send you what my Father has promised**; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

- Luke 24:48-49

4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but **wait for the gift my Father promised**, which you have heard me speak about.

- Acts 1:4

38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of **living water will flow** from within them." **39** By this **he meant the Spirit**, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time **the Spirit had not been given**, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

- John 7:38-39

5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by **the Holy Spirit**, **6 whom he poured out on us generously** through Jesus Christ our Savior,

- Titus 3:5-6

32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. **33** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has **received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit** and has **poured out** what you now see and hear.

- Acts 2:32-33

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, **what shall we do?**" **38** Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And **you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** **39** **The promise is for** you and your children and for all who are far off—**for all** whom **the Lord** our God **will call."**

- Acts 2:37-39

A FIGHT OF FAITH IS EXPECTED

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² **Fight the good fight of the faith.** Take hold (Seize) of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

- 1 Timothy 6:11-12

**Faith is not primarily a way to
get things from God**

**Its the necessary component for
a relationship with God**

And **without faith** it is **impossible to please God**, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

- **Hebrews 11:6**

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer **4** or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing **God's work—which is by faith.**

- 1 Timothy 1:3-4

3 UNDERSTANDING -By faith we understand

4 QUALIFIES OFFERINGS By faith Abel brought God a better offering

5 ENABLES SUPERNATURAL EXPERIENCES - By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death:

7 INSPIRES OBEDIENT WORKS By faith Noah in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

8 LAUNCHES KEY JOURNEYS By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

11 ENABLES SUPERNATURAL PROMISES FULFILLMENT And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she[b] considered him faithful who had made the promise.

- Hebrews 11

HOW TO FIGHT THE FIGHT OF FAITH

17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word (ῥῆμα - spoken word) about Christ.

- Romans 10:17

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III. Remember God promises and prophecies

1 Timothy 1:18-19

¹⁸ Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with **the prophecies** once made about you, so that **by recalling them** you may **fight the battle well**, ¹⁹ holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith.

- 1 Timothy 1:18-19

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Deuteronomy 29:29, Psalm 78:7

II. Practice thanksgiving

Philippians 4:6, Psalm 79:12-13

**GOOD NEWS FOR WEARY
WARRIORS**

11 Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; **12** if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; **13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful,** for he cannot disown himself.

- 2 Timothy 2:11-13

11 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. **2** He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. **3** A bruised reed he will not break, and **a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.**

- Isaiah 42:1-3

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" **6** He replied, "If you have **faith as small as a mustard seed**, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.

- Luke 17:5-6



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