"FAITH IN THE FIRE"
1 PETER 1:22-2:3
Satilla Baptist Church
March 5th 2017 AM Service
Pastor William Pope

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I. INTRODUCTION

- **A)** Real Faith is going to cost you something; you are going to have to risk something if you have real faith.
 - 1) Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. Matt 16:24-25 (NKJV)

II. REAL FAITH IS AN OBEYING FAITH. V.22A

- **A)** Real Faith results in actions
 - 1) We are purified, by our obedience, through the Spirit.

B) JAMES 2:14-26

- C) You may express belief in God, but only when you act upon that belief will you be saved.
 - 1) OT Example of King Saul and Samuel.
 - 2) Jesus said "Not everyone who says Lord, Lord, will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but he that does the will of my father in heaven.
 - 3) John 14:15 (NKJV) " If you love Me, keep My commandments.
 - 4) Parable Jesus gave of the two sons, one who did the will of his father after refusing and one who did not do the will of his father after promising.
 - 5) Jame 1:22 (NKJV) But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

III. REAL FAITH IS A LOVING FAITH (v.22b)

- A) John 13:35 (NKJV) "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
 - 1) How are we to love?
 - (a) Sincere- without hypocrisy
 - (b) fervently- "to stretch out the hand" giving it all you've got
 - (i) Ex. of two old men who had conversation about giving one another

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what they didn't have.

- (c) Pure-without disguised motives
- B) I If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. 1 Cor 13:1-8 (NIV)
- C) The Biggest change that I noticed when I got saved was the love that flowed into my heart from God towards others.

IV. REAL FAITH IS A LIVING FAITH (v.23-25)

- A) Faith is alive, not dead.
 - 1) Born Again made alive unto God. Born from above New life
 - 2) Of incorruptible seed. (imperishable)
 - (a) Ex. of the seed of an earthly father imparting all things to the earthly child.
 - (b) God has given us his nature.
 - 3) Through the Word of God which lives and abides forever
 - (a) It will never end or get old.
- B) The old man, the fleshly man and all his desires is passing away.
 - 1) On Christ, the Solid Rock I stand, All other ground is sinking sand.
 - 2) Everything around us is decaying and passing away, except the Word of God.

V. REAL FAITH IS A GROWING FAITH. (v.1-2)

A) Growth involves the shedding of certain things that new and more permanent things may take their place.

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- 1) Baby hair
- 2) Baby teeth
- 3) Childish voice
- B) For the Growing Christian there are 5 things the apostle Peter gives us that we must shed to grow into the mature Christian God desires us to be.
 - 1) Malice:
 - (a) ill-will; desire to injure; wickedness
 - 2) Deceit:
 - (a) decoy, dishonesty and trickery
 - 3) Hypocrisy:
 - (a) Acting of a stage player. pretending to be something we are not
 - 4) Envy;
 - (a) feeling of displeasure at hearing of the good fortune of another
 - 5) Evil Speaking;
 - (a) attempt to make oneself look cleaner by throwing dirt at another malicious talk
- C) Nourishment to Grow.
 - 1) We must be hungry for God and the things of God.
 - 2) Are you hungry for God?
 - 3) In order to grow you must be hungry.
 - (a) Sincere Milk of the Word.
 - (b) Our Salvation should whet our appetite to grow into mature believers through the milk of the Word of God.

VI. REAL FAITH IS A EXPERANCING FAITH (v. 3)

- A) There must have been a time when we decided to follow Jesus Christ.
- B) Example of explaining how I know the Bible is true. How do I know that Jesus is the Son of God?
 - 1) I have evidence, but perhaps my greatest evidence is the fact that I have tasted that the Lord is good.
- C) Have you tasted the goodness of the Lord?