



## Grace And Faith. (Part 2)

(July 2, 2004)

*In the last letter we established that **faith comes by hearing and giving place to the Word of God (Romans 10:17), and that it is by the grace of God, not by works (Ephesians 2:8).***

*{For it is by free grace that you are saved through your faith. And this salvation is not of yourselves (of your own doing, came not through your own striving), but it is the gift of God. Amplified Bible}*

Let's now go deeper into the Word of God about faith.

Coming from my own experience when I was seeking healing from allergies and asthma in order to be able to sing and try out for acceptance into "Operahögskolan" in Stockholm, I found out that fasting and long hours of prayer do not build faith. As I read about the healing revivals in the U.S.A., and about the great miracles that took place in the meetings of Oral Roberts, Kathryn Kuhlman, and other ministers of the gospel, I found out that reading books about healings and miracles do not build faith either.

God's Word alone is the source of faith in God. Mark 11:22 reads, "**Have faith in God.**" Notice that it is **not saying to have faith in faith but to have faith in God.**

Now the Word of God will not build faith in us unless it becomes a part of us. Jesus says in the book of John, "**If you abide in me and my Words abides in you...**" In other words, do they have their place in our behavior or being? James 2:26 reads "**For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.**"

**The proof** that we are walking in faith is that we are **acting or being as if the Word of God is true.** **Faith is built** in us **by the Word** and faith is being released through us **by our acting on that Word.**

In my own life I received my healing from asthma and allergies when I, by the grace of God, was **led by the Spirit of God and acted as if the Word of God was true.** The **Word of faith**, or the Word that brings faith, is also the **Word of grace** that is released and manifested in our lives through our actions of faith.

Actions that we as humans are able to do that honor God's Word. Romans 4:16 states, "**Therefore, it is by faith that it might be by grace...**" Verses 19 and 20 speak of Abraham, "And being not weak in faith he considered not his own body now dead...He staggered not at the promises of God through unbelief but was **strong in faith as he gave praise and glory to God,** and was fully persuaded that what God had promised, He was able also to perform."

How did Abraham honor God and how did he receive that which God had promised him? The same way that all humans honor God and receive from God. **He acted as if the Word of God was true giving glory to God with his actions.**

Let us thank and praise God that He helps us and strengthens us to do the same.

*Words to study: Romans 10:17, Ephesians 2:8, Mark 11:22, James 2:26, Romans 4:16-25*

-Roger Wågsjö