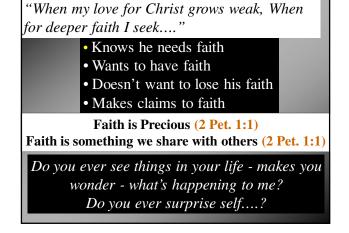
"When My Love For Christ Grows Weak, When For Deeper Faith I Seek..."

Ps. 51:1-17; Luke 17:5; Heb. 6:4-6



"When for deeper faith I seek..."

What Can Happen:

- Fail (Luke 22:32) Deny it (1 Tim. 5:8)
- Depart from it (1 Tim. 4:1)
- Shipwreck (1 Tim. 1:19) • Stray (1 Tim. 6:10, 21)
- Overthrow (2 Tim. 2:18) Cast off (1 Tim. 6:11-12)
- Become unbelievers (Heb. 3:12)

"When for deeper faith I seek ... "

What Should Happen:

- Groweth exceedingly (2 Thess. 1:3)
- Increase (Luke 17:5)
- Strengthened (Col. 1:11; Eph. 3:16)

Apostle's Dissatisfaction With Their Faith

• Their faith had failed them.

- In the storm they were afraid. Mt. 8:26
- On the sea, Peter doubted. Mt. 14:31
- On the Mount of Transfiguration, they failed to perform a miracle. Mt. 17:20
- They did not despair. Luke 17:5
- They sought improvement. -NOTE: 2 Cor. 13:5; Phil. 3:13ff; Eph. 6:10; 1 Cor. 16:13

"When for deeper faith I seek..."

• In times of temptation. Jms. 1:1-2; 1 Jno. 5:4; 1 Cor. 10:13

- In times of sadness and sorrow. Mt. 15:28; Dan. 3:13ff; Heb. 13:5; 12:1; Phil. 2:12-16; Rom. 8:31-39
- In time of duty and obedience.
 - Forgiveness. Lk. 17:1-4; Col. 3:12-15
 - Giving 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7; 8:1-3
 - Assembling. Heb. 10:24-25; Acts 20:7
 - Seeking the kingdom first. Mt. 6:33

Faith is shown in obedience! James 2:18

The Manner Of Increasing Our Faith

- Desire for more faith. Cf. Lk. 17:5
- Resort to the source of faith...God's word. Rom. 10:17
- Appropriate to our hearts and lives the teachings of God's word. Jms. 1:21ff; 2:14ff
 - Pray for health... take care of our bodies.
 - Pray for daily bread... work diligently.
 - Pray for the lost... go or send a teacher.
 - Pray for increase of faith... use the measure we have and seek to grow. (cf. Mt. 13:12)

Appreciate our Blessings Hebrews 6:4-6; cf. Lk. 15

- <u>Our present spiritual blessings give us</u> reason to maintain our hope
 - Grace, fellowship, word. Eph 1:3; 1 Cor 3:21-23
- <u>Our hope anticipates even greater</u> <u>blessings</u>. Rom 8:24-25
 - Full assurance of hope to the end...not sluggish. Heb 6:11-12

Connection of Hope and Faith

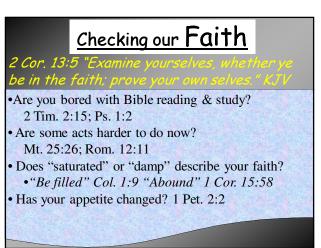
- <u>When our "hope" dims it is</u> because our "faith" grows weak.
- Abraham obtained the promise because he patiently endured. *Heb. 6:15 "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD!" Gen. 15; Rom. 4; Jms. 2*
- We must imitate the patient endurance of Abraham's faith. *Heb.* 6:9-12



Checking our Faith

2 Cor. 13:5 "Examine yo be in the faith; prove yo

- Do you believe what you have always believed?
- Col. 4:12
- Do you feel that your faith is stronger now? Col. 2:7; 2 Thess. 1:3
- Do you tolerate things you didn't before? Eph. 5:3-11
- Are you not as bothered by wrong (sin) as you used to be? James 4:4



Checking our Faith

2 Cor. 13:5 "Examine yourselves, wh be in the faith; prove your own selve

Examine yourself! •Must be personal. Ezek. 18:20; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14:12

•Must be by the right standard. Prov. 14:12; Jn. 12:48
•Must be thorough. Ps. 139:23-24; Jms. 1:4
•Must be honest. Num. 32:23; 1 Jn. 1:8-10
•Must be continuous. 1 Cor. 9:27; Jms. 1:25; Rev. 2:10

"Lord, Increase Our Faith" Luke 17:5

- We are involved in a fight of faith. 1 Tim. 6:12
- We labor in a work of faith. 1 Thess. 1:3
- We are a member of the household of faith. Gal. 6:10

Our salvation is dependent upon this prayer and its answer!!!