

FAITH

THE CURRENCY OF THE KINGDOM

PART 4 - FAITH MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD

We are called to have a faith more precious than gold. Let me say that again. We are to have a faith more precious than gold.

Gold is one of if not the greatest commodities of earth and yet James says our faith is to prove itself more precious than gold.

1 Peter 1:7-9 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ; and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

This becomes quite a confronting reality and one which we must allow ourselves to be confronted by, if we truly are to enter into and have the kind of faith God speaks of and the kind of faith the previous 3 resources testify to.

Biblical faith proves itself more precious than gold, because faith is from and of God. God is greater than anything natural, no matter its value, because He is the Creator of all things. Gold is perishable while faith is imperishable. Peter talks about the church being born again of an imperishable seed, the Word of God. It is this very Word that births this kind of faith that proves itself to be more precious than gold.

This faith when tested by fire, meaning trials, tribulations, persecution, hard times, unseen circumstances and situations, stands up and results in praise, glory and honour to the Father. When pressure is applied to this kind of faith it proves its worth and value, responding to all of this testing in a way that is God centred, demonstrating His wisdom. We see faith standing up and being counted for what it is.

Verse 8 is also very insightful.

“and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him.”

I love these kinds of dynamics between the physical and the eternal. This is where we see faith come to the fore, because although we may not have seen Jesus in the physical, faith sees in the Spirit and has seen Jesus. Faith sees the unseen One, because faith is of the Spirit. Moses who had never seen Jesus in the physical, saw Jesus by faith.

Hebrews 11:27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him

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who is unseen.

How does one see the One who is unseen. The answer; by faith, which is a faith more precious than gold, a faith which proves itself.

2 Corinthians 4:18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 5:7 for we walk by faith, not by sight

This is where faith and believe are of the same kind. We haven't seen Him physically, but through believing by faith we are able to see Him and express this faith by greatly rejoicing with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

May we all press in for this faith more precious than gold.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is faith more precious than gold?
2. Why is faith able to prove what it is?
3. How would you describe the difference between seeing Him in the Spirit vs seeing in the physical?
4. How does this kind of faith change us and empower us to live?
5. What are we being made aware of through this resource?