

CALLING THINGS THAT BE NOT AS THOUGH THEY ARE

Hold Fast & Don't Let Go

- I. **People of faith won by believing and speaking-They found what God said (the will of God), they chose to believe it, they chose to say it and believed that what they said God would bring to pass**
- A. She won by believing and speaking-There's no record of her asking-**Mk5:25**-*A certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,²⁶ And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,²⁷ When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. ²⁸ For she said (kept saying), If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. ²⁹ And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. ³⁴ He said unto her Daughter thy faith hath made thee whole*
1. When she heard of Jesus-She discovered the will of God, what God said
 2. Whatever she heard about Jesus she chose to believe-Her faith made her whole
 3. She chose to speak-She could have talked her problem, her circumstances, her sickness
 4. She believed that what she said would come to pass-We know that because she acted on it
- B. David won by believing and speaking-There's no record of him asking-**1Sm17:35**-*Your servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them;*⁴⁶ *This day will the Lord deliver you into my hand; and I will smite you, and take your head from you and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth;*⁴⁸ *And it came to pass*
1. He found the will of God concerning his enemies-**Dt28:7**-*The Lord shall cause your enemies that rise up against you to be smitten before your face;* **Ps119:109**-*Yet do I not forget your law*
 2. He chose to believe what God said-Hb11:32-34 tells us he did this by faith
 3. He chose to speak-He could have talked the size of the giant and the fear like everybody else
 4. He believed what He said would come to pass-We know that because he went down there to fight
- C. The three Hebrews won by believing and speaking-They never asked-**Dn3:17**-*He will deliver us out of your hand O, King*
1. They found God's will-What would make them say God will deliver us? The most of known this verse-**Is43:2**-*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you; when you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned; neither shall the flame kind upon you*
 2. They chose to believe-If they didn't believe they would have bowed
 3. They chose to speak-They could have talked the fear, the problem, the evil report
 4. They believed what they said would come to pass-We know that because they wouldn't bow
- D. In situations that aren't what you want them to be one of the first things you do is believe and speak-Find out what God says, choose to believe it, choose to say it, and believe that He will bring it to pass – Most don't operate like this
- II. **God works through your faith which is connected to what you say**
- A. God works in your life through your own faith-**Ep2:8**-*For by grace are you saved through faith;* **Rm4:16**-*Inheriting the promise is the outcome of faith and depends [entirely] on faith, in order that it might be given as an act of grace;* **Mk6:5**-*He could there do no mighty work* **6** *And he marvelled because of their unbelief;* **Mt13:58**-*He did not many might works there because of their unbelief;* **Ps78:41**-*They turned back and tempted God and limited the Holy One of Israel;* **Mt17:21**-*Because of your unbelief*
1. Many think God works independent of our faith-He's God and He'll do in my life what He wants to do-WRONG
 2. Faith is paramount if you want to see God move in your life and do what He wants to do
- B. What you believe is connected to what you say-When you believe something you will say it-**2Cor4:13**-*We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I have believed, and therefore I have spoken; we also believe and therefore speak*

- C. God works with what we believe and what we say-Give Him something to work with-**Rm10:9**-If you shalt confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead you shall be saved 10 For with the heart man believes unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation
1. God couldn't get them into the promise land because He was working with their faith and words-**Ex23:23; Nm13:28**
- D. What you choose to believe and say has everything to do with you seeing God move in your life-If you're not getting right with what you believe and what you say God won't be able to move in your life like He wants
1. What you believe and say can keep God's Words from coming to pass in your life-**Nm13; Lk1:20**-You shalt be dumb, and not be able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because you believe not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season

III. The enemy is after your faith – He desperately needs you to let go of your faith

- A. The fight is about this what you believe-This needs to be real to you-**1Tm6:12**-Fight the good fight of faith lay hold on eternal life whereunto thou art also called, and have professed (say) and good profession (say) before many witnesses
1. If he can get your faith, he can get you-**1Jn5:4**-This is the victory that overcomes the world even our faith; **Eph6:16**-Above all taking the shield of faith, wherewith you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked
 2. The enemy comes to steal your faith first-He targets the word because no word no faith-**Jn10:10**-The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill and to destroy; **Mk4:15**-Cometh immediately to take away the word that was sown in their hearts
 3. Can he get your faith?-This is how he kept the children of Israel from going into the promise land; This is how he kept the people in Jesus' hometown from experiencing miracles; This is how he got Peter to fall into the water
 4. He will deliver us-The enemy has to change this and if he can't change this, he can't defeat them; Heating the furnace was an intimidation tactic to get them to let go of their faith, change their confession-**Dn3:14-17**
 5. David wouldn't let go of his faith or his confession-He came after David's faith repeatedly-**1Sm17**
 - a. 23-24-Faith is real and the enemy can sense who has it-The moment David stepped on the scene Goliath came out and it was because when a person of faith shows up the enemy knows it and fears it and this was his first attempt to get David out of faith; Goliath comes out and all the men of Israel ran
 - b. 26-30-Satan uses Eliab to get David out of faith-He interested in the reward because He believes he can win
 - c. 32-37-Satan uses Saul to get David to let go of his faith-He'll be like the lion and bear-Satan has to change this
 - d. 43-44-Goliath speaks words to try to get David to let go of his faith-Why even talk to David?
- B. We must understand how desperate he is to get us into unbelief-This motivates us to hold on to our faith

IV. Hold fast to the confession of your faith, to what you're believing and what you're saying-**Hb10:23**-Let us hold fast (retain) to the confession (assent, agree, say same thing as another) of our faith without wavering: for He is faithful that promised;

- A. We are told to hold fast to our faith because we will be supernaturally tempted to let go of it-**Hb10:35**-Cast not away (lose) your confidence which hath great recompense of reward; **WE**-Do not stop believing God now. Your faith will bring you much reward
1. I still have my faith-If we let go our faith, then we've lost the means by which we succeed and overcome-**2Co4:8**-We're troubled (pressed hard upon) on every side, yet not distressed (miserable, agony of mind); we are perplexed (don't know where to go, what to do, without resources), but not in despair (destitute of hope or expectation)
 2. God gets great pleasure in the ones who in their darkest hour won't let go of their faith-**Hb10:38**-Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him
- B. If you've let go of your confession, you've let go of your faith-If you've stopped saying it, you've stopped believing it
1. You will be supernaturally pulled to let go of your confession-To call it like it is, to talk the problem
 2. Never quit flying the plane-When you don't see hold fast, when it doesn't look like it's changing hold fast
- C. Saying it repeatedly is not vain repetitions-It's how we fight, it's holding fast to our faith, it's Joshua 1:8