

According To Your Faith Let It Be Done, Colossians 1:1-6 – May 12th, 2019

- I want to talk about what I believe is one of the most misunderstood truths in the life of a Christian, having to do with our faith.
- Sadly the word faith teachings have robbed the Christian and the Christian church of a vitally important principle in God's Word.
- This because, said teachings take a Biblical truth to an unbiblical extreme and in so doing mar one of the greatest of promises.

- Enter our text today, where the Apostle Paul points out that which this church in Colossae had become known for in that region.
- Namely, their faith in Jesus Christ and the love for all God's people that came vis-à-vis their hope that was stored up in heaven.
- In other words, they weren't known for their church building, the number of people attending, or even their pastor, but their faith.

- Truth be known, the church in Colossae was likely a very small and insignificant church, so much so, it's not mentioned in Acts.
- Even more interesting, it's believed that the Apostle Paul himself had never been to Colossae as he had all the other churches.
- Perhaps even more interesting is the fact that this small and seemingly unimportant church was that the gospel was so fruitful.

- I suppose the question that needs to be asked is why would the Apostle Paul be inspired by the Holy Spirit to write this letter.
- I believe that there are two reasons, the first of which is because of the false teaching of Gnosticism that spread in Colossae.
- It's this second reason that I would like for us to focus our attention on and it's that of their remarkable and extraordinary faith.

- When I read the Gospel's one of the things that really strikes me, is how Jesus would marvel at, and take notice of, ones faith.
- Conversely, when Jesus went to his hometown of Nazareth, He did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.
- I would suggest that the reason these Colossian Christians were so fruitful and blessed was because they just believed by faith.

Matthew 8:5–13 - 5 Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, 6 saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." 7 And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." 8 The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! 11 And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. 12 But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." 13 Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and **as you have believed, so let it be done for you.**" And his servant was healed that same hour.

Matthew 9:27–29 - 27 As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" 28 When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Lord," they replied. 29 Then he touched their eyes and said, "**According to your faith let it be done to you**";

Luke 8:49–56 - 49 While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," he said. "Don't bother the teacher anymore." 50 Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, "**Don't be afraid; just believe**, and she will be healed." 51 When he arrived at the house of Jairus, he did not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, and the child's father and mother. 52 Meanwhile, all the people were wailing and mourning for her. "Stop wailing," Jesus said. "She is not dead but asleep." 53 They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. 54 But he took her by the hand and said, "My child, get up!" 55 Her spirit returned, and at once she stood up. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat. 56 Her parents were astonished, but he ordered them not to tell anyone what had happened.

- Here's where I'm going with all of this, these Colossian Christians had this kind of faith and just believed God for great things.
- The question we need to ask ourselves is, do we want to have this kind of faith and just believe God for miracles in our lives.
- If so, then I think it would be of paramount importance for us to know first what faith is where do we get it and why it's rewarded.

Question #1 – What is faith?

Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Question #2 – How does faith come?

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Question #3 – Why is faith rewarded?

Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.