

Title: HAVE FAITH IN GOD

Text: Mark 11:12-26 (key: v.22)

Intro: This statement of the Lord Jesus needs to be written upon all our hearts. Whether in sorrow or happiness, it will help us to rely on these words: HAVE FAITH IN GOD. Notice that Jesus did not just say, "Have faith." The statement is incomplete unless it reads, "Have faith IN GOD." Faith is made up of both **belief** and **trust**. Many people believe God, but they do not truly trust God. That is why their lives are filled with worry and fear; they never really get to enjoy it!

Too much negative worry is faithlessness. A Christian who often worries reveals his lack of trust and confidence in God. He is actually relying in himself or others. May God help us to learn that true faith involves complete committal to God.

Today let us consider our text in the light of God's past faithfulness, His promises for today and for the future.

I. GOD DID NOT FAIL MEN IN OLD TIMES

A. Biblical history teaches us that no man who had faith in God was ever disappointed in the end! In **Hebrews 11**—the great faith chapter, "**faith**" occurs **24X** in this chapter alone. At least **17 people** are given as examples of what real faith in God can accomplish. I wish that we had more time to consider the examples of these men and women of faith.

B. In **Abel (v.4)**, we have faith that sacrifices; in **Enoch (v.5)**, faith that walks; in **Noah (v.7)**, faith that witnesses; in **Abraham (v.8)**, faith that sojourns; in **Sarah (v.11)**, faith that waits; in **Moses (v.24)**, faith that works; in **Rahab (v.31)**, faith that helps; in **Gideon (v.32)**, faith that conquers; in **Barak (v.32)**, faith that triumphs; in **David (v.32)**, faith that sings; in **Samuel (v.32)**, faith that leads. We have no time to look at: **Joshua**, **Elijah**, **Daniel**, etc.

C. Through poverty, calamities, persecutions, crises, wars, hardships, sickness, and death, God saved His people!

D. However, faith in God has **not** saved all people from suffering and death, but it has enabled them to endure such for God's glory (see: Foxe's Book of Martyrs). Cf. **Job 13:15**.

II. GOD CAN WORK MIRACLES TODAY (vv.22-24)

A. We live in a faithless world that has no room and time for God. Believers should be different. If we pray in faith, this verse will come to pass! It must give us assurance to know that our God is a prayer-answering God who loves to listen to and grant our requests according to His will!

C. Know that the Bible is a goldmine, waiting for believers to claim its riches. It is a check, waiting for God's children to endorse it. What is your need? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

III. GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF THE FUTURE

A. It is true that most of our worries are about things that never happen. We habitually anticipate troubles. We trouble our own hearts and poison our minds rather than trust God.

B. Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due! Are you worried about the future? See: **Psa. 37:3-5**

C. Do you worry about future provisions? Then hear these promises: **Matt. 6:25-26; Phil. 4:6-7, 19.**

Conclusion: Lastly, there is a kind of faith in God that I want to tell you about – **saving faith**. Without it, when man is confronted by death, he has no answer to the question, "Where will I spend eternity?" Friends, without saving faith all that I have said today is vain and just a waste of time.

This saving faith is your ticket to Heaven. It is a complete confidence and trust in the person and work of Christ, the Son of God. **F-A-I-T-H = Forsaking All, I Trust Him!**

Yes, to be saved there must be an acceptance of Jesus and a committing of oneself to Him. This done, salvation is assured by God and your eternal destiny is sealed in Heaven!

The blessed thing about forgiveness of sins and salvation from Hell is that you can have it even right now if you repent of your sins, believe and receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour. If you do, then your fear of a dark and uncertain future will be finally removed, and the peace of God brought upon by your faith in God shall rule your heart.

Come to the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved **TODAY!**