

Faith That Rest in the Power of God

1 Cor. 2:1-10

“Corinth is far too clever for them, and far too sinful; therefore their faith must stand in the power of God and not in the wisdom of men. This was Paul’s concern for the young church, the mission that a preacher, servant, and ambassador of the cross, he knows must be fulfilled, or else the outcome will be disaster. Somehow the little band of believers must confront their great city with the reality of their faith, proving that their message is something that God has communicated to them from heaven itself.

That is equally true today. Whether or not we realize it, if you and I are even to survive as Christian people (putting it on the lowest level), let alone live triumphantly in Christ, a theoretical presentation is totally inadequate. The world we live in is too clever and sinful for that and if we have nothing more, we will be sucked under by the whirlpool of philosophies and “isms,” the tides of sin and vice.” Redpath

- I. The world’s marketplace is vying for believers to put their faith in whatever it is pedaling, be it the god of sex, drugs, power, materialism, religion, narcissism, secularism, etc. The strength of our faith determines in many ways what we chose to invest in. A weak faith stands in its own feebleness and is attracted to what the world offers. A strong faith stands in the power of God and is attracted to what Christ offers.

1 Cor. 16:13

Luke 18:8b

Matt 24:9-14

Rev. 3:17-18

πίστις πίστις (faith) conviction of the truth of anything, belief; in the NT of a conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervour born of faith and joined with it

- A. relating to God – the conviction that God exists and is the creator and ruler of all things, the provider and bestower of eternal salvation through Christ
- B. relating to Christ—a strong and welcome conviction or belief that Jesus is the Messiah, through whom we obtain eternal salvation in the kingdom of God (Strong’s Concordance)

1 Timothy 4:1-2 ¹The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ²Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

- II. When the Holy Spirit demonstrated his power to us through the gospel he gave us one message, Jesus Christ and him crucified. A mature believer's faith rests on the truth of a crucified Savior who died for our sins. It rests in the power and wisdom of God that was destined for our glory before time began. An immature believer's faith fails to grasp the magnitude of what a crucified Savior has done for them. Their faith rests on the insecurity of a world that is coming to nothing. It is a weak faith in danger of great compromise before the Lord.

1 Cor. 1:1-10

Acts 18:9-10

2 Cor. 3:18

Heb. 6:19-20

1 Cor. 13:12

"The people who hanged Christ never, to do them justice, accused him of being a bore—on the contrary; they thought him too dynamic to be safe. It has been left for later generations to muffle up that shattering personality and surround Him with an atmosphere of tedium. We have very efficiently pared the claws of the Lion of Judah, certified him "meek and mild" and recommended Him as a fitting household pet for pale curates and pious old ladies." Dorothy Sayers

1 Corinthians 13:12 ¹²For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.