

Join us
for a
night of
Praise & Prayer
March 15, 2020
@ 6pm

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FORTRESS OF
JOY CHURCH

The Just Shall Live By Faith

The title phrase appears in our Bible four times, anytime God repeats Himself we had better pay close attention. Living by faith is not an option for the born-again believer, we certainly can't live any longer in doubt and unbelief.

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God.

Paul is telling us here that we live by the same faith that Jesus lived by. The concept is very easy to understand, the decision to do it can become a struggle if you're not committed. To live by faith you simply substitute God's Word for your feelings. You believe and act on the revelations the Holy Spirit feeds into your spirit, these revelations are called "light"!

John 1:4-5 In Christ was life; and the life was the light of men and the light shined in darkness (ignorance); and the ignorant comprehended it not.

Jesus was God's ultimate revelation to man, He was the Messiah, God's Lamb. All men have a choice, they can accept the light or continue in darkness, which is their sinful nature. The devil very much loves to help people ignore God, he offers sinful men something he thinks is better. If man will accept

the light and embrace it they will come to understand that His light is eternal. Sin is temporary and then comes the judgement but righteousness that come with the light is forever. We live in an ever-changing world, there is a political group that calls themselves "progressives". Progressives want to advance the condition of humans in science and technology, they make no provision for God. In a word, they believe God and His Word is way too old fashion for the modern man.

Romans 1:22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.

Paul was speaking about the people who lived in Sodom and Gomorrah. They rewrote the laws to satisfy their lusts for each other, they did not want God in their thoughts. They became so consumed with pleasures of the flesh that God gave them over to a reprobate mind. A reprobate is one who has lost the ability to discern right from wrong. They hated the light

because it exposed their deeds and they did not want to admit they were doing wrong.

If we are to live by faith then we must be willing to believe something that did not originate with man. We must believe God had His Word, His will recorded for those who choose to live by faith. The vast majority of people do not believe the Bible to be the Word of God. People tend to connect with the majority because there is strength and safety in numbers. They will find no comfort and no peace where the majority is headed to.

Compromise is a four letter word.

Many will spend eternity in **hell** because they compromised, they were offered light but loved the dark. No man will ever regret choosing to live by the faith of the Son of God, it will bring them into His presence forever.



The more Word you sow in prayer the more of God's will you will reap.

Sow Your Seed

In the beginning God gave man seed. He put man in a garden so he would have a place to plant his seed. God did not choose what Adam would have, he left it to Adam to have his own harvest. God has a history of giving seed to sowers and He has never stopped meting out seed.

Mark 4:14 *The sower sows the Word (seed).*

So God sows His Word into our hearts and then we sow His Word into our need or desire. After a sower sows the Word, satan comes immediately to take away what was sown. He uses afflictions and persecution to offend the one where the Word is sown. If that doesn't work he magnifies our cares and lusts so that they choke out the Word. So, the devil has

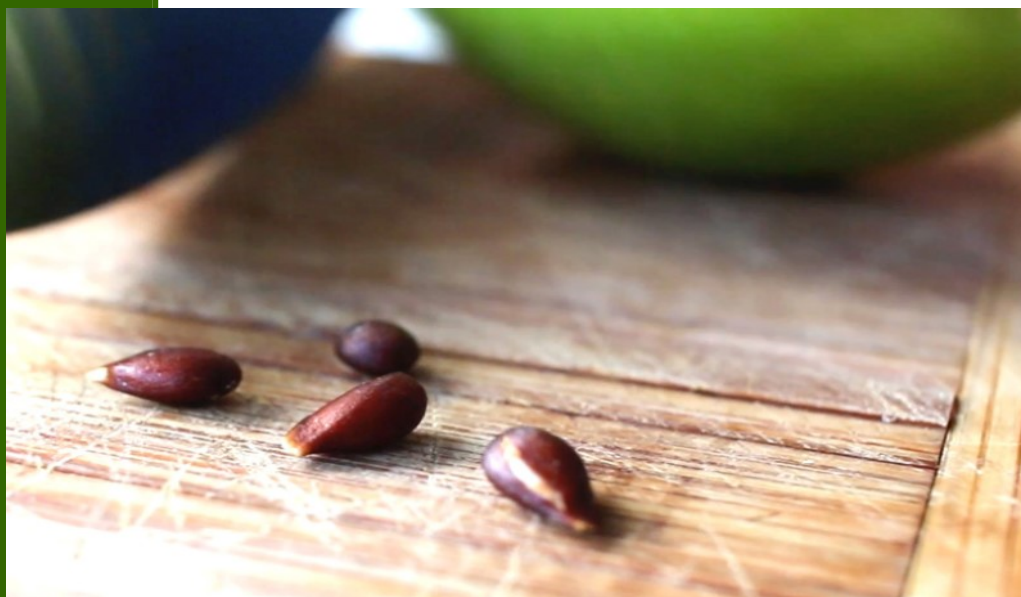
us of this impending attack we would be smart enough to shut the devil out!

Mark 4:20 *These are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the Word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit.*

Pay attention to this text, the key to a successful harvest is hearing and receiving. So, how do you know when the devil has stolen the Word out of your spirit? When you hear and receive the Word you will speak it, if it has been taken from you, you have nothing to speak, nothing to say, nothing to sow. It's a simple law, if you don't plant anything you will not reap anything. The Apostle Paul says a man's harvest in life depends entirely on what he sows.

Over the years I have watched a lot of good people come to church, they were supportive and in agreement. They heard the Word but for whatever reason they did not embrace it. When the storms of life came they were wiped out and some of them died early. On the other hand I have watched some good people hear the Word and begin to speak it and they weathered the same storms that destroyed the others. God's Word is our seed and the devil is the seedeater, but if we hear and receive there is nothing he can do about it. It's a simple law but profound, a seed will not grow until it is planted!

2 Corinthians 9:6 *He which sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly: and he which sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*



three main targets he aims for in order to hinder the Word and the intended harvest. Now, you would think that if the Holy Spirit warns

Mathew 7:26 *Everyone that hears these sayings of mine, and does them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand.*

This Scripture applies to everything we sow in faith, now we are talking about sowing the Word. The more Word you sow in prayer the more of God's will you will reap. The devil hates prayer. After Jesus received the Holy Ghost the Spirit led Him out in the wilderness to pray. While He was praying, the devil came to tempt Him, the devil has no respect for our time with our Heavenly Father. Jesus put the devil in his place and returned in the power of the Spirit, the devil failed to stop Jesus from sewing His faith.

No Deposit, No Return

When you read the four Gospels you will find Jesus always going apart to pray. When He returned from praying great signs, wonders and wisdom would manifest among the people. If we are going to be people of the supernatural, we must give God an opportunity to make a deposit into our spirit.

John 8:28 When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then shall you know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself, but as the Father has taught Me, I speak these things.

While Jesus was praying the Father was empowering Him to fulfill His will, the Father

things. Men oppose God and think they are doing God a favor, oh how the devil revels in such folly.

Mathew 11:25 Jesus answered the Father, You have hid these things from the wise and prudent, and have revealed them unto babes.

The prudent are people who have advanced mental powers or reason. God is a Spirit, His Words are Spirit and they must be spiritually discerned. The wise and prudent have no insight into the spirit realm, the things of God are foolishness to them. They make a mockery of what they don't

The manifestation of the Holy Spirit is tongues, when we pray in tongues the Spirit makes deposits into our spirit that will manifest when needed. The gifts of the Spirit don't just show up on a whim, they manifest in people who have prayed and invited them into their lives. If we don't pray, there is no deposit and no return because we made no provision for the Spirit. Kenneth Hagin said the more he prayed in tongues the more manifestations of the gifts he would have.

James 5:16 The earnest (heartfelt), continued prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available (dynamic in its working)



was depositing His supernatural will into His Son. Jesus didn't say anything but what He heard His Father speak first. When He was brought before the high priest He never said a word. Why? Because He never heard His Father say anything. The Jews wanted to stone Him for working miracles, they didn't realize it was the Father in Him that performed those miracles. In reality they should have set out to stone God! The devil leads ignorant men to do stupid

understand, in their ignorance they oppose God in a battle they can never win. God reveals things to babes, these are people who come to God and acknowledge Him as their Lord. Just like babies they will believe whatever He says even if it makes no sense.

1 Corinthians 12:7 The manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

Take note of two things in this text, continued prayer and a righteous man. The prayers of the righteous are filled with power and so they should be continual. Our righteousness is of God, He does not hear the prayers of sinners nor so called prayers that are embalmed with unbelief. We should pray always and frame our world with faith and God's will.

**Men
oppose
God
and
think
they
are
doing
God
a favor,
oh how
the
devil
revels
in such
folly.**

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**Restoring the
supernatural power
of God back
to the local church**

Epilogue

This month's "newsletter" deals with the subject of faith and prayer. The conventional newsletter usually has one subject and a short revelation, but I never have followed tradition. As I sat down to write the last page of my "newsletter", the Lord spoke to me.

If I wanted another traditional church in Helena I would have anointed a traditional pastor. I will teach you how to be a pastor.

From the beginning of my calling I tried to do what everyone else was successfully doing. But when I prayed the Lord led me to operate apart from everyone else. I caught a lot of flack for moving out of the main stream, but it pleased God so I was pleased. I have never preached a Mother's Day or Father's Day message because I was never given one. If

you are a student of my "newsletters", then you know I am sharing the revelations the Holy Spirit gives me.

Mathew 15:3 Why do you oppose the Word of God by your tradition?

The conventional wisdom is to collect a congregation and then borrow money to purchase a building. The Lord told me not to borrow, He told me to use my faith. The people of tradition couldn't handle the process and so they left. We are

in two large buildings and they are debt free. Selah.

