## Walking by Faith

Therefore, being always of **good courage**, and **knowing** that while we are at **home** in the **body** we are **absent** from **the Lord** for we *walk* by <u>faith</u>, *not* by <u>sight</u>— (II Corinthians 5:6-7)

## A. Walking by *Faith* begins with <u>our</u> Faith in <u>Jesus the Messiah</u> for <u>salvation</u> and <u>forgiveness</u> of <u>sins</u>.

"For **God so loved** the **world**, that **He gave His only begotten Son**, that whoever <u>believes in Him</u> shall *not perish*, but have *eternal life*." (John 3:16)

For by *grace* you have been <u>saved</u> *through* <u>faith</u>; and that *not* of yourselves, *it is* the *gift* of God; *not* as a result of *works*, so that **no one** may **boas**t. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Of **Him (Jesus the Messiah)** all the **prophets** *bear witness* that through *His name* everyone who <u>believes</u> in <u>Him</u> receives <u>forgiveness of sins</u>."(Acts 10:43)

B. Walking by *Faith* means living in <u>obedience</u> to the <u>Lord</u>.

Paul, a bond-servant of Messiah Jesus,...

through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about *the* <u>obedience</u> of the <u>faith</u> among all the **Gentiles** for **His name's sake**, (Romans 1:1a, 5)

By <u>faith</u> Abraham, when he was called, <u>obeyed</u> by **going out** to a place which he was to receive for **an inheritance**; and he **went out**, not knowing **where** he was going. (Hebrews 11:8)

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Therefore as you have *received* Messiah Jesus the Lord, so <u>walk in Him</u>,..*established* in your <u>faith</u>, just as you were *instructed*, and overflowing with *gratitude*. (Colossians 2:6-7)

## C. Walking by *Faith* means <u>believing</u> and <u>trusting</u>, as "reality," the *unseen* promises of God.

Now <u>faith</u> is the <u>assurance</u> of things *hoped for*, the <u>conviction</u> of things *not seen*...

By <u>faith</u> Abraham, when he was called,.. ...lived as an *alien* in the land of *promise*, as in a *foreign* land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same <u>promise</u>; for he was looking for the city which has *foundations*, whose architect and builder is <u>God</u>. (Hebrews 11:1, 8-10)

For **momentary, light affliction** is *producing* for us an *eternal* weight of <u>glory</u> far *beyond* all comparison,

while **we** look **not** at the things which are **seen**, but at the things which are <u>**not seen**</u>; for the things which are **<u>seen</u>** are **<u>temporal</u>**, but the things which are <u>**not seen**</u> are <u>**eternal**</u>. (II Corinthians 4:17-18)

D. Walking by *Faith* means <u>believing</u> that your service, your "labors of love," and your faithfulness in doing the will of God, will be <u>fruitful</u>, and yield <u>blessings</u> in *this* life, but mostly in the life to come.

Let us **not** *lose heart* in <u>doing good</u>, for in *due time* we will <u>reap</u> if we do **not grow** *weary*. (Galatians 6:9)

Whatever **you do**, do your **work heartily**, as **for the Lord**..knowing that **from the Lord** you will receive the **reward** of the **<u>inheritance</u>**. (Col. 3:23-24)

Therefore, my **beloved brethren**, be **steadfast, immovable**, always **abounding** in the <u>work of the Lord</u>, knowing that <u>your toil</u> is not *in* vain in the Lord. (I Corinthians 15:58)

E. Walking by *Faith* is *trusting* that the <u>trials</u> and <u>sufferings</u> that you may be **enduring** at this time, will "work together for <u>good</u>," and result in your <u>spiritual growth</u>.

Before I was <u>afflicted</u> I went astray, but <u>now I keep Your word</u>...

It is *good* for me that I was <u>afflicted</u>, that I may <u>learn</u> Your statutes. (Psalm 119:67, 71)

After you have <u>suffered</u> for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Messiah, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. (I Peter 5:10)

F. Walking by *Faith* means <u>trusting</u> that the <u>pain</u>—*physical, spiritual* or *emotional*, that you are having to **endure** will be <u>bearable</u>.

The LORD is <u>near</u> to the brokenhearted and <u>saves</u> those who are *crushed* in spirit.

*Many* are the *afflictions* of the **righteous**, but the LORD <u>delivers him</u> out of them <u>all</u>. (Psalm 34:18-19)

No **temptation** has **overtaken you** but such as is common to man; but **God is faithful**, who will <u>not</u> allow you to be **tempted** <u>beyond</u> what you are <u>able</u>, but with the **temptation** will **provide** the way of <u>escape</u> also, so that you will be *able* to *endure it*. (I Corinthians 10:13)

G. Walking by *Faith* means <u>believing</u> that the <u>prayers</u> that you are expressing in faith, and perseverance are indeed being *heard*, and will be *answered*.

Because **He** has *inclined* <u>His ear</u> to me, Therefore I shall <u>call</u> *upon Him* as long as I live. (Psalm 116:2)

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"Incline Your *ear*, O LORD, *and* answer me; for I am afflicted and needy.

*Preserve* my soul, for I am a *godly* man; O You my God, *save* Your servant who *trusts* in You. Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to You <u>I cry all day long</u>...

In the day of **my trouble** I shall *call* upon You, for You will <u>answer me</u> (Psalm 86:1-3, 7)

With all <u>prayer</u> and petition pray at <u>all times</u> in the Spirit,.. be on the alert with all *perseverance* and petition for all the saints,.. (Ephesians 6:18)

This is the *confidence* which we have **before Him**, that, if we <u>ask</u> anything according to *His will*, <u>He hears us</u>.

And if we know that <u>He hears us</u> *in* whatever we <u>ask</u>, we know that *we have* the *requests* which we have <u>asked</u> (I John 5:14-15)

H. Walking by *Faith* means *believing* that God's <u>righteousness</u> and <u>justice</u> will eventually *prevail*, and that evil will held accountable and <u>judged</u>.

Better is the little of the righteous than the abundance of many wicked.

For the **arms** of the **wicked** will be **broken**, but **the LORD sustains** the **righteous**. **The LORD knows** the **days** of the **blameless**, And their <u>inheritance</u> will be <u>forever</u>.

They will *not* be ashamed in the time of evil, And in the days of famine they will have *abundance*.

But the **wicked** will **perish**; and the **enemies** of **the LORD** will be like the **glory** of the **pastures**, They **vanish**—like **smoke** they **vanish away**. (Psalm 37:16-20)

## <u>Rest</u> in the LORD and <u>wait patiently</u> for Him; do not *fret* because of him who *prospers* in his way, because of the **man** who carries out *wicked* schemes...

For **evil doers** will be <u>cut off</u>, but **those** who **wait for the LOR**D, <u>they</u> will <u>inherit</u> the land. (Psalm 37: 7, 9)

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For I was **envious** of the **arrogant** as I saw the **prosperity** of the **wicked**. For there are **no pains** in their **death**, and their **body is fat**...

They have set their *mouth* against the *heavens,* and their *tongue* parades through the *earth*...

Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and washed my hands in *innocence*; For I have been *stricken* all day long and *chastened* every morning...

> When I **pondered** to *understand* this, it was *troublesome* in my heart <u>until</u> I came into the <u>sanctuary of God</u>; *then* I *perceived* their <u>end</u>...

With Your counsel You will *guide me*, and afterward *receive me* to <u>glory</u>. (Psalm 73:3-4, 9, 13-14, 16-17, 24)

I. Walking by *Faith* means <u>believing</u> that we will someday <u>rejoin</u> loved ones and friends who have <u>died</u> in faith, and that the *pain* and *tears* of our separation, will turn into *glory* and *joy*.

> But we do not want you to be **uninformed**, **brethren**, about those who are <u>asleep</u>, so that you will **not grieve** as do the **rest** who have <u>no hope</u>.

For if **we believe** that **Jesus died** and **rose again**, even so **God will** <u>bring with Him</u> *those* who have fallen <u>asleep</u> in Jesus...

For the Lord Himself will *descend* from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the *trumpet* of God,

and the <u>dead</u> in Messiah will <u>rise first</u>. Then we who are alive and remain will be *caught up together* <u>with</u> them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always <u>be</u> with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. (I Thessalonians 4:13-14, 16-18)

**Closing Comments**