



Building Your Faith – Part III The Elements of Faith

September 9, 2007

Sermon Notes

The Elements of Faith

- **Man of God**
- **Belief**
- **Obedience**
- **Peace**
- **Joy**
- **Hearing**
- **Mouth**

Love is the Foundation of Faith!

Galatians 5:6 (New King James Version)

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, **but faith working through love.**

1 John 4:8 (New King James Version)

8 He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love.**

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (The Message)

3-7 If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.

Love never gives up.
Love cares more for others than for self.
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.
Love doesn't strut,
Doesn't have a swelled head,
Doesn't force itself on others,
Isn't always "me first,"
Doesn't fly off the handle,
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,
Doesn't revel when others grovel,
Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,
Puts up with anything,
Trusts God always,

Always looks for the best,
Never looks back,
But keeps going to the end.

Your Man of God – It Does Matter What Church You Go To!

2 Chronicles 20:20b (New International Version)

Have faith in the LORD your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.

Romans 10:14-15 (New International Version)

14How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

1 Kings 17:8-16 (The Message)

7-9 Eventually the brook dried up because of the drought. Then God spoke to him: "Get up and go to Zarephath in Sidon and live there. I've instructed a woman who lives there, a widow, to feed you."

10-11 So he got up and went to Zarephath. As he came to the entrance of the village he met a woman, a widow, gathering firewood. He asked her, "Please, would you bring me a little water in a jug? I need a drink." As she went to get it, he called out, "And while you're at it, would you bring me something to eat?"

12 She said, "I swear, as surely as your God lives, I don't have so much as a biscuit. I have a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a bottle; you found me scratching together just enough firewood to make a last meal for my son and me. After we eat it, we'll die."

13-14 Elijah said to her, "Don't worry about a thing. Go ahead and do what you've said. But first make a small biscuit for me and bring it back here. Then go ahead and make a meal from what's left for you and your son. This is the word of the God of Israel: 'The jar of flour will not run out and the bottle of oil will not become empty before God sends rain on the land and ends this drought.'"

15-16 And she went right off and did it, did just as Elijah asked. And it turned out as he said—daily food for her and her family. The jar of meal didn't run out and the bottle of oil didn't become empty: God's promise fulfilled to the letter, exactly as Elijah had delivered it!

Belief – Whoever You Trust Controls Your Future

Mark 9:22-23 (New King James Version)

23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes."

Mark 11:24 (NIV)

24Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Obedience – Obedience is the Only Thing God Has Required of Man

James 1:23-25 (Amplified Bible)

23For if anyone only listens to the Word without obeying it and being a doer of it, he is like a man who looks carefully at his [own] natural face in a mirror; 24For he thoughtfully observes himself, and then goes off and promptly forgets what he was like. 25But he who looks carefully into the faultless law, the [law] of liberty, and is faithful to it and perseveres in looking into it, being not a heedless listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he shall be blessed in his doing (his life of obedience).

Governing Values – Write down three things that you value.

Peace – Peace is not the absence of conflict. It is the absence of inner conflict.

Isaiah 26:3 (NLT)

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you!

Ephesians 2:14a (NIV)

14For he himself is our peace,

1 Peter 3:11 (NLT)

Turn away from evil and do good. Work hard at living in peace with others.

The Meaning of Peace

In English, the word "peace" conjures up a passive picture, one showing an absence of civil disturbance or hostilities, or a personality free from internal and external strife. The biblical concept of peace is larger than that and rests heavily on the Hebrew root *slm*, which means "to be complete" or "to be sound." The verb conveys both a dynamic and a static meaning—"to be complete or whole" or "to live well." The noun had many nuances, but can be grouped into four categories: (1) *salom* [l'v] **as wholeness of life or body (i.e., health)**; (2) *salom* [l'v] **as right relationship or harmony between two parties or people**, often established by a covenant (see "covenant of peace" in Num 25:12-13; Isa 54:10; Ezek 34:25-26) and, when related to Yahweh, the covenant was renewed or maintained with a "peace offering"; (3) *salom* [l'v] **as prosperity, success, or fulfillment** (see Lev 26:3-9); and (4) *salom* [l'v] **as victory over one's enemies or absence of war**.