

**THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD
PART 3—THE POWER TO PRODUCE FAITH!
ROMANS 10:6-17 (TEXT VS. 17)**

INTRODUCTION

For a couple of weeks now we've been looking at "*The Power Of The Word Of God!*". The power that belongs to God is stored in the eternal resource of His own Word—The Bible! Our God is the God of all power! If we wish to draw upon His power, we must not neglect His Powerful Word!

WE'VE SEEN HOW THAT THE WORD OF GOD HAS THE POWER TO CONVICT MEN OF SIN! (Both Lost Sinner and Saint!)

WE'VE SEEN HOW THAT THE WORD OF GOD HAS THE POWER TO GIVE LIFE! (Jesus said that it is the Spirit That Quickeneth or "makes alive" and that the Words He Spoke Are Spirit And Are Life!)

This morning we want to look at a third truth...

**THE WORD OF GOD HAS THE POWER TO PRODUCE FAITH!
(Romans 10:17)**

We do not get faith by merely praying, or by an effort of our will, or by trying to generate it in any way!

Here we see that Biblical Faith is the effect of a certain cause—that cause is the Word of God implanted in the soul! (Rom 1:16; Gal 3:2)

I. THE WORD OF GOD PRODUCES SAVING FAITH!

A. The Example Of The Philippian Jailer. (Acts 16:22-34)

- 1. Here we see a man under a heavy conviction of sin!**
How? No doubt by the Word of God he had already heard Paul and Silas already! (Vs 25)

That combined with the circumstances of two near death experiences!

- a. He could have died in the great earthquake!
- b. He would have died had the prisoners escaped!

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- 2. Notice the question that was asked by the man in vs. 30!**

- 3. Paul and Silas answered him in vs. 31.**
Now think of Paul's words from Romans 10:14
"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

So, obviously at this point this man had already heard the Gospel preached whether it was is **Word**, in **Prayer**, or in **Praises!**

Otherwise, this phrase "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved*" would have been just religious, meaningless mumbo jumbo to him!

- 4. But they didn't stop there! (Vs 32)**
They did not merely tell him to just believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and leave him there floundering!

They gave him MORE of what God has ordained to produce FAITH! The Word of God!
- 5. It is useless to tell folks to believe, but not show them how or give them anything definite to believe in!**
- 6. The Biblical way is that when you tell a person he must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be saved, that you explain what that means and what exactly he must believe in!**

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B. The Example Of Philip Witnessing To The Ethiopian Eunuch. (Acts 8:29-37)

We see here that Philip gave him something to believe... something for his faith to rest on!

1. Understand that we all exercise a degree of faith each and every day, but it is NOT a saving faith! (Give examples—airplane, pilot...manufacturers of various food products or other products...restaurants and other places of business...)

2. In fact, many of the objects of our faith might let us down at times, but not when the object of our faith is in Jesus Christ according to the truth of the Gospel!

JESUS NEVER FAILS BECAUSE HE IS BOTH GOD AND LORD!

3. ONLY Jesus Christ and the Gospel give a firm foundation for saving faith!

John 20:30-31— “And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.”

(1 Peter 1:23)

The Word of God can even dispel the doubts of the skeptic!

1. The book “*The Case For Christ*” written by a journalist, Lee Strobel, who investigated the evidence for the Biblical Jesus. He went from a professing skeptic to a professing believer!

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2. Josh Mc Dowell, another former agnostic who went about to disprove the claims of Christianity, and wound up as a believer! His books “*Evidence That Demands A Verdict*” and “*More Evidence That Demands A Verdict*” were born out of his investigations trying to disprove the Bible and its claims about Christ.

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II. THE WORD OF GOD PRODUCES PREVAILING FAITH!

Not only does SAVING FAITH come through the word of God, but also PREVAILING FAITH IN PRAYER!

Before we can truly believe that we will receive what we ask for, we must have a definite promise from God’s Word! If God has given us a definite promise, that’s better than any guarantee of the world!

Several things here:

A. We Must Go Into God’s Presence With The Thing We “Desire”! (Mark 11:24)

The word translated “*desire*” in Mark 11:24 comes from a word that means “*to ask*” as in a humble supplication of one in a lesser position to one who is in a greater position. (i.e. This is not a demand but a humble request!)

B. We Must Ask Ourselves This Question: Is There Any Promise In God’s Word Regarding What We Desire? (1 John 5:14-15)

We look into the Word of God and find the promise.

C. We Must Make Sure That What We Ask Is Not In Conflict With What We Know Of The Will Of God And The Character Of God!

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D. We Must Present Our Requests To God!

The only way to have a faith that prevails in prayer is to **study your Bible, so you can know the will of God and the promises of God**, and then present our requests to God according to His will and His promises!

George Muller, one of the mightiest men of prayer that ever was, always prepared for prayer by studying the Word of God!

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THE WORD OF GOD PRODUCES PREVAILING FAITH!

III. THE WORD OF GOD PRODUCES VICTORIOUS FAITH!

A. We Can Be Victorious Over The World!

1 John 5:4—“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.”

B. We Can Be Victorious Over The Flesh! (Hebrews 11:33ff)

C. We Can Be Victorious Over The Devil!

Ephesians 6:16—“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”

The Word of God produces victorious faith over the world, the flesh, and the Devil in the lives of believers who will access that faith!

Feed your faith constantly on the Word of God! In every respect it is true that *“faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God!”*

Conclusion

This victorious faith begins with saving faith! *1 John 5:5—“Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?”*