

lake Drummond Dec 6, 92 AM
IVOR - Oct. 15, 95 AM
- Lake Drummond Dec 10, 95 AM
Northwest Mar 12, 2000
July 29, 1979 A.M.
Campbell (his friend, stay det.)

"NO FAITH, NO CHURCH"

Mark 9:24

Prayer meeting Riverside
March 26, 86
Brentley, March 29, 87 A.M. vuv
So. May - Feb 7, 88 P.M. vuv (coll)
Taylor Rd Nov 20 88 P.M. vuv
Grove Park April 2, 89 P.M. vuv
Ave. State April 29, 91 A.M. vuv
Brentley 208 July 21, 91 A.M. vuv

Story told by Ernest T. Campbell.

A man made his way to the S. W. corner of 42nd Street and 5th Avenue to visit the Central Building of the New York Public Library. He passed the massive lions that keep their vigil at the gates, climbed the marble stairs that would do a palace justice, walked between the pillars, through the doors, and he was not prepared for what he saw inside. Glass covered display cases, mounted stamp collections hanging from the walls. Busts of notable benefactors. A store. Rest rooms. Telephones. Check rooms. Stairs. And elevators. In a depressed, dark mood - he turned to the member of the staff and cried, where do they keep the books?

To many outsiders, the Riverside Church must seem to be an assortment of unrelated projects, causes, and activities. What one is likely to see as he comes to the Riverside Church, depends on the day and the hour that the doors, or through the doors he enters.

There are all sorts of things that go on in that building. Gym, cafeteria, parking facilities, radio station, elevators. And when the man had pointed out to him that he was in a church building - he asked this. Where do they keep the faith?

Feeling that what books are to a library - faith is to a church. If there were no books, there would be no library. And if there is no faith, there is no church.

I think this is a good text and a good thought for us to think about today.

In the midst of a world that needs some faith.

Jesus Bore Faith Heb. 11

The Scripture has many good things to say about faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Heb. 11:6.

All things are possible to him who believes. Mark 9:23.

Paul in Rom. 14:23 - whatsoever is not of faith, is sin.

We are told in the Bible that faith can move mountains. It can set a man straight with God. It can generate hope and love.

What shall we define, and how shall we define this wonderful, desirable thing called faith. The writer of Hebrews says, the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Heb. 11:1.

John Calvin defined it as a steady and certain knowledge of the divine benevolence, towards us - which being founded on the truth of the promise in Christ, is both revealed to our minds. And confirmed to our hearts, by the Holy Spirit. Faith is man's participation in God. A German scholar put it.

We might define this in another way by saying, without faith, whatever else a church may have - it is nothing.

Yes, without faith, it is impossible even for a church, to please God.

The largest evangelical group in the United States, and the largest free church in the world, is Southern Baptist. With 34,000 churches, 14 million members, and part of a world body of Baptists of about 36 million, in 120 countries around the world.

Who are Southern Baptists - what do they stand for. What is the common ground. It starts with God, the Father. The Son, Jesus Christ. His birth through the Virgin Mary. And sinless life, his death on the cross, as atonement for sin. His burial and resurrection the third day. Then faith in Christ as the means of salvation - as he died as our substitute. We need to put that down - faith. You will discover that all who claim the name of Christ say that is, what they believe. We may differ on how to organize a church, or how to express some of the doctrines, but this is where we have a common ground of understanding.

And it is faith that we believe, that we do not believe, that we are the only ones saved. Now there are some groups of Baptists or Independent Baptists who act as though that they are the only ones who believe a certain way. But we believe that a person who repents of his sins, calls on Jesus Christ to save them from their sins, and believes upon him as Lord.

Now Southern Baptists do not believe that they are better Christians than anyone else. In fact, we are a pretty sorry lot when it comes to our mission giving and other things.

We do not believe that we have a special revelation. That God has given just to us.

We do not have any golden tablets with any Commandments. But we do have some Doctrines about our faith that we believe in.

Very briefly, we believe that the Bible is to be our sole authority for faith and practice. The Word of God, we believe, that an open Bible, and open mind, and open heart - to be led by the Holy Spirit of God will lead us to know the truth.

Another thing, the local congregation is a sole authority when we have a structure of 34,000 separate free-standing churches that voluntarily chose to participate. Eph 4:14-6 "There is one Body - one Spirit - one Hope - one Lord - one Father - one Baptism - one God & Father over us all"

We also believe that repentance and faith are the sole conditions of salvation.

What must I do to be saved - repent of your sins. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ

and thou shalt be saved. This simply means that I must be responsible and capable of repenting.

4 yrs ago our people walked by faith - today we seek to walk by sight

Running Back 1782 - NW become museum on Biallach

1 Pet 1:23 The Word of our God shall stand forever! Foundation of our faith
Best purchase John Wanamaker (millions) made cost \$2.75
Little Red Letter Bible

We have faith to believe in the symbolism of the ordinances of baptism, and of

the Lord's Supper. H.C. Moore - "The Bible is water of life - Don't drink it - Don't poison it - Don't divert it - Don't stop it - Don't try to purify it - Pour it out and pass it on!"

11 Try to Analyze it - Rev. A.C. Erwin 1925 said surely w.c. Hoop - Proached over 60

3 Am. sing old hymns Zion as angels came down to bear his spirit home, "O Bear me away on your snow

Now this is part of the church - and without faith, there would not be the

church. It is my prayer that everyone in our fellowship will become excited about

our church and her ministry - that every congregation will center around the great things that God is doing.

Now this will cause others to be excited and want to know what is going on.

When they know that, they will want to know our Lord, and be a part of the things that are happening.

By hospital - carried by angels with New song - Crowned Redeemer worth singing - Sing the New song on banks of Redeemed

There are two or three things that I want to say about No Faith - No Church.

Mixed - Doubt ; Life ; Multiplying with Jesus.

I. MIXED WITH DOUBT

Faith is always mixed with doubt. And if it has - like a coin, two sides.

9:14-16 In our Scripture text, we read, about Mark 9:14-29. That Jesus and the A-Team Peter, James and John went up into the Mt. of Transfiguration in the North country near Caesarea Philippi. In the meanwhile, the B-Team the remaining nine - on 9:18 the flats below, were approached by a man who wanted healing for his epileptic son.

The truth of the matter is, that neither one of these teams fared very well.

A-Team One group of Disciples did not know what to do on the Mount. The others, were powerless to help in the valley.

V.20 Presently Jesus came down from the Mountain with the three Disciples and confronted this discouraged father. The lad's condition was pitiful. He had all of the symptoms of epilepsy. Foaming at the mouth, and gritting his teeth. And Jesus faced the anxious father. And the conversation is recorded - he asked the father, how long has he had this. The Father replied, from childhood. But if you can do anything - have pity and help us.

Jesus responded, like if you can - a leper you remember came to Jesus and said, Lord, if you will - you can make me clean. Mark 1:40.

V. 23

Here, if you can, is the best the Father can do. Jesus answered, if you can, all things are possible to him who believes. And immediately the father came back with the most honest confession, to be found anywhere in writing. Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief. (Here is a mixture.) Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief. And he said this both at the same time, and the same man was saying this. If we get this Scripture, of this man, crying out - now we find that the nearest followers that Jesus had. His own men that he had chosen were beaten, were baffled, were helpless. And they were ineffective.

V. 27

The ONLY one who should put his faith in a Rabbi for

And Jesus said, bring the boy to me. When we cannot deal with an ultimate is a situation, then the thing to do is to deal with the situation with faith. Let me get on with the present task. If we sit and think about the state of the world - we may as well despair. Then let us get into action and let us do what we can about our small corner of the world. We may sometimes despair of the church. Then we need to get into action on our part of the church. Jesus did not sit there paralyzed at the slowness of men's minds. And this was the surest way to avoid pessimism - to take immediate action. To him that believeth, said Jesus. All things are possible. It was as if Jesus said, the cure of your boy depends not on me but on you.

This seems to be a truth. The approach to anything in the spirit of hopelessness makes it hopeless. But the approach to anything in the spirit of faith, means to make it possible. That's what our statemen need - a sense of the possible. Most of us are cursed with a sense of the impossible. But here is the attitude of faith. And they had come seeking for Jesus - he had already dealt with the Disciples. And the man's faith was badly shaken and there was some doubt in it. And he was saying, help me if you can.

Now this happens that sometimes that people get less than they hope for from some

church. Or some servant of the church. They think of a man of God and they are disappointed. But Jesus Christ never disappoints. So here is the matter of the mixture of faith with doubt.

Church depends on you! NOT NO C -

Doubt -

II. MIXED WITH LIFE

Faith is also tied into life. This is the way faith operates. How deeply do we believe? It is not a case that we get our faith all worked out intellectual. But it is how we put this faith together in life's situations. Andy - Roubt Ball - Trophy -

The Magic of Believing - I'm old enough to play base Ball, Foot Ball, Ice Now & My Mom told me. When you begin B.B. you aren't going to be able to run that fast cause you had an operation. He told mom I wouldn't need to run that - When I play B.B, I'll just hit them out of the park. Then I will be able to walk

Now this was the thing that Paul expressed his faith - he got his faith as he went. You will know as you go.

A young man in North Carolina, at a conference was talking to a minister once - he was a choice young fellow. His father was a preacher - he came from a solid home. But he was going through a mild crisis of faith - as he walked through life, he confessed that there was a void in his life. And he was saying, "I am not sure that I believe."

Suddenly this minister he was talking with, asked the young man one question. He was speaking in love and concern. But what would you do with more faith now if you had it? He went on to suggest that he really had few needs at the present that required faith. His father and his mother were paying the bills at college. He had professors who cared about him. He had a home to go back too. All things had been provided for him. What would you do with more faith now, if you had it? What would you do - and what do you need more faith for anyways.

Now if we understand the Bible correctly, there is an economy with God regarding even the gift of faith. It is only as we attempt great things for God, that we can expect great things from God. If we are content to play the status game, the pleasure game, we really don't need faith to do that kind of thing. You can go on until you are 65 and you wouldn't need faith for that.

But now if you are trying to move some mountain of unbelief, of prejudice, of injustice, it is then that God will give you and give us faith. We will know as we go.

You remember Job in the Old Testament - he really didn't know how deeply he believed - until his wife came to him and said, Job, why don't you curse God and die. He found in his soul at that time, Job, 13:15 - to say, "though he slay me, yet will I trust him. Faith is mixed up with life." And that was what was happening in the valley that day, when this man was dealing with Jesus. I believe, help my doubts, I am right here in the middle of life and that is where faith is.

In fact, Charles Jefferson once said, that Christianity is rooted in life. That is lived upon this earth. He told the story of a tourist who spent the night in a tent, on the desert. The next morning, he said to the guide, someone passed by last night. For I see his footprints in the sand. The guide stooped down and examined the print. And then he replied, not one sir, but 50 passed by. Each one followed the steps of his leader. It is thus that we seek to do.

Footsteps of Jesus that make the pathway glow. We will follow the steps of Jesus, wherever they go. Mary Slade.

Faith is mixed with doubt. Faith is mixed with life.

III. MULTIPLIED WITH JESUS

V.28
This is the final word. Now faith is multiplied with Jesus because he is the resource of faith. When you talk about your faith - you talk about Jesus. Now we commonly think of Jesus as the object of our faith. As indeed, he is. But he is also the source of our faith. And we believe in him. And we believe through him, and like him.

And quite often, we need to think how his faith generated. Only too well, we know how unbelief and pessimism are generated. But what is it that generates faith. The answer - I believe. It is that Jesus is the one who multiplies my faith.

Let me remind you of one of the outstanding characteristics of Jesus. It was his consciousness of God. Virtually even the critics will agree from first to last that Jesus was conscious of God.

You can go through all of the Gospels and you can trace every one of the traditions - and you can look at the Parables and the teachings of the Kingdom of God. And study the Lord's Prayer. And all of these, you will find that Jesus had close relation with God.

V.29
What I am saying is, as we draw near to Jesus, we find that our basic trust in God is contagious.

On the other hand, when we hang around with some people, we find ourselves - we

2 Thess. 3:16 - "Stay away from any man who spends his days in hypocrisy
and does not follow the ideal of hard work" -10-

will drift into dirty speech. Into a different way and a different pattern of life.
When we hang around with other people, we will become critical because they are
cynical. But when we begin to keep company with Jesus, we start to believe.

Jesus brings us to faith. And he is faith's most reliable witness and most
convincing spokesman. His life awakens faith. And he inspires our doubts to believe.

Now faith will not come by just exhortation. It comes through our exposure to
Jesus. And multiplies our faith. And that is why it is important for us to read
the Scriptures. And that is why it is important for us to attend church and worship.
And that is why it is important to us to be aware of the Spirit all around us.

Dr. Peter Lee, the Chinese missionary, who spoke in our church sometime ago -
wrote a book, "Walk In Faith". The Chinese character Hsin, meaning faith - is made
up of two parts he says. The part on the left is jen. It looks a little like an
inverted y. And it is the picture of a man standing. It means a standing person, or
a person who stands firm. The more complicated portion on the right is yan. And it
means a word of promise. About this word, Dr. Lee says, "a person standing on his word
or promise - he said is a person of faith". He stands on his word and does not break
it. So he is a person of faith. Or a faithful person.

*When see lightning flash across sky - quiet roar of Thunder to follow!
it is like that with FAITH - Good Works Always follows True FAITH!
Relationship - James 2:24 works follow faith*

A Christian standing firmly on God's word or promise, may be referred too as a
person of faith in God. God is a God of faith. His word or promise is dependable.
God will never break his word or promise, to his believers. Now we are the children of

God. We should put our complete trust in him - and he will carry us through all trials and all difficulties, on to victory. We must stand firmly on our word or

promise which we have made to God. We should not go back on our word. God is faithful - so we must be faithful.

*After the service 2 who age met at home China - reason more neighbors invited him
Amongst statement: "I wish (60 yrs old) + this is my 1st time in a church" - faith -
(Journel) today 94 yrs - sandy - faith - 3 girls around bed - sang "The Old Rugged Cross"
The way a saint dies -*

Paul puts this - by saying, Gal. 6:10 - that we become members of the household of faith. It is our faith that constitutes us as Christians.

*Northwest
I love
Take the Kingdom
Baptist
United Ch*

The richness of (S. N. B. C.) is its people. The richness of its people is their faith.

It is my judgement that we cannot do much for others, or for long, until we know who we are - and what we believe. But it is also true that we cannot implement what we do not have.

The church is more than the sum of its parts. But we must not forget that the faith of this congregation rests on the faith of its members in particular.

*A Dying Mother's guidebook for her children Mar. 10, 2000 Lois Kunsman, New wife - 2 children twin, lesson for life 1. God is in control - Bring her to Heaven 2. Money can't buy happiness 3. Treasure each day. 4. Don't Judge others by color of their skin, but by their character. 5. Tell the truth & do unto others (favorite flower Red Poppies & Tulips)
Lessons learned in 28 yrs, God in control - Faith!*

If we search through the Scriptures we will find many speaking of faith in the

first person, "The Lord is my shepherd." This one thing I do. He loved me and gave himself for me.

Now those who love his church, can do nothing more or better for it - now than to look to their faith. The question is how is it with you and your faith?

Do you prize your faith and treasure it. Do you really expose yourself to Jesus for the growth that he might bring to your faith. Do you need to say Lord, I believe. Help thou my unbelief.

- a spiritual reverse - a spiritual revival!

I am convinced of that. It is time today for us to RING THE BELL, AGAIN! for freedom, for its deep roots in our spiritual heritage, our spiritual faith.

A father took his little boy to the community where he grew up to visit the church where he was saved. The little clapboard church was about to fall down - the window lights broken, the pulpit and pews overturned. The father pointed out the pew where the family always sat. And I went down this aisle, when I was saved.

As they started out, the boy said, What is this rope? The bell rope - I used to come early so I could ring the bell! Daddy, reckon the bell is still there? He pulled and felt the weight - yes, I believe it is. Daddy, why don't you ring the bell again? He pulled - the boy said, Ring it again! Together, father and son rang the bell!

Then, someone stepped in the door. What's going on? Embarrassed, the father explained. When they stepped outside, the yard was full of people. The boy said, Daddy, you said when you used to ring the bell, people came - and you went inside and read the Bible - why don't you take them inside and sing a song.

They went inside - righted the pulpit and the pews - and sang a song. Thus a church that had faded away was reorganized and became a live dynamic witnessing church - because a little boy said, Let's RING THE BELL, AGAIN!

I wonder THIS morning - is it time for you to ring the bell again - some ideals long since slipped away - commitments forgotten - a commitment to Jesus Christ, to His church, to faith in God. The greatest contribution we can make to our nation and to our God is to give our hearts to Jesus Christ and become a Christian, first of all.

Would you like to say, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart? Think about it a moment - and come, today.

Not
No C -
Let's Ring the Bell again -

Mark 9

v 2 - Mt Transfiguration -

Ret - Same - John -

High Mt - apart by themselves.

White raiment - no fuller on Earth can white them.

Great - Elijah - Moses - Jesus.

Good - Be here.

Project - 3 Testaments,

Cloud - ✓ 17

Multitude ✓ 14

Moses son ✓ 17

✓ Faithless Geny ✓ 19

Sick from Birth - ✓ 21

✓ Believe - All things ✓ 23

v 24 ✓ Help my Unbelief -

✓ 29 → Only By Prayer

