

FAITH

The Substance and Evidence of Our Hope

EVIDENCE

Hebrews 11:1 — *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.* Faith is spoken about in two areas: One, faith gives substance to our hopes, and two, Faith is our evidence of the thing not (yet) seen - or, not yet brought forth into manifestation as our desired harvest.

“We’re going to have to believe things we can’t see. The evidence then is the faith and it stands in the place of the thing until the thing is manifest; when the thing is manifest, you don’t need the faith in it any more — you have a knowledge of it, it’s in the natural realm. But until it is manifest, faith is the only evidence you have.” ~ Charles Capps

Hebrews 11:1 (*NEB - New English Bible*) — “And what is faith? Faith gives substance to our hopes and makes us certain of realities we do not see.”

FAITH IS LIKEN TO ...

You’re in your car driving around town when you decide it’s time to go home and think to yourself, “I’m hungry.” You decide to stop by your favorite fast food restaurant and get a double-cheeseburger with fries and a beverage.

You go in and approach the counter and the waiter says “Welcome. How may I help you?”

“Well, I would like the double-cheeseburger combo,” you answer.

“Very well, that’ll be \$5.00, sir,” answers the waiter.

You pull out a \$5.00 bill and give it to him for your order. The waiter receives the money and gives you back a receipt for that order.

“Please have a seat and that order will be right out,” says the waiter.

That is how faith works.

That \$5.00 is like Faith, in that it—the \$5 bill—is the substance of the thing you hope for. You hope to have the double-cheeseburger combo, and that \$5.00 bill represents it, it will give substance to your desire. You don’t have the combo yet, but you know that the combo is yours. You know that the combo will soon manifest itself to you and you will be able to enjoy the fruit of your asking... yum!

That \$5.00 receipt is the evidence that the double-cheeseburger combo is yours. You know-that-you-know, soon and very soon, you’re going to be enjoying that which that \$5.00 bill purchased. The order is in; the order is paid for; the order must be finalized to me by having it in my grubby little hands!

That \$5.00 bill is the exchange unit here in the natural; likewise, your FAITH is the exchange unit in the spiritual.

You obtained \$5.00 through your labor... paycheck comes by the working of your hands. Want more pay? More hours working are required.

Faith comes by the avenue of your hearing God's Word. Want more faith? More hearing is required. (Romans 10:17)

You find something in the Word that you desire (*hmmm, I'm hungry*). You go to the "waiter" - the Stand-by, the One waiting on your order - and give to Him your desire as well as the mode of exchange - your faith - for it.

Now, you patiently wait for the reward, the fruit of, the return of, the manifestation of your faith — the promise of that Word that provides your desire. (Hebrews 6:12 & 15)

Your \$5.00 bill is just providing the answer to your double-cheeseburger combo, but it is also the evidence of payment received for that order.

Like manner, your faith isn't just providing the answer to your need, it is also the evidence that you have the promise that you believed (paid) for because it is LAW - that is, God said it, and God cannot lie. (Hebrews 11:1; Titus 1:2)

Eventually, you receive your double-cheeseburger combo and no longer have need of your \$5.00 bill for that particular want. The transaction is complete.

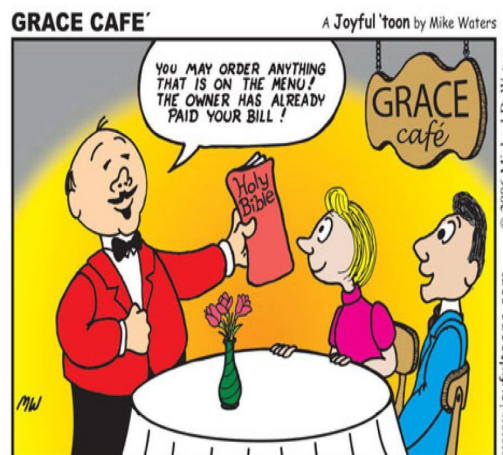
Likewise, eventually you receive your promise (answer to your need) and now you no longer have need of your faith for that particular need (Romans 8:24 & 25).

ALL the promises of God are YES and AMEN. (2 Corinthians 1:20). God's side, the Provider side, says YES to whatever promise you ask for. Your job is to pay for it by your faith, thereby saying, AMEN - so be it. Like Mary who was told she was going to give birth to a baby (Luke 1:28) replied, "Be it done unto me as you have said." AMEN!

In other words, "so be it" — let it be even as You have said. I agree with the promise and then promise starts to work its way to me. The fulfillment of the promise is contained IN the Seed itself. If it takes all the cooks (angels) in heaven to get it to me, so be it. They (the cooks - angels) hearken to the voice of His Word (Psalm 103:20) and they have been sent (Hebrews 1:14) to minister for me (in my behalf) and will get the reward of my faith to me.

Faith. Cannot receive the New Birth without it. Cannot walk/live without it. Cannot see without it. Cannot please God without it, and you cannot receive the promise (your hope) without it.

Your faith gives substance to the things you hope for, and your faith provides the evidence that what you hoped for is yours even though you may not (in the natural) have



For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. - II CORINTHIANS 1:20

it in your hands. But you *know-that-you-know* you have the reward of your faith (Mark 11:24), because you have provided the mode of exchange — your faith.

Take a look at Hebrews 6:11 & 12 — ¹¹ And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end: ¹² That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

The “full assurance of hope unto the end” means to bring in the harvest of your hope. To bring to an end, or fruition, your desire. It’s the cycle of your faith from seed, time, then harvest. Going from a promise (Seed) to having that Seed conceived and finally producing (“brought forth” - Mt. 12:35) in your life.

We’re also encouraged not to be lazy but follow those men and women that are producing Godly fruit in their lives. Notice also that this fruition is produced through faith and patience. Patience IS NOT “*Hang in there, baby!*” Scripturally, the word patience means to be consistent - unchanging in nature, standard, or effect over time. Wavering in one’s belief is “*up one day and down the next.*” There’s no assurance in the wavering of a double-minded person.

James 1:2 - 8 tells us, ² *My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;* ³ *Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.* ⁴ *But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.* ⁵ *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.* ⁶ *But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.* ⁷ *For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.* ⁸ *A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*

Please take notice of verses 7 & 8... a double-minded, wavering (inconsistent) person shall not receive anything from the Lord because that person is unstable in his ways. Up and Down, “Yes” to the promises one minute, “No,” to the promises the next. The enemy whispering, “*Hast God said?*” Or, your natural, logical, mind is saying, “*Why isn’t it working? What am I doing wrong?*” By this you’re questioning the validity of The Word’s ability to produce for you.

Psalm 119:67-*Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.*

How can one come to stability, full assurance of the promises of God? By keeping God’s Word. This is where a lot of Christians have a crop failure, or a problem seeing their faith project completed successfully. Double-mindedness will stop your harvest coming to its maturity, to fruition - because of your wavering, questioning whether or not you’ll receive the fulfillment of God’s promise in your life.

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From his book: From Hope to Harvest — *Bringing Your Faith Into Manifestation*