

"For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to battle?" 1 Corinthians 14:8

KJV

**KING JAMES BIBLE
USED FOR ALL
REFERENCES TO
GOD'S WORD IN
THIS NEWSPAPER**

The Original BAPTIST OBSERVER



"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls..." Jeremiah 6:16

Sounding Out The Faith January 2022

The Bible in Review

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Timothy 3:16-17

Inspiration of the Scriptures meaning God breathed, the act of breathing air into lungs. What does that mean? The Scriptures are clear that inspiration means that God literally put His words into the writers' mouths and they spoke and wrote God's words.

"But I am the LORD thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts is his name. And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people." Isaiah 51:15-16

"Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them." Jeremiah 5:14

"Should ye not hear the words which the LORD hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and the cities thereof round about her, when men inhabited the south and the plain?" Zechariah 7:7

Fulfilled prophecies with 100% accuracy show that the Bible could have only come from God.

Here are just a few:

In 70 A.D., Israel was scattered among all the nations just as the Bible had prophesied. Though they were "buried" in the nations, they were preserved just as the Bible had prophesied. In 1948, Israel was regathered and became a nation once again just as the Bible had prophesied.

"Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock." Jeremiah 31:10

"And I will scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee." Ezekiel 22:15

The Bible predicted that a "messenger" would go and prepare the way before the Lord hundreds of years before John the Baptist's parents were told they would bare a son that would prepare a way for the Lord. John the Baptist did go before Jesus and prepare the material for the Lord to build His church out of.

"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts." Malachi 3:1

"But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Luke 1:13-17

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light." John 1:6-8

The prophecy for God's time of dealing with Israel was 70 weeks, periods of seven years. The beginning of the seven year period was the restoration of Jerusalem to the 62nd seven year period to Jesus' crucifixion was written in the book of Daniel hundreds of years before it happened. 70 weeks are periods of seven years. From the time of the walls being rebuilt in Jerusalem until Jesus' death were the 62 weeks, seven year periods. God continued to deal with Israel and Jerusalem until the 69th week. Then, He turned to the Gentiles through His New Testament churches. The 70th week, a seven year period, will occur during the tribulation.

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“Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.” Daniel 9:24-27

The Bible’s harmony with true science before “the science world” even knew about it shows the Scriptures are inspired by God.

Notice how the Scriptures taught us about the water cycle through the ocean before “the science world” caught up.

“The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits. All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.” Ecclesiastes 1:6-7

The Scriptures also showed true science. The Creator knew that water and air had weight thousands of years before “the science world” realized the truth.

“For he looketh to the ends of the earth, and seeth under the whole heaven; To make the weight for the winds; and he weigheth the waters by measure. When he made a decree for the rain, and a way for the lightning of the thunder: Then did he see it, and declare it; he prepared it, yea, and searched it out.” Job 28:24-27

God, the Creator, knew the earth was round and told us in the Scriptures that it was round long before mainstream science proclaimed it so.

“It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:” Isaiah 40:22

Many people died because of the scientific falsehood that blood-letting would help people. If people would have just read the Bible and believed what God said about His creation, many people would not have died from this practice.

“For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.” Leviticus 17:14

The importance of the Word of God is confirmed over and over in the Scriptures. God esteems His Word above all His name. If God’s Word was not as good as His name, we could not trust His Word as

our sole authority. However, God cannot lie, so we know we can trust His Word. For truly, His Word is truth.

“I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.” Psalm 138:2

“That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:” Hebrews 6:18

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

His Word will stand as revealed and confirmed truth forever. This means that God will not change His Word to the fancy of man, conditions, or eras. His Word is the expression of His will for mankind. Spoken words express thoughts or feelings. God’s Son, Jesus, is the Living Word of God. Jesus is the expressed image of the Godhead to mankind. Therefore, God’s thoughts that He chose to reveal to mankind were written down by inspiration as God dictated them to inspired men of God. Hence, we have the very Word of God written down today.

“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.” Matthew 24:35

“For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.” I Peter 1:24-25

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.” John 1:1-4

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;” Hebrews 1:1-3

God’s Word is forever settled in Heaven. It is to be received or rejected as it is because God is not a changeable deity. His Word is settled.

“For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.” Psalm 119:89

His Word is His means of cleansing for mankind. It tells of the blood of Christ that really cleanses our souls. It also sanctifies one’s life for service after one is saved. The Word is said to be God’s cleansing means because it conveys His truth to the minds. The Holy Spirit then can work on the soul that is confronted with truth.

“Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.” John 15:3

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.” Psalm 119:9

“And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,” Revelation 1:5

“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 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? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:10-17

God’s Word will remain the truth whether it is believed or not. This simply means that the truth will remain the truth, regardless of what one does about it. One can do nothing that will keep the truth from remaining the truth. One can benefit from the truth by believing and practicing it, but regardless of what man decides to do with truth, it will remain the truth.

“For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.” II Corinthians 13:8

The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions immutable.

Read the Bible to be wise, believe it to be saved, and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler’s map, the pilgrim’s staff, the pilot’s compass, the soldier’s sword, and the Christian’s charter.

Christ is the subject, our good is its design, and the glory of God is its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is given to you in life, will be opened in the judgment, and be remembered forever.

It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy precepts.

“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.” Psalm 19:7-11

Faith

Saving Faith, Living Faith, and The Faith Once Delivered to the Saints

Faith: belief; trust in the honesty and truth of another; unshaken adherence; a system of doctrine

This definition of "belief" is not what the Bible teaches concerning faith. Trust in the honesty and truth of another is what the Bible teaches concerning saving faith. The living faith for a child of God is the unshaken adherence that Jesus Christ is the Lord of life and all things. The child of God should be living in faith knowing that nothing is too hard for God and He can take care of whatever may come into their life. The faith once delivered to the saints is the system of doctrine that Jesus gave to His New Testament churches to preach and contend for.

God must be believed in by faith for one to be born again. No one can see God with his physical eye. Believing intellectually that God is the Creator of all things as one sees His Creation is not faith. It is not saving faith, but simply a "belief" or a "conviction". Believing in God and that He created all things can be a necessary beginning place for one to experience a personal relationship with God, but it is not saving faith. Just a general belief in God as Creator is not the faith that the Bible teaches us about for one to be saved.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Personal trust in Jesus Christ as Savior who can cleanse from sin is saving faith. It takes trusting that Jesus will save you as He promised He would. One must put themselves in the hand of God believing that He cares for them.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

The salvation of a soul can only come through faith, after repentance has been made to God.

"Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." Acts 20:21

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:" Romans 5:1

This saving faith is completely trusting in Jesus and not one's own works in order to be saved.

"For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Titus 3:3-7

"Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his

own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:" II Timothy 1:9-10

Salvation comes only through saving faith. It is not of man and his works by any means. Man's works cannot be involved in any aspect of saving faith or else there can be no grace. Without grace, the unmerited favor of God, man would have place to boast and thus, remove all the glory belonging to God alone.

"Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all," Romans 4:16

"And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work." Romans 11:6

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise," Ephesians 1:13

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." Galatians 2:16

Living faith for the child of God can be increased, developed, strengthened, and/or diminished depending on what one is doing with the Word of God.

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17

"And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith." Luke 17:5

"For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ: Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly," II Corinthians 10:14-15

Consider Abraham's faith. We know there were times when Abraham's faith was weak. (in Egypt, with Hagar, etc.) However, we see by the Scriptures that there were times when Abraham believed God and understood that even though things seemed impossible, there was nothing too hard for God. Abraham fully believed and had an unshaken adherence to the Word of God.

"He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;" Romans 4:20

The child of God can only have this living faith while trusting in the promises of God's Word. We must be reminded daily through study of God's Word that God is faithful. Lessons of experience can teach us faith if we are willing to learn. In the example of Lazarus in the Scriptures, Jesus was glad that He wasn't present when Lazarus died so that His disciples would believe. This was not believing to the saving of their souls; they were already saved. Jesus was trying to teach them living faith. The faith for a child of God to believe and trust God in their everyday lives. Without looking into the Word of God daily, a child of God can forget who he is and what God can do for him.

"Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him." John 11:12-15

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1:22-25

The New Testament system of doctrines of the Lord's New Testament churches is called "the faith". It means there is a unity of doctrine. These doctrines are in complete harmony with each other in God's Word.

"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Ephesians 4:4-6

As New Testament churches, the Bible teaches us to contend for the faith. We are to guard it with our lives. The very truth of God, the faith, is worth giving one's life to it and for it if necessary.

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." Jude 3, 4

In Revelation 2:13, Jesus called "the faith", His faith. These doctrines do not belong to men or even churches. These doctrines are the Lord's that He has placed inside His New Testament churches to uphold and support the faith.

"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth." Revelation 2:13

“But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” I Timothy 3:15

The Lord’s New Testament churches need to be established in the faith. This means that the doctrines Jesus first delivered to His first church should be continued in. Churches need to be taught doctrine so that they will know how to contend, what to contend for, and why the doctrines need to be contended for.

“And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.” Acts 16:5

“And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.” Acts 2:41

“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.” II Peter 3:18

“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,” Hebrews 6:1

“Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” I Corinthians 2:13

When the Lord’s churches are established in the doctrine of salvation by grace and security of that salvation through the Scriptures, they will want to proceed in growth unto further development. When they are established in the why, how, when, and by whom of baptism, they will want to continue in the establishment and growth of understanding of the doctrine of baptism. When they are taught and learn the depth of the truth of the Lord’s church, its purpose, mission, and destiny, they have only begun. However, they will desire to seek out more of the depths and riches of the truths of the doctrines in the Lord’s New Testament churches.

Many churches today are falling away from the truth and the faith that was once delivered to the saints because they have not been taught the importance of these doctrines. Many fail to see the beauty of the Lord’s established truth because they do not understand that these doctrines are the doctrines of God and not man. If one is taught the simplicity of God’s Word they will see the beauty in these doctrines and desire to see more depths that are found in the Word of God.

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” II Timothy 4:3-4

“If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;” Colossians 1:23

“For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” II Timothy 4:6-8

Jesus did not give His New Testament church “all authority”. Jesus said He had all authority and He sent His church out under His own authority to do “whatsoever I have commanded you”. The faith is not a church’s system of doctrine and practice. The faith is the Lord’s system of doctrine and practice. The Lord established His church and He gave them His doctrines to carry out under His authority. These doctrines are not to be changed and made more convenient for the sake of man. They are not ours to change.

“Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:16-20

“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:18

“As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,” I Timothy 1:3

“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.” II Timothy 2:2

When one is saved, he has exercised a personal trust in Jesus Christ through saving faith. This means that Christ and His atoning blood is the object of his faith. The believer has everlasting life and will never be lost again.

“He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” John 3:18

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” John 5:24

“He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” I John 5:12

After one is saved, this faith needs to grow, increase, strengthen, and develop into maturity. This can only be done in obedience to the Word of God. This means that in order for a child of God to grow in faith they must be baptized Scripturally and then added to one of the Lord’s New Testament churches.

“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man

had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” Acts 2:41-47

Then God expects His New Testament church members to grow in faith by growing in the Word of God.

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.” I Peter 2:2-3

“Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” II Peter 1:1-8

“And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized. Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.” Acts 18:8-11

Without the Word of God strengthening our faith, we will not be able to live by faith or contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. We must grow in doctrine to understand and see the depths of the Lord’s love for us. For truly, only inside a New Testament church can one comprehend the magnitude of God’s love for us.

“And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him. Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.” Ephesians 3:9-21