

Provisions for the Worn Out: Part 4b

October 4, 2020

Discussion Question: How does weak faith allow qualms to arise in your heart?

Daniel 7:25 *“And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High...”* [KJV]

The enemy of our soul desires to wear us out. Last week we began with Qualms

- A qualm is a feeling of doubt or misgiving; an uneasy feeling of worry or fear especially about one’s own conduct or decisions.
- It is a sudden feeling of apprehensive uneasiness; an uneasiness about the fitness of an action.

Living in a society where we are confronted with manipulation, fabrication and falsifications can create an atmosphere where we have misgivings about everything. Satan’s scheme is to get you full of qualms with God.

We began with Daniel and A Personality Trait that we all should have. An Excellent Spirit. Or the Spirit Excelled in Him The Excellent Spirit produces dissolving of doubts!

TODAY: The Pattern of Jesus

Let’s look at several times that Jesus addresses doubts to remind us of just how critical the gift of faith is in our lives. For faith is the gift and tool that God grants us to overcome all doubts and misgivings!

A. Faith in HIS Provision

Matt 6:25, 24 & 30 *“Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. (Money) ... 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?”* [KJV]

Though the word doubt is not used it is implied because there is this conflict about who to serve. Love one & hate the other. Little faith doubts God’s provision

Little faith means lacking confidence, especially in Christ. It implies in trusting too little.

God’s providing does not remove us from responsibility but when we are doing what we are supposed to do we are to trust God’s hand and that HE will provide for our needs.

Trusting God is the answer for these qualms about food, drink, what to wear...

B. Faith in HIS Presence

Matt 14:31 *"And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"* [KJV]

You can be in position to stare at the Lord and still doubt. You can be in HIS presence and have so many qualms that you are no longer in fellowship with HIM. Your misgivings about HIM will cause you to sink in despair. YET! The answer is faith!

C. Faith in HIS Power

Matt 21:21-22 *"Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. 22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."*

Why were the disciples were amazed at what happens here. After all they have seen greater miracles.

Isn't it amazing that no matter what we witness our God do, we still can come to a place of doubt about HIS ability?

FAITH does not require that HE prove HIMSELF... Rather faith is content with how HE chooses to display HIS power!

D. Faith in HIS Person

Luke 24:36-39 *"As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" 37 But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. 38 And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and **why do doubts arise in your hearts?** 39 See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."* [ESV]

When you look at the founders of other religions you will hear them say; "I have found the way"; "I have seen the way"; "I have been shown the way"; But Jesus comes on the scene and states emphatically "I am the way"! In the words of C.S. Lewis for those who say that Jesus is not who HE claims to be but is still a good teacher, this statement poses an insurmountable problem. Jesus is either liar, a lunatic or Lord of Glory.

Herein is what makes Christianity so unique...it is the Person of Christ...HE is divine (God very God): HE is the divine Logos; The Word...HE did not come into existence. Yet HE takes on flesh; the Incarnation This is mystery and must be taken by faith.

At some point we all have to make the leap of faith; grounded in truth that Jesus is Lord! Because of the plan of God, that Christ would die, be buried and arise again, the Disciples have doubts, misgivings to arise in their hearts. So with us...Days that the misgivings will come and doubts will rise up in opposition to what we have learned to be true. **What do we do?** Have faith!