

## Backward Faith

- **Proverbs 18:21** Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.
- FEAR IS THE OPPOSITE OF FAITH; THEY REFUSE TO COEXIST. (Faith is the forward gear, fear is the reverse gear!)
  - Fear: an unpleasant often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger.
  - Faith: firm belief in something for which there is no proof.
- **Mark 4:40** And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?
- FAITH AND FEAR EVENTUALLY WILL EXPRESS THEMSELVES IN OUR WORDS AND ACTIONS
  - **Job 3:25** For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.
  - **Joel 3:10** Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.
  - **2 Corinthians 12:10** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.
- FAITH DOESN'T MEAN PRETENDING THAT OBSTACLES DO NOT EXIST, IT MEANS REALIZING THAT GOD IS IN CONTROL REGARDLESS OF THE OBSTACLES!
- **Hebrews 10:35-38** <sup>35</sup>Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. <sup>36</sup>For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. <sup>37</sup>For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. <sup>38</sup>Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.
- YOU CAN HAVE FAITH FOR SOMETHING UNTIL IT OCCURS, OR YOU CAN HAVE FEAR FOR SOMETHING UNTIL IT OCCURS!
- **Luke 1:46-49** <sup>46</sup>And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, <sup>47</sup>And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. <sup>48</sup>For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. <sup>49</sup>For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.
- **Psalm 34:3-4** <sup>3</sup>O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. <sup>4</sup>I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.
- Both Mary and David are MAGNIFYING THE LORD, looking at Him through His promises in the FUTURE TENSE. That's FAITH!
- **Hebrews 11:1-2** <sup>1</sup>Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>For by it the elders obtained a good report.
- FAITH TAKES THE "BINOCULARS OF LIFE" AND LOOKS THROUGH THE RIGHT END; FEAR LOOKS THROUGH THE WRONG END! (everything that should be big is small, and everything that should be small is big)
- TWELVE SPIES IN NUMBERS 13 – fear caused them to magnify the size of their problems instead of the size of their God!
- WHATEVER YOU GET CLOSE TO APPEARS BIGGER; WHATEVER YOU GET DISTANT FROM APPEARS SMALLER!
- **Psalm 100:1-5** <sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. <sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. <sup>3</sup>Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup>Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. <sup>5</sup>For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.
- PRAISE IS DIFFERENT THAN THANKSGIVING! Thanksgiving is connected to what He has done; praise is linked to who He is!
- IF WHAT YOU NEED IS MORE THAN WHAT HE HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE, THEN WHAT YOU SAY HAS TO BE MORE THAN WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY SEEN HIM DO!
- **Psalm 100:4** (MES) Enter with the password: "Thank you!" Make yourselves at home, talking praise.
- MOVE BEYOND THE "GATES" INTO THE "COURTS"!