

## Sermon Notes

### *My Faith or Yours - 1Cor 8:7-9*

March 29, 2020

#### I. Introduction

- a. *My faith or yours...* get it (my place or yours)... honestly, got to laugh more during this situation or you'll go nuts (jokes)...
- b. cancelled Kids/Youth on Mon... as of Tues, still planned to meet in person today... going completely on-line was hard decision... hours of prayer... so what changed our mind... pray...  
1Cor 8:2... "if anyone thinks he knows anything... does not yet know it..."

#### II. My Faith or Yours

- a. lots of opinions... get in ditch on either side... biblical perspective... remember, this is not God's judgment or punishment on world...  
Exo 15:26... "I will not inflict any illness... I am the Lord who heals..."  
Psa 103:3... "He forgives all my sin... heals all my diseases..."  
Matt 8... "He healed all sick... He Himself carried our diseases..."  
John 10... "devil comes to steal, kill, destroy... I bring abundant life..."
- b. Christians should not be afraid... of this or anything else...  
Psa 46... "God is our refuge and strength... always ready to help in times of trouble... therefore, we will not be afraid when earthquakes come and mountains crumble... God dwells in that city... it cannot be destroyed..."
- c. is this a serious issue (yes)... has it been blown out of proportion (yes)... where are you getting your truth... media creates fear (worse case)... Word creates faith (best case)... results based on who you believe...  
Prov 4:23... "guard your heart... it determines the course of your life..."  
Prov 18:21... "words kill or give life... poison or fruit... you choose..."  
Mark 5:34... "your faith has saved you... go in peace and be healed..."  
Rom 8:1-15... "carnal mind is death... spiritual mind is life... you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear..."  
1John 4:18... "there is no fear in love... perfect love casts our fear..."
- d. if you're in fear... gotta address that first... fear suppresses immune system... just makes it worse... don't do anything out of fear...  
Psa 91... "He will rescue you and protect you from deadly disease... do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness or arrow by day..."  
2Tim 1:7... "not given us a spirit of fear... power, love, sound mind..."
- e. my response is two-fold... personal and public... not in fear... I am believing and speaking what God says... that's my personal response...  
2Cor 4:13-18... "we have the same spirit of faith in keeping with what is written... I believed, therefore I spoke... we also believe and speak..."

#### II. My Faith or Yours

- f. however, my public response needs to be different... others may not have that same knowledge or belief... forcing that faith can be dangerous...  
1Cor 8... "about food sacrificed to idols... we all have knowledge... knowledge puffs up, love builds up... we know there is only one God and one Lord, Jesus, thru whom we have been given life... not all believers know this... be careful your freedom does not cause others to stumble... if they see you eat in an idol's temple, they'll be encouraged to violate their conscience & eat food offered to an idol... so because of your knowledge... a weak believer will be destroyed..."
- g. weak doesn't mean inferior... not everyone has same knowledge or belief... some knew it wasn't a big deal eating meat offered to idols, others did not... if my knowledge causes others to act like I do... and they don't have same faith... they could be destroyed... have responsibility for others (John Tesh cancer)...  
1Cor 10... "I am allowed to do anything... but not everything is good for you... don't be concerned for your own good, but good of others..."
- h. when we share promises... important not to force our faith on others... may not be at same place... growing in different ways, different times (finance, health)...  
Phil 3:12-18... "if you think differently, God will reveal it to you..."
- i. levels of healing... most Christians accept sickness, rely on God for healing... better way... health, not healing... promise requires us to live under protection... most won't receive because they are content just to visit...  
Exo 23:25... "I will bless... I will take sickness away from you..."  
cuwr... to be removed; come to an end; put away; reject, abolish...  
Psa 91... "live under protection of Most High... dwell in Almighty..."  
yashab... sit, remain, stay... luwn... spend the night...  
3John 2... "wish above all things you prosper... be in good health..."
- j. issues of life come from the heart... out of heart mouth speaks... are you willing to speak these things (boast/confidence)... if not, take every precaution...  
Psa 91... "I will say... He alone is my refuge, place of safety, I trust Him..."  
Prov 10:11... "mouth of righteous is life... mouth of wicked evil..."  
1Cor 1:31... "let the one who boasts... boast in the Lord..."
- k. truth (Word) is your shield... not media speculation (WHO)... when you live with God... no harm or plague comes near... must say it... not everyone believes that... so we're careful with our freedom in order to protect them...  
Psa 91... "surely, He will rescue you from destructive plague... His truth shall be your shield... it shall not come near you... you will only see with your eyes... because you made God your dwelling... no harm or plague will come near..."
- l. all this has shown us people are unequipped to deal with something medicine can't handle... most trust medical profession first... God as a last resort... need to get to a place where we believe God and speak what He says... pray...  
Rom 4... "believed God who calls things into existence that do not exist... He believed, hoping against hope... did not waver in unbelief at God's promise... but was strengthened in faith and gave glory to God... because he was fully convinced that what God had promised... He was also able to do..."

When the river of suffering rages around you and you ignore prayer, there is no peace, joy, courage, or growth. The path to peace is prayer. Steve Swartz

## I Will Surely Do You Good

Gen 32:12... *and You have said...*

When Jacob was on the other side of the brook Jabbok, and Esau was coming with armed men, he earnestly sought God's protection, and as a master reason, he pleaded... *And thou sadst, I will surely do thee good.* Of, the force of that plea! He was holding God to His word... *Thou sadst.*

The attribute of God's faithfulness is a splendid horn of the altar to lay hold upon... but the promise, which has in it the attribute and something more, is a yet mightier holdfast. *Thou sadst, I will surely do thee good.* And has He said, and shall not He do it? *Let God be true and every man a liar.* Shall not He be true? Shall He not keep His word? Shall not every word that cometh out of His lips stand fast and be fulfilled?

Solomon, at the opening of the temple, used this same mighty plea. He pleaded with God to remember the word which He had spoken to His father David, and to bless that place. When a man gives a promissory note, his honour is engaged... he signs his hand, and he must discharge it when the due time comes, or else lose his credit. It shall never be said that God dishonours His bills.

The credit of the Most High never was impeached, and shall never be. He is punctual to the moment. He never is before His time... but He never is behind it. Search God's Word through, and compare it with the experience of God's people, and you shall find the two tally from the first to the last. Many a patriarch has said with Joshua... *not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you, all are come to pass.*

If you have a **divine promise**, you need not plead it with an *if*. You may **urge it with certainty**. The Lord meant to fulfill the promise, or He would not have given it. God does not give His words merely to quiet us, and to keep us hopeful for awhile with the intention of putting us off at last. When He speaks, it is because **He means to do as He has said.**

Charles Spurgeon  
Morning and Evening Devotional – April 18<sup>th</sup>

## Remember Your Promise

Psalm 119:49... *remember your promise to me, it is my only hope...*

Whatever your especial need may be, you may readily find some promise in the Bible suited to it. Are you faint and feeble because your way is rough and you are weary? Here is the promise... *He giveth power to the faint.* When you read such a promise, take it back to the greater Promiser, and **ask Him to fulfil His own word.**

Are you seeking after Christ, and thirsting for closer communion with Him? This promise shines like a star upon you... *blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.* **Take that promise to the throne continually.** Do not plead anything else but go to God over and over again with this... *Lord, Thou hast said it, do as Thou hast said.*

Are you distressed because of sin, and burdened with the heavy load of your iniquities? Listen to these words... *I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions and will no more remember thy sins.* You have no merit of your own to plead why He should pardon you, but plead His written engagements and He will perform them.

Are you afraid lest you should not be able to hold on to the end, lest, after having thought yourself a child of God, you should prove a castaway? If that is your state, take this word of grace to the throne and plead it... *the mountains may depart, and the hills may be removed, but the covenant of my love shall not depart from thee.*

If you have lost the sweet sense of the Saviour's presence, and are seeking Him with a sorrowful heart, **remember the promises...** *return unto Me, and I will return unto you. For a small moment I have forsaken thee, but with great mercies will I gather thee.*

Banquet your faith upon God's own word, and whatever your fears or wants, repair to the Bank of Faith with your Father's note of hand saying... *remember the word unto Thy servant, upon which Thou hast caused me to hope.*

Charles Spurgeon  
Morning and Evening Devotional – April 28<sup>th</sup>