The Fruit of FAITH

(The Fruit of the Spirit, Part 7)

Introduction:

"Faith" - To trust, rely on, or depend upon God with full confidence; such firm persuasion results in steadfast conviction (II Tim. 1:12) and motivates one's attitude and action.

The Object of Faith: God (Mk. 11:22)

The Basis of Faith: God's revelation (Rom. 10:17; Gal. 3:2, 5)

The Result of Faith: Salvation (Rom. 5:1)

The Evidence of Faith: Love and obedience (Ja. 2:14-26; I Jn. 5:1)

We are not only saved by faith, but will live by faith (Rom. 1:17). Such living faith is a product of the Spirit.

Note the connection between the Holy Spirit and faith: Acts 6:5, 11:24.

God's Spirit gives faith in various measures: Rom. 12:3, 6; I Cor. 12:9.

Faith can grow: II Thes. 1:3.

***What does a Holy Spirit-produced faith look like?**

1. **We stand by faith** (I Cor. 16:13; II Cor. 1:24)
   (By faith we remain stable though the winds may blow)

2. **We walk by faith** (II Cor. 5:7; cp. 4:18)
   (By faith we see the future)

3. **We work by faith** (I Thes. 1:3a; II Thes. 1:11)
   (By faith we serve our Heavenly King)

4. **We speak by faith** (II Cor. 4:13)
   (By faith we preach the Gospel with boldness)

5. **We unite by faith** (Eph. 4:13)
   (By faith we become one in doctrine)

6. **We fight by faith** (Eph. 6:16; I Tim. 6:12)
   (By faith we quench Satanic attacks)

7. **We conquer by faith** (I Jn. 5:4)
   (By faith we subdue earthly allurements)

8. **We grow by faith** (I Tim. 1:4)
   (By faith we mature in our Christian life)

9. **We love by faith** (Gal. 5:6)
   (By faith we decide to unselfishly give to others)

10. **We pray by faith** (Ja. 1:6, 5:15; Mt. 21:22)
    (By faith we ask of God with confidence)

11. **We rejoice by faith** (Phil. 1:25-26; Rom. 15:13)
    (By faith we find joy and peace in God's faithful promises)

Conclusion: "Faith honors God,
and God honors faith" (Heb. 11:6).

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The Object of Faith: God

(Mk. 11:22 - *"And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God."*)

The Basis of Faith: God's revelation

(Rom. 10:17 - *"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."*; Gal. 3:2, 5 - *"This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?"*)

The Result of Faith: Salvation

(Rom. 5:1 - *"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ"*)

The Evidence of Faith: Love and obedience

(SEE Ja. 2:14-26; I Jn. 5:1 - *"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him"*)

We are not only saved by faith, but will live by faith (Rom. 1:17 - *"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."*). Such living faith is a product of the Spirit.

Note the connection between the Holy Spirit and faith: Acts 6:5 - *"And the saying pleased the whole multitude; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost..."*; 11:24 - *"For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord*."

God's Spirit gives faith in various measures: Rom. 12:3, 6 - *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. . . . Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith"*; I Cor. 12:9 - *"To another faith by the same Spirit..."*.

Faith can grow: II Thes. 1:3 - *"We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth."*.

***What does a Holy Spirit-produced faith look like?**

1. We <u>stand</u> by faith (I Cor. 16:13; II Cor. 1:24)

(By faith we remain <u>stable</u> though the winds may blow)

I Cor. 16:13 - *"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."*

II Cor. 1:24 - *"Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy; for by faith ye stand."*

2. We <u>walk</u> by faith (II Cor. 5:7; cp. 4:18)

(By faith we <u>see</u> the future)

II Cor. 5:7 - *"For we walk by faith, not by sight"*

cp. II Cor. 4:18 - *"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."*

3. We <u>work</u> by faith (I Thes. 1:3a; II Thes. 1:11)

(By faith we <u>serve</u> our Heavenly King)

I Thes. 1:3a - *"Remembering without ceasing your work of faith..."*

II Thes. 1:11 - *"Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power."*

4. We speak by faith (II Cor. 4:13)

(By faith we preach the Gospel with boldness)

II Cor. 4:13 - *"We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak."*

5. We unite by faith (Eph. 4:13)

(By faith we become one in doctrine)

Eph. 4:13 - *"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."*

6. We fight by faith (Eph. 6:16; I Tim. 6:12)

(By faith we quench Satanic attacks)

Eph. 6:16 - *"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."*

I Tim. 6:12 - *"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."*

7. We conquer by faith (I Jn. 5:4)

(By faith we subdue earthly allurements)

I Jn. 5:4 - *"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."*

8. We grow by faith (I Tim. 1:4)

(By faith we mature in our Christian life)

I Tim. 1:4 - *"Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."*

9. We love by faith (Gal. 5:6)

(By faith we decide to unselfishly give to others)

Gal. 5:6 - *"For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."*

10. We pray by faith (Ja. 1:6, 5:15; Mt. 21:22)

(By faith we ask of God with confidence)

Ja. 1:6 - *"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."*

Ja. 5:15 - *"And the prayer of faith shall save the wick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."*

Mt. 21:22 - *"And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."*

11. We rejoice by faith (Phil. 1:25-26; Rom. 15:13)

(By faith we find joy and peace in God's faithful promises)

Phil. 1:25-26 - *"And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith; That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again."*

Rom. 15:13 - *"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."*

Conclusion: "Faith honors God,
and God honors faith" (Heb. 11:6).

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