

## Don't Be Ministered Away from Faith

**We MUST have Faith to please God** - Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

**Living by Faith will be the calling card of God's people** - Heb 10:37-39 - 37 For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. 38 But my righteous one will LIVE BY FAITH. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." 39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are **destroyed**, but of those who believe and are saved.

**Living by Faith is opposite of living by sight** - 2 Cor 5:7 We live by faith, not by sight.

**Faith is how we stay protected** – 1 Peter 5:8-9 - 8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, STANDING FIRM IN THE FAITH, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

**Faith in God is what justifies us** - Col 1:21-23 - 21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— 23 IF YOU CONTINUE IN YOUR FAITH, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

**Complete understanding in Christ will protect us from being enticed by sight** - Col 2:2-4 - 2 My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, SO THAT they may have the full riches of complete understanding, IN ORDER THAT they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, 3 in whom are hidden ALL the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. 4 I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by **FINE-SOUNDING ARGUMENTS**.

**False teachers are successfully aiming at the flesh** - 2 Peter 2:18-20 - 18 For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of sinful human nature, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error. 19 They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity — for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him.

**These teachings will cause division with Christians and hinder people from following the Bible** - Rom 16:17-18 - 17 I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. 18 For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.

**Simply put, they avoid the fueling of the must needed Faith** - Rom 10:17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and **THE MESSAGE IS HEARD THROUGH THE WORD OF CHRIST**.

**Don't be misled when a sermon seems to resonate with the world, because, not only will the world not accept Godly messages, they CANNOT accept them** - 1 Cor 2:13-15 - 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. 14 The man without the Spirit DOES NOT ACCEPT the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he CANNOT UNDERSTAND them, because they are spiritually discerned.

**What tends to happen, is these teachers change the message to relate to the world, instead of preaching Christ** - 1 John 4:4-6 - 4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. 5 They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. 6 We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but WHOEVER IS NOT FROM GOD DOES NOT LISTEN TO US. THIS IS HOW WE RECOGNIZE THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH AND THE SPIRIT OF FALSEHOOD.

\*There is a big difference to someone giving clarity to the Spiritual Word and someone supposedly making the Spiritual Word fleshly clear.

**We are to make sure the word we receive is fully based on the Bible** - Eph 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.

**Sound doctrine is mandatory** - Titus 2:1 You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine

**Without sound doctrine, they will even use scripture to misled** - Matt 4:5-7 - 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone." 7 Jesus answered him, **"IT IS ALSO WRITTEN: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"**

**What we should expect from a true Christian teacher** - 1 Thess 2:3-6 - 3 For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. 4 On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. 5 You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed — God is our witness. 6 We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else.

- **The purpose of the ministry is God only**
- **Reverently preach the Word, not trying to appeal to man.**
- **Not driven by greed, or man's approval**