*Friday, April 6, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Romans 10:16-18 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? (17) So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (18) But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. (KJV)

Your faith is developed by hearing; in fact we see hearing mentioned twice in verse 17. Now you don’t get more faith, because we have all been given the same measure of faith; however, you get to see more of how faith does truly work when you not only hear the Word but actually step out and act on it as well.

Hebrews 11:1-3 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (2) For by it the elders obtained a good report. (3) Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. (KJV)

Strongs defintion for ‘substance’:

5287 hupostasis (hoop-os'-tas-is); from a compound of 5259 and 2476; a setting under (support), i.e. (figuratively) concretely, essence, or abstractly, assurance (objectively or subjectively): KJV-- confidence, confident, person, substance.

Buildings today use a lot of concrete for a foundation because they want something that will hold up and endure. When you pray and seek the Lord I am sure that you desire someone who is strong and will hold you up in time of need. Well, you become strong in the Lord and the power of His might when you put more of your trust in the things that are not seen, at least not to the carnal sight. Your faith, your ability to believe and trust in the Lord becomes cemented when you put confidence in what you hear from our Lord and not what your outward sight would try to dictate as truth.

Proverbs 8:17-21 I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me. (18) Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. (19) My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver. (20) I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment: (21) That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures. (KJV)

When you gave your life to the Lord you were given the measure of faith so that you too could inherit something with real substance, instead of all the phony gimmicks and carnal things that you settled for in the past. You got fed up with outward things and people that promise so much but deliver so little when needed. Many false prophets today are pointing God’s people to outward things, like a love of money thinking that it would ever bring peace or any real substance to their life. Those that are truly hearing our Lord will be pointing His people to the new inward man and away from outward empty people.

Hebrews 10:34-36 For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance. (35) Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. (36) For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. (KJV)

Do you consider anything outside the realm of faith dung? Paul said it was a dung deal to him, because he was more interested in something with some real substance and not a foundation built on sand. Sometimes you will find that it takes faith to hold fast, even when it doesn’t appear that your prayers were answered right away or in the time frame that you thought they would manifest.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. (17) For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; (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. (KJV)

The more you allow the inward man to take over, by putting your faith and trust in that realm, the more the outward one will not have such an effect or influence on you any more, dying daily to it. So let’s get inside and out of the storms of this life, and take shelter in a Spiritual building that has substance to it and that won’t get blown away with the many winds of doctrines blowing around us. God bless and stay faithful Church.