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The Faith Which Builds Us Up

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Psalm 19, Exodus 14.13-25, Heb.11.1-7, Mark.11.20-25.

Good morning, dear brothers and sisters in Christ. Today, we gather to explore a powerful and life-changing theme: “The Faith Which Builds Us Up.” In our journey of faith, it’s essential to understand how our belief in God strengthens and shapes us into the people He desires us to be. Faith is not just about believing in God’s existence; it’s about trusting His promises, relying on His strength, and allowing Him to work in and through us. Let us begin by reflecting on four key passages from the Bible that illustrate how faith builds us up: Psalm 19, Exodus 14:13-25, Hebrews 11:1-7, and Mark 11:20-25.

1.Faith Revealed in Creation (Psalm 19)

Psalm 19 is a beautiful reminder of how God’s creation reveals His glory and builds our faith. Verses 1-4 say:

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.”

When we look at the beauty of nature—the vastness of the sky, the majesty of the mountains, the intricate design of a flower—we see the handiwork of God. This revelation of His power and creativity strengthens our faith, reminding us that the Creator of the universe is in control of our lives.

Consider a farmer who plants seeds in the soil. He cannot see what happens beneath the ground, but he trusts that the seeds will grow. His faith is built on the evidence of past harvests and the reliability of God’s creation. Similarly, when we see God’s work in nature, our faith is built up as we trust in His continuous care and provision.

2.Faith in God’s Deliverance (Exodus 14:13-25)

In Exodus 14:13-25, we find the Israelites trapped between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army. In this moment of crisis, Moses tells the people:

“Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

God’s miraculous parting of the Red Sea and the subsequent deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt is a powerful testament to His saving power. This story reminds us that when we face seemingly insurmountable challenges, we can trust in God’s ability to deliver us.

Imagine a villager facing a severe drought, unsure of how his family will survive. As he prays and seeks God’s help, rain eventually falls, bringing life to his crops. This experience builds his faith, teaching him to trust in God’s provision even in the most desperate times.

3.Faith as Assurance and Conviction (Hebrews 11:1-7)

Hebrews 11:1-7 defines faith as “confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” It goes on to list heroes of faith like Abel, Enoch, and Noah, who trusted God despite not seeing immediate results.

“By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.”

Faith gives us the assurance that God’s promises are true and that He will fulfill them in His time. It is the conviction that even though we do not see the whole picture, God is at work.

Consider a believer praying for a loved one to come to Christ. Despite years of no visible change, she continues to pray faithfully. One day, her loved one accepts Jesus as their Saviour. Her unwavering faith, even without immediate evidence, builds her up and strengthens her trust in God’s faithfulness.

4.Faith that Moves Mountains (Mark 11:20-25)

In Mark 11:20-25, Jesus teaches His disciples about the power of faith:

“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.”

Faith that moves mountains is not about performing miracles on demand but about having unwavering trust in God’s power and purpose. This kind of faith is built through a deep, personal relationship with God, where we learn to trust Him completely.

Imagine a small church in a rural village praying for a much-needed community centre. Despite having limited resources, they believe that God will provide. Through faith, persistent prayer, and community effort, they eventually see their dream realized. This journey of faith not only brings them a new building but also strengthens their collective faith and unity.

Conclusion

Dear friends, as we reflect on these scriptures, let us remember that faith is the foundation upon which we build our lives. It is through faith that we see God’s glory in creation, trust in His deliverance, find assurance in His promises, and witness His power to move mountains. Faith builds us up, making us stronger and more resilient in our walk with God.

Let us commit to nurturing our faith daily through prayer, studying God’s Word, and trusting Him in all circumstances. As we do so, we will experience the fullness of life that God has promised us.

Concluding Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your Word and the powerful examples of faith it contains. Help us to grow in our faith and trust in Your promises. Strengthen us to face challenges with confidence, knowing that You are with us. May our faith be a testimony of Your goodness and power to those around us. Comfort and encourage us as we continue to walk in Your ways. In Jesus’ name, we pray.

Amen.