THE WALK OF VICTORY

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Come with me for a walk. Gird on your walking shoes; in other words, have your Bible open to Hebrews 11:1. We will take pauses for refreshing drinks, for He who has "living water" has an inexhaustible supply. While we are climbing, we will converse about the foundation of our lives – the Lord Jesus Christ.

Believing is the way to receiving. The King James Version of the Bible should have used the word "faithful" instead of "faith" in describing the acts of Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and all those Old Testament saints, for spiritual faith came with Jesus Christ. That which preceded Christ's making faith available was believing. Believing is of the mind, not of the spirit. Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith [believing] is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Believing is the title deed to things prayed for, the evidence they are yours before they are seen."

This is the walk of victory. If this walk were more commonly understood, we would have more believing expressed in action.

The whole emphasis of Hebrews 11 is the believing of those who acted upon the Word of God, not having received the faith of Jesus Christ as we have. The great cloud of witnesses which surrounds today's saints of God referred to in Hebrews 12 is the testimony of those who believed. All those saints were made witnesses by God or for God because of the faithfulness of God's promises to His people. By their hearing, believing and actions, they were witnesses of God Himself.

Our first steps in this walk must always be that of following truth – not the sincerity of man's belief but the basis of his belief. To build upon a basis or foundation other than truth is very harmful to us, to our children, to our fellow men, and to our nation. Therefore, let us rely upon the guidance of holy spirit to help us know the truth.²

The Bible says that man cannot believe unless he has heard. God spoke and Abraham heard. It was this hearing that caused him to know and to believe that God's Word when spoken, would come to pass. The world has always said, "I want to see first, then I will believe." Such as worldly-wisdom approach does not work in order to find truth. The Lord God Himself is truth. He has given His Word. The whole matter of the walk of victory is a matter of hearing and then acting upon what God has spoken.

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¹ Galatians 3:22, 25: "But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to all them that believe. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster."

² John 16:13: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

³ Romans 10:17: "So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

The man with a paralyzed arm, as described in the Gospel of Mark, heard, believed and acted. "...Stretch forth thine hand..." was the Word of God which was the foundation of his action. "...And he [the man] stretched *it* out..." How? By acting upon the foundation of the Word of God, doubting nothing; he heard, believed and acted.

God gave His Word, so let us hear it, believe it, and act upon it. The evidence will come into manifestation.

Do you recall the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee? There, according to John 2:7, Jesus spoke, "...fill the waterpots with water..." The servants heard and they obeyed, after which the wedding guests had the best of wine.

Again we have the record of the spoken Word which was heard, believed and acted upon when Jesus took five barley loaves and two fishes and, after giving thanks, had it distributed by the disciples to over 5,000 people. Of the fragments which remained of the barley loaves, they gathered twelve baskets. The disciples heard, obeyed, and the thousands were fed.

1 Corinthians 3:1 says, "...other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." When we believe that God raised Jesus Christ from the dead and confess with the mouth that Jesus is our lord, we have the right foundation. Then we are able to act with full confidence. Isaiah 1:2 states God's Word most beautifully: "Hear...and give ear...for the Lord hath spoken..." We know in whom we believe, thus our action brings the promised results. Now we can walk victoriously by believing God's Word. The Bible gives us great and precious promises which were given to be believed. One of the most comforting and gratifying promises is found in 1 John 1:7, which says, "...if we walk in the light, as he [God] is in the light, we have fellowship one with another..."

Our victory, our security, lies in turning our minds to the Word of God which is truth.

Our walk is a walk of guaranteed victory because of the foundation upon which we walk. There are no fears great enough to defeat us. When people begin to grasp the truth, they shall have a time of refreshing.

There are many Christians who are taking the power of God seriously, who have defeated Satan in the battle for their lives and have come through victoriously. Our walk today is spectacular because we are duly proclaiming the "title deed of things hoped for" and we are the believers manifesting God's power. Do not fear the climbing, the branches that occasionally hit your face and sting, the weariness that tries to hold your feet back. Stay your mind upon God and let His Word direct you from one peak to another, joyfully proclaiming Him who is our victory.