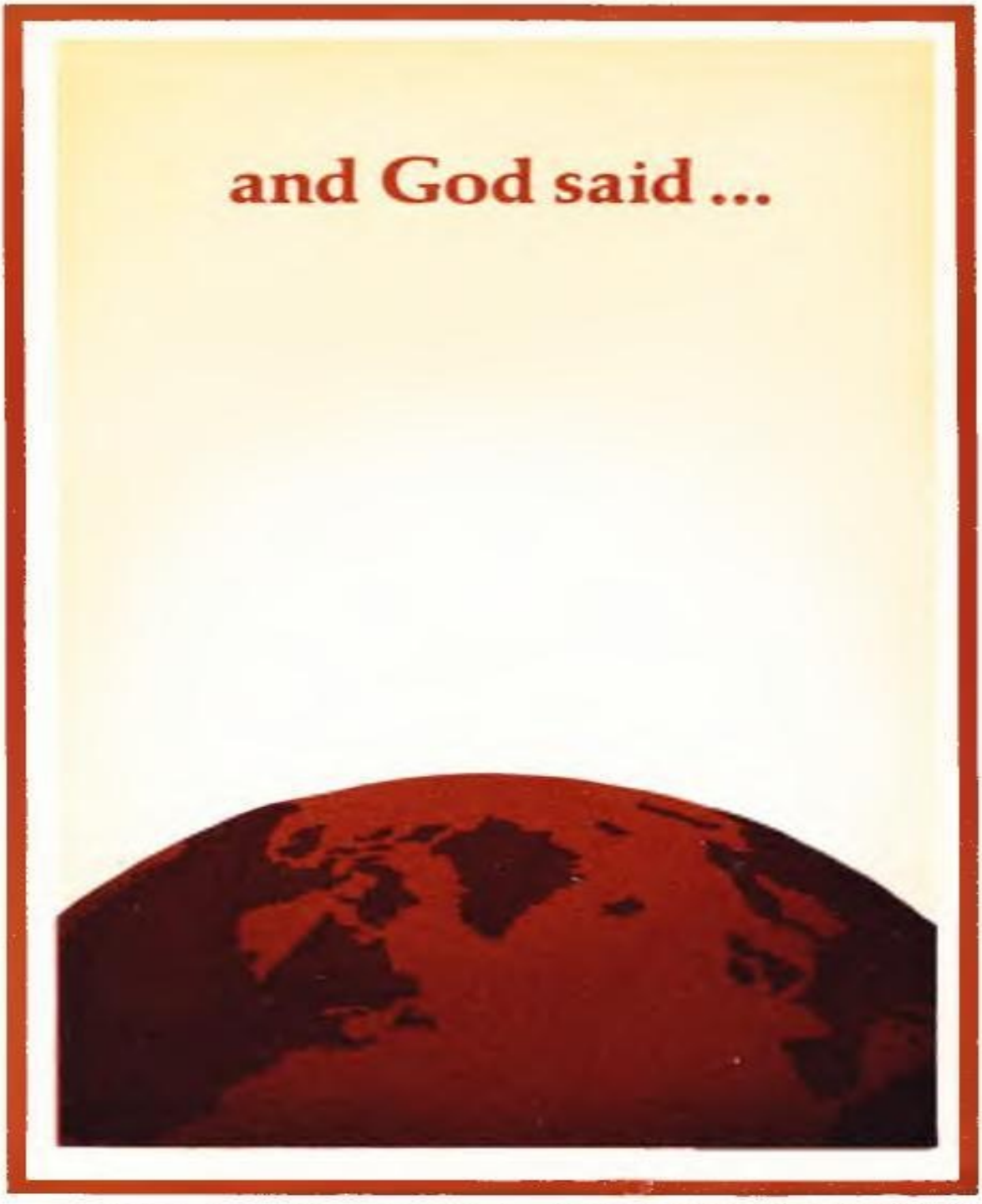
The Spirit of Faith



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The Spirit of Faith

and God said ...



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Kenneth Copeland Ministries Box 8720 • Fort Worth,Texas 76132

The Spirit of Faith

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The Spirit of Faith Tape One

The foundation scripture for this Bible subject is 2 Corinthians 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." The phrase *spirit of faith* means an attitude of faith. In this teaching tape, Brother Copeland shares how a believer with the attitude of faith speaks and acts.

The scripture says, "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written." The spirit of faith is according to this: "I believed, and therefore have I spoken."

Faith speaks. What does it speak? Romans 10:8 says, "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach." Faith speaks the Word of God.

It is not God's Will for the devil to be stealing from you. Jesus is the express image of God's will. First John 3:8 says that the purpose He came to the earth was to destroy the works of the devil. It is always God's will that you be healed, delivered, your needs abundantly supplied and that you be victorious over Satan.

In any circumstance you must learn to grasp what God has already said and hold fast to it. Speak the Word only. Then you can go to Him on the basis of His Word and not on what you feel or think or how things look to you in the natural. God has spoken His Word and it is forever settled. His will for you does not change when your circumstances change. He has given you His Word so that you can use it to change your circumstances.

Abraham believed God's Word, the promise that he would be the father of many nations, and acted as though it was so. Physically, he was not able to father a child. The Word says that he did not consider his own body, nor even the deadness of Sarah's womb. He only considered God's Word. For the promise of God to be fulfilled in Abraham, something had to change.

God's way to change things is to speak and call those things that are not as though they were (Rom. 4:17). The literal Greek says that Abraham did as God. Abraham operated in faith and changed the circumstances by saying what God said.

The fifth chapter of Ephesians says, “Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children." The word translated *followers* in the English language was translated from a Greek word that is the root for our word *imitate*. So we are to imitate God, just like Abraham did. As believers, our way of changing things is to speak —speak those things that are not as though they were. This is how the spirit of faith operates. We can change the things in the natural realm

through the supernatural realm (1 Cor. 1:27,28).

Look to the Word and see what God says about your circumstances. Say what He said. Keep it in your heart and on your lips. The Holy Spirit will cause it to become a reality in your own heart.

Outline

I. The spirit of faith is an attitude of faith

A. The spirit of faith is according to this: "I believed, therefore have I spoken" (2 Cor. 4:13)

B. Faith speaks

1. Faith speaks God's Word (Rom. 10:8)

II. Faith comes by hearing God's Word (Rom. 10:17)

A. Speaking what you feel, see, hear, etc. will not cause faith to come III. In any circumstance, find out what God says, His Word prevails, there is no power equal to His power

A. Speak God's Word to change your circumstances (Rom. 4:17, 10:8;

1 Cor. 1:27,28; 2 Cor. 4:17,18)

Study Questions

(1) What is the *spirit* of faith?_

(2) How does the spirit of faith respond?.

(3) How does faith come?.

(4) Why is it so important not to speak your circumstances as they are?_

(5) How does God change things?.

Study Notes

Following Abraham's Faith Tape Two

By following in the steps of the faith of Abraham, the believer can experience the manifestation of God's Word in his life just like Abraham did. According to the third chapter of Galatians, a man who is in union with Christ is Abraham's seed and an heir according to the promise.

The promise is the covenant between God and man. Abraham absolutely would not let go of God's Word. Because he would not relent, the promise of God was fulfilled in his life.

Everything that you will ever receive from God, you must receive by faith. This applies to salvation, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, healing, deliverance, prosperity, etc. Romans 4:16 explains why. It says, "Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed...." When faith is in operation, God's grace brings the power of God on the scene.

It was Abraham's faith that moved God. As believers, we have the ability to move God with our faith.

According to Romans 4:17-21 there are five points that describe how Abraham operated his faith. When both he and his wife were too old to have children, God promised Abraham that he would become the father of many nations. First of all, in verse 17, Abraham spoke what God said. God's way of bringing something into reality is to call those things which are not as though they were. In Genesis 17:5, the Word says that God changed the name of Abram, which means high father, to Abraham meaning the father of a multitude. Every time Abraham spoke his name, he called himself the father of many nations. He spoke of nonexistent things as if they already existed.

Secondly, the Word says that Abraham hoped against hope. His body and his wife's body gave no hope in the natural to have any children. Yet God had promised him a child. Abraham put his hope in God's Word.

Romans 4:19 says, "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb." Abraham simply refused to consider his body. Neither did he consider his circumstances.

Then the Word says that he did not stagger at the promise of God through unbelief. If he had considered what he could perceive with his senses, he would have been in unbelief. Abraham was not moved by what he saw. He did not

waver. He was moved by what he believed. He was strong in faith, giving glory to God.

Finally, Abraham was fully persuaded that God was able to perform what He had promised.

To follow in the faith of Abraham, you must make God's Word final authority. Believe the Word above anything that your five physical senses are telling you. Say what the Word says and not what your circumstances are. Consider the Word until you are fully persuaded.

Outline

I. Following in the faith of Abraham will cause God's promise to be fulfilled in the life of the believer (Rom. 4:23,24)

A. Abraham received the manifestation of God's Word because he would not let go of the promise

II. The steps of Abraham's faith (Rom. 4:17-21)

A. He spoke what God had said (Gen. 17:5)

B. He hoped against hope

C. He did not consider his body or his circumstances

D. He did not waver

E. He was fully persuaded that God was able to perform what He had promised

Study Questions

(1) Why does everything that you receive

from God have to come by faith?.

(2) What is grace?.

(3) What influences God to move in your behalf? _

(4) List the five steps of Abraham's faith..

(5) How does the faith of Abraham pertain to the believer? _

Study Notes

A Winning Attitude of Faith Tape Three

The attitude of faith is very important in the life of the believer. In the Book of Ephesians, the Word says that you need the spirit of your mind renewed. That is the attitude of your mind. You need a winning attitude.

Second Corinthians 4:17,18 says, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; 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 (or subject to change); but the things which are not seen are eternal." God and His Word are eternal; they cannot be changed. Many times, however, the things that you see with your eyes are contrary to the Word of God. That does not mean His Word has changed. What you can see is temporary. It is subject to change. God's Word is eternal. According to these two scriptures, that which is eternal, and cannot be seen with your natural eyes, can change that which is temporal.

This is the key to victorious Christian living. When your mind is renewed to the truth of God's Word and it is not concentrating on the negative circumstances, your attitude will be one of a winner. The Bible says that Satan is the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4). He is an outlaw spirit who works in the natural realm. *Everything that you can see in the natural realm is subject to change.*

In 1 Corinthians 1:27,28, the Word says that God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. He has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the mighty and the insignificant things of the world to bring to nought the things that are. This simply means that God's Word has the ability to change the circumstances that Satan has set up against you. The things that you can see are subject to the Word of God.

You change things the same way that God does by speaking of those things that are not as though they were (Rom. 4:17). Faith-filled words change things (Mark 11:23,24).

However, according to the Book of James, faith without corresponding actions is dead. James 2:21 says that Abraham was not justified by faith alone. When God told him to sacrifice his only son, he had to act as if he was fully persuaded that God was able to perform His Word. Hebrews 11 says that he received Isaac raised from the dead in a figure. He could see it on the inside, through an inner image of God's Word. He was not looking at the things which were seen but he was looking at things which were not seen. Abraham was not seeing it with his natural eyes. He was seeing into the spiritual realm on the inside. On the way to the altar of sacrifice, Abraham told one of his servants that he *and* the boy would return. He added corresponding actions to his faith.

Your faith will work as effectively as Jesus' faith, because He is the One Who is in you. Speak God's Word in the face of every circumstance. Act as though the Word is true. Then stand firmly and steadfastly on the Word and God will honor His Word in your behalf every time.

Outline

I. Renew the attitude of your mind (Eph. 4:23)

A. Take on a winning attitude because God has made you a winner (1 Cor. 15:57; Rom. 8:37)

II. What can be seen is subject to change; the Word of God is not subject to change (2 Cor. 4:17,18)

A. A winning attitude is one that is in line with what the Word says and is not concentrating on the circumstances

B. The eternal Word of God can change temporal situations

III. Change your circumstances by

A. Speaking God's Word (Rom. 4:17)

B. Acting as though it is already done

C. Standing firm on the Word (Eph. 6:13,14)

Study Questions

(1) What does 2 Corinthians 4:18 mean when it says that the things that are seen are *temporal?*_

(2) What changes *things?*.

(3) Why must you have corresponding actions with your faith?_

(4) What is the key to victorious Christian living? -

Why is it so important for you to remain steadfast on the Word and not be moved by what you see? _

Study Notes

Reaching into the Glory Realm Tape Four

The final point of the spirit of faith is how to tap into the realm of the spirit. Faith is a spiritual force and it does not operate on natural laws. When the believer speaks God's Word in faith, that which he is speaking moves from the spiritual realm into the here and now.

Many times it is difficult to grasp spiritual realities because they are not learned the same way a man learns everything else. Natural man is trained and taught through his five physical senses and usually is not even aware that another realm exists.

When you make Jesus the Lord of your life, you are born again not of corruptible but of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God (1 Pet. 1:23). It is your spirit man that is reborn, from spiritual death to eternal life. Your inner man then operates on the same principles that heaven operates on. You have the same life in you that God has in Himself. Therefore, spiritually, you are capable of ruling and reigning your life the way God rules and reigns in heaven (see Rom. 5:17). Heaven is not limited by time or space. Neither is your inner man. When you are operating out of your inner man, you are functioning in the realm of glory that heaven enjoys. The Bible says that God meets your needs according to His riches in glory (Phil 4:19).

The key is making contact with that glory realm. In that realm is the healing and delivering power of God, all of the answers of God to men, redemption from sin and all of the curse. You walk free in that spiritual realm. Your freedom has been

purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ at the cross of Calvary. You make contact with that realm through the Word of God.

Remember, this realm is beyond what you can see, hear, taste, touch or smell. This is where your faith comes in. You receive God's Word by faith. You are what the Word says you are, in spite of how you feel. You have what the Word says you have, even if you cannot see it. Jesus said *I give you the keys of the kingdom and whatever you bind on earth is bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth is loosed in heaven.* Where? In heaven, in that glory realm. You declare it bound, heaven says it is bound and that is why God said that you should call those things that be not as though they were. Because they exist in the realm beyond what you can see and it takes words to transfer them from there to here.

Faith is the *spiritual force* that causes that transfer to take place. Faith-filled words take what is real in the spirit and cause it to be real in this natural, physical world. The spirit, or attitude of faith is "we believe, therefore we speak." You must go into your *spirit being* and draw on the faith of God that resides there and speak the Word with the same authority and dominion that God used when He spoke and raised Jesus from the dead (Heb. 1:6-13). When you speak out of the abundance of your heart faith-filled words, they will change the things around you. They will cause those things which you see to come in line with the Word of God.

Outline

I. Spiritual things are real but they are not perceived by the five physical senses

II. The link between the spiritual and the natural is the words of your mouth

A. The link between God (Spirit) and man is God's Word (John 6:63)

B. Your spirit is reborn by the incorruptible seed of God's Word (1 Pet. 1:23)

1. Your inner man took on the nature of God and became capable of operating on heaven's principles

2. Heaven is not limited to time, space, etc., and neither is your spirit

3. The healing and delivering power of God and all that heaven has available is

inside of you through God's Word

III. You operate in the realm of the spirit by faith in God's Word

A. The spirit (or attitude) of faith is: "we believe, therefore speak"

B. Faith-filled words come from within you, from your spirit being

Study Questions

(1) Why is it sometimes difficult to grasp spiritual realities?_

(2) What is your link to the things of the Spirit of God?_

(3) Explain what gives your inner man the ability to operate on all that the kingdom of heaven has available._

(4) How do you draw from the resources of your inner man?_

(5) What causes the things that belong to you in the spirit to transfer into the realm of the natural?_

Study Notes

If you would like more information about this ministry and a free catalog, please write:

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The Spirit of Faith

God releases His faith by speaking words. The Bible tells us to be imitators of God, even as children follow the example of their parents. Therefore, we release our faith in the words we speak.

Based on the authority of God's Word, Brother Copeland shares how the Holy Spirit paints an image of the Word in the heart of the believer through revelation knowledge. Then, because of the reality of the Word in his heart, the force of faith is released by speaking God's Word to the circumstances.

This series will aid you in learning how to use your faith to effect every area of your life.



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