

The Real Faith, Part 2

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Wed., September 29, 2021

A successful relationship is one in which both parties give. God has given you everything He has. In this study, you will see that the missing ingredient for a successful relationship with God is you doing whatever He wants you to do. Also, you will discover the value of being full of joy every day. For it is in pleasing God that He keeps you from evil.

- I. Heb. 10:23: *Wavering* is being *up today and down tomorrow*.
- II. Heb. 10:24: We should provoke others to do good works.
 - A. *Work* (Gk.: *ergon*) is defined as *toil as an effort, act, deed, doing, labor*.
 - B. Eph. 2:8-9: You didn't earn your salvation. All you need to do is receive Jesus.
 - C. Eph. 2:10: You are now expected to do good works.
 - D. God did so much for you; now you should do something for Him.
 - E. There are plenty of good works to do: feed and clothe the poor, work in the church, etc.
 - F. No Christian should only receive without helping.
 - 1. 1 Tim. 2:9-10: God expects women to do good works.
 - 2. 1 Tim. 6:17-19: God expects the rich to do good works.
 - 3. Titus 2:6-7: God expects young men to do good works.
 - G. James 2:18-20: You don't get saved by works.
 - H. If you are really saved, you'll do good works (Rom. 5:5; Gal. 5:22). Loving and praising God moves you to want to make Him happy. Loving people moves you to help them.
 - I. 1 Pet. 2:11-12: If people talk about you, your good works will shut their mouth.
- III. Rev. 2:1-4: Each church has characteristics that are in the body of Christ.
 - A. Rev. 2:4: He tells them what they've done.
 - B. Rev. 2:5-6: Repent and do the first works.
 - C. Rev. 2:7: He says this to all the churches. Repent and God has a reward for you.
 - D. The Laodicean church was lukewarm, comfortable (Rom. 12:2; Luke 12:48).
 - E. Rev. 3:10: Jesus told the church of Philadelphia He will keep *them* from the hour of temptation (the tribulation period). He will rapture them, and not the others.
- IV. Heb. 10:24-30: Satan uses weak-minded people for his long-term goal.
 - A. God has a massive plan and a place for every person in His army.
 - B. After your eyes were opened, you endured massive afflictions (Eph. 1:16-19).
 - C. Satan sent afflictions and they became offended and backed up.
 - D. *Endure* means *you don't go down*.
 - E. *Reproaches* means *they defamed your name* just as the others.

- V. This is what to do during difficult and dangerous times.
- A. Heb 10:34-35: In this passage underline took joyfully.
 - B. Don't throw away your confidence.
 - C. People have told me they're losing their job for refusing to get a shot (vaccine).
 - D. When under pressure, refuse to lose your joy.
 - 1. Gal. 5:16-21 tells you the result of the lust of the flesh.
 - 2. Gal. 5:22 describes the result of having the Holy Spirit in you. Love is in you. Joy is in you: Joy is a fruit of the reborn, recreated human spirit that has the Holy Spirit within, leading, guiding and directing.
 - E. Joy in the Spirit overrules the sorrow of the flesh.
 - 1. Neh. 8:10: Without joy, you become weak.
 - 2. Laugh at these situations. When I went to Bible school, my wife and I had a lot of bills I couldn't pay. The pressure was on me. We had a two-year-old and my wife was pregnant. The Holy Ghost told me to laugh at those bills. I had never heard anything like that before in my life. So, we laughed. Then joy and faith rose within us. By the time I graduated I was debt free. I'm still debt free today and always will be debt free.
 - F. 1 Pet. 1:1-4: *Lively* means a *lifetime of hope*. *Reserved* means *guarded*.
 - 1. *Salvation* (Gk.: *soteria*) means *deliverance*.
 - 2. 1 Pet. 1:6: Greatly rejoice!!! Laugh in the face of the devil when you feel like crying. Praise God all by yourself. Say what the Word says about it.
 - 3. Manifold temptations are stack attacks, back-to-back attacks.
 - 4. Stand. Decide this will end with your confidence intact.
 - 5. 1 Pet. 1:7: Gold will perish, but your faith lasts forever.
 - 6. The appearing of Jesus means the time we are in *now*.
 - 7. 1 Pet. 1:8: Keep your joy no matter what you've lost.
 - 8. Don't let the devil walk over you like a bully.
 - 9. When I was in elementary school, there was a bully who would shake down the little kids, take our money and slap us around. One day I got tired of it and decided he is not getting my money anymore. I didn't care if he would beat me up and send me to the hospital. I'd come back and fight him again. One day he came to me and said, "Give me your money." I said, "No." He turned around as though he was saying, *I'm going to beat him up today*. When he turned toward me, I hit him hard. He went down crying. Then I went in on him and finished the job.
 - G. When you're praising God, you're beating the devil back and the Holy Spirit comes to work with you.

Closing Summary

Ask the Lord what you can do for Him to add to what He's doing in the earth today. If you love Him, you will do things that please Him. Also, as you walk closer to God, praise Him in good times and bad, because the joy of the Lord is your strength. If you do, while everyone is getting hammered, even if you face a great affliction, you'll wind up coming out of it in victory.