

IN CHRIST! Pr.Victor Barreira

A. WHAT DO WE DO WHEN OUR FAITH IS WIERY?

- When we experience obstacles, they can seem overbearing, too heavy for us to carry. At times, we will be tempted to 'give up.'
- *For the word of God...penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit (Hebrews 4:12)*
- I believe that we can learn a great lesson about overcoming obstacles from looking into biblical stories. Just as God divided the Red Sea for the Israelites, His Word divides our soul from our spirit. We can see 3 similarities from the Red Sea and the following Word.

1. God already sees the other side of the problem. (He sees the end from the beginning)
2. God purposely leads us to problem. (Not our way, His way)

B. WALKING WITH GOD THRU PROBLEMS

These 3 things bear witness: 1 John 5:7-9

1. Water (The Word) *Romans 12:2 "be transformed by the renewing of your mind."*
 - The enemy of God's word? Rationalizing
2. The Spirit (*Jn3:8 "those reborn follow the wind..."*)
 - Just as God led Israel by a Pillar of Fire and a Cloud, He leads us today by the Spirit
3. The Blood (RED Sea) (*Rev 12:11 "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much. as to shrink from death."*)
 - You are no longer under the Law, but under Grace. God's will for you is to believe in the one He sent. This faith applies righteousness to your life. The blood of Christ was shed for you to work on your behalf to give you access to God constantly. Claim His blood over your mind and heart daily.

C. WHAT DO WE DO WITH GRACE?

1. USE IT! Don't ABUSE IT!
 - Get up off your knees and begin declaring 'In Christ!'
2. Apply Your Faith to Grace, Not Works
 - **Perfectionism:** God said to Abraham go before me and be perfect" Perfection is not about getting it right 100% of the time, but rather placing all your trust and faith in Christ, regardless of what you see, what you've done, and what has been done to you.
3. Learn to Forgive Yourself!
 - You're not going to know how deep and wide is the Love of Christ unless you become weak in your strength. (Paul's weakness=God's grace)

CONCLUSION: THE PATH TO THE CROSS (JESUS FALLS 3X)

- Jesus knows that in all these 3 areas, you will fall from time to time, but He is there to pick you up every time!