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—*Frank Damazio*

City Bible Church

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—*John Bevere*

Founder, Messenger International

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Joyce Meyer Ministries, St. Louis, Missouri USA

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Senior Minister, Life Christian Center, St. Louis, Missouri, USA

This book will help each Christian understand his or her role in the body of Christ.

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The Yoido Full Gospel Church, Seoul, South Korea

Phil Pringle's outstanding leadership skills have been proven over many years, and so he is well qualified to write this exceptional book.

—*Pastor Brian Houston*

General Superintendent, Assemblies of God Australia

Senior Minister, Hillsong Church, Sydney

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—*C. Peter Wagner*

Chancellor, Wagner Leadership Institute, USA

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—*John C. Maxwell*

Best-selling author

Anything Pastor Phil writes is excellent because he practices what he preaches.

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Phil Pringle has been at the forefront of radical church leadership for many years.

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Senior Minister, Kensington Temple, London, England

Inspiring, thought-provoking, challenging.

—*Russell Evans*

Director, Planet Shakers, South Australia

FAITH

MOVING THE HEART
AND THE HAND OF GOD

PHIL PRINGLE



WHITAKER
HOUSE

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FAITH: Moving the Heart and the Hand of God

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DEDICATION

Dedicated to my precious daughter, who was going to be called Faith until her mother and I agreed on the beautiful name Rebekah. Concurrent with her birth, I was apparently so enamored with the entire subject of faith that I declared she should receive the same name as my current revelation!

Rebekah has been many things to her mother and me, but one special thing she is to me—a living landmark of when the Lord deposited the gift of faith into my life. As I look at her, I am reminded of when and how long ago God began to work into this feeble frame a faith that has conquered many mountains. She has also provided us with ample opportunity to exercise this faith in regard to her own life and to see just how real it is.

Thus, it is my pleasure to dedicate these pages to my beautiful and only daughter, Rebekah Faith Pringle.

A decorative graphic consisting of a central diamond shape with four smaller diamonds at its corners, all enclosed within a circular border.

FOREWORD

This is the foreword I wrote for the first edition of this book in 1988:

My deepest thanks, as I come to the conclusion of penning this book, to my sweet wife, Chris. She has walked with me closely through the valleys and the mountains of this tremendous life. She has also spent countless hours editing the material in this book. It has been a supreme delight to work together on this project.

I am also indebted to Di Payne, the best secretary in the world, who has spent many extra hours ironing out the final grammar of the text. Thanks also to the many friends we are privileged to have, who have given encouragement along the way.

This is the foreword I wrote for the February 2003 edition.

As we go to press with this third edition in 2003, many years have passed since I first drafted this book. I find it

enormously exciting that my concepts about faith outlined in this material have not changed but rather grown stronger.

I wrote this book after we had begun our church in Sydney and had begun planting a few churches in Australia. At that time we were meeting in a large, rented warehouse. We had not put up a single building at that point but were still in the planning stages. We had purchased land but were still seeking authority from the local government to build on it.

We encountered immense opposition to our building program from all quarters for eight years. Our proposal had been rejected three times by the local government in a highly public debate. The story was covered on national television and local newspapers with a very negative slant. Most of the local community seemed to have taken a heated position against our development plans. We prayed and remained in a state of committing it all to God, surrendering ourselves to His plans.

Even though there were some bleak days in that time, I found it very difficult not to believe that we would eventually see God's great hand move. I had prayed the prayers, believed God, and seen the dream. It lived in me on days when I didn't even want it to. Once faith has given birth to the substance of things hoped for, that substance lives within us, like a child in a mother's womb until the time is right to birth our vision.

Finally we had an amazing season of breakthrough. Everything changed. The council voted unanimously for our application to be approved. We staggered the building

program over four years. When it was finally completed, we invited the prime minister of Australia to open the facility. Amazingly he accepted. This was a first in Australian history. All the councilors, politicians, and many local residents, as well as many who had opposed us, came to the opening with handshakes and congratulations. We were once again on national television on the six o'clock news, but this time with a totally different angle. The endorsement of the prime minister sent a powerful signal through the city.

This was great, but one of the greatest things about the suite of buildings valued at around thirty-two million dollars is that they are debt-free, totally paid for, and we currently have enough in the bank to cover a five-million-dollar extension we're about to embark on.

A young minister said to me a few years ago that he wasn't so sure of the faith message I was preaching until he saw these results. He said he now believed what I had been preaching. However, the essence of faith is believing something before you can see it.

Currently we have around one hundred twenty churches in our movement, many of them birthed from our church in Sydney. At our church in Oxford Falls, we are running a Ministry Training College, a School of Creative Arts, and a Counseling College, all of which graduate hundreds of ministers every year. Our school, which started with thirteen students, now has over one thousand students covering every grade. Around two hundred million people currently view our television program, produced in our own television

Faith

studio. Our church continues to grow, increase, and expand doing the most important work on planet Earth—saving thousands and thousands of lost people.

The only reason I share some of these great steps forward with you is to underline the principles in this book. All that we have done, are doing, and are going to see come to pass is because of a steady, strong faith in God that lives in our leadership team, our ministers, and our congregation. We have dreamed a dream, believed in God, stood on His Word, and are now walking into the fulfillment of all those praying hours.

The accomplishments of faith are always going to be a great story, but I also know that faith has a wider application than this. Tragically, in recent years we have seen the demise of many great ministers, the falling away of many Christians, and a large number of believers who have simply settled for less than their best. For me, one of the greatest achievements faith can have in our lives is that we survive the trials and turbulence of living for God in a world going the opposite direction. To be able to maintain a sunny attitude in spite of the great variety of pressures and stress that we all face is one of the greatest signs of Christ living in us. This faith is the same courage, boldness, and endurance of the heroes in Hebrews chapter eleven.

Faith is not an option for a select few to lay hold of. Faith is an imperative for us all as Christians. Without faith we cannot please God. By faith we are saved. We walk, live, breathe, and pray by faith. Our pathway to heaven is the



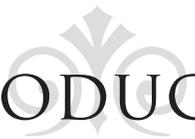
— FOREWORD —

pathway of faith. If we're not on it, we're not walking the right path. If we're on it, our destination is sure—the fulfillment of dreams on Earth, a life saved by the work of Christ, and an eternity with God.



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INTRODUCTION

When I was just a very young Christian, I was drawn to faith as a child is drawn to ice cream. I remember cruising Christian bookstores for literally hours, pouring over every imaginable book on every imaginable subject. Well-meaning believers in the church we belonged to encouraged us to read all kinds of books. Whatever emphasis they felt was particularly important for a young Christian, we were told about. Chris and I ended up reading everything from Watchman Nee's *Spiritual Man* (all three volumes) to more digestible material like Dave Wilkerson's *The Cross and the Switchblade*. We covered Hal Lindsay's last-days signs, Richard Wurmbrand's prison experiences, and Merlin Carother's praise. Being in a large Christian bookshop was like dying and going to heaven.

All these books, I am sure, did something for my spiritual life. However, one day I came across a book to end all books. There are books that God Himself places in our hands, and they are able actually to impart the life they speak

of. They impart the gift of the writer. The book was called *Ever Increasing Faith*, the biography of Smith Wigglesworth. He was an English plumber who exercised extraordinary faith. I read only the first page and was so set on fire that I put it down, went to the center of town, and witnessed on the streets for the rest of the evening. When I managed to pick it up again, I finished reading it. Overnight, Smith Wigglesworth became my hero. As I read, I discovered that he never read any book except Bible. That cured me of reading any other books—for about eighteen months, that is! As I read, *it felt as though the man was laying his hands on me.*

Faith poured into my spirit from every page. Everything



God imparted the
gift of faith into
my spirit.



I read thereafter in the Bible seemed to address the subject of faith, genealogies included. It began a season of my life in which God taught me faith. He imparted the gift of faith into my spirit.

Every believer is required by God to walk in faith. It is essential to the Christian life. We are saved by faith. We walk by faith. We pray in faith. The shield of faith, part of our military equipment for the battle, is to be “*above all*” (Ephesians 6:16)—that is, faith is to cover every area of our lives for successful combat against Satan. Additionally, there is a supernatural gift of faith given by the Holy Spirit to believers at certain times to accomplish extraordinary feats

for God. Faith relates to many areas. In fact, it relates to every area.

I am excited about writing this book. As I share these things, you will be inspired for a faith-filled life. We are about to embark on a journey of faith.

Throughout the Scriptures, God sent men and women off on journeys of faith. Abraham was told to leave his country, his father's house, and his land. God did not tell him where he was going. The man was seventy-five years old—not exactly the time to be setting out on a new adventure! But he did. He could have stayed in the security of the life he had built for himself among his own people, but he decided to obey God. Since then, he has been remembered as one of the great men of history.

—  —
The possibilities
for your life are as
high as your faith.
—  —

Abraham began as a man just like you or me. He was made of the same clay that you and I are made of. God is no respecter of persons. The possibilities for your life are as high as your faith can stretch to reach. Abraham's faith allowed him to obey the urging of God and to step out into the unknown. He took a step that was so radical, few people of twenty would take it: "*He went out, not knowing where he was going*" (Hebrews 11:8 NKJV).

Moses journeyed from Egypt to Canaan with three million people to enter the Promised Land. Elijah journeyed for

six weeks to Mount Horeb into a fresh encounter with God. Jesus journeyed from heaven to earth on a rescue mission for man. These persons acted in faith. They accomplished their God-given tasks again and again. Paul journeyed around the world into unknown areas, planting churches and bringing revival wherever he went.

Our journey here is into faith, into God—to draw near to the God of heaven and earth, the Almighty God. It's impossible to please God without faith. As we draw near to God, we come with full expectancy that He will pour faith into our lives. Like Barnabas, we will be known as men full of faith. The importance of faith cannot be overestimated. Throughout the Scriptures, faith is emphasized as the necessary ingredient for man to communicate with God and to live successfully.

Paul clearly stated to the Romans:

Whatever is not from faith is sin.
(Romans 14:23 NKJV)

And he quoted the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk to the Galatians and the Romans alike:

The just shall live by faith.
(Romans 1:17 NKJV; Galatians 3:11 NKJV)

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews tells us that the secret to the accomplishments of all the ancient heroes of the Bible is attributable to one quality at work in their lives—**faith**.

INTRODUCTION

The gospel writer Mark told us that even God Himself works by faith. He interpreted the command of Jesus in Mark 11:22 as, “Have the faith of God.”

According to several different translations, Romans 4:17 states:

God,...calls those things which do not exist as though they did.
(NKJV)

God...calls into being that which does not exist.
(NASB)

God...calls things that are not as though they were.
(NIV)

The author of Hebrews wrote:

By faith we understand that the worlds were framed [created] by the word of God.
(Hebrews 11:3 NKJV)

Paul declared to Galatians:

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.
(Galatians 2:20 NKJV)

Probably the greatest demonstration of faith was the day Jesus laid down His life as the sacrifice for mankind's sin. His declaration was essentially, as in Psalm 16:9–10:

My soul shall rest in peace. You will not leave my soul in hell, neither will you allow your holy one to see corruption.

He completely placed His life in the hands of God. Even

when He was faced with death on the cross, Jesus had faith in God. He knew He would rise again. How? By believing that what God had said was true. The power of God raised Christ from the dead just as He had said. The faith that Jesus Christ Himself lived by

—  —
Jesus Christ
Himself lived
by faith.
—  —

is available to you and me. This “Thomas generation” is desperately in need of one thing, and that is—without doubt—**faith!**

Faith is what God responds to. Without faith, nothing happens except worry, fear, and doubt.

Faith pleases God. The absence of faith displeases God.

Not only does the absence of faith displease God, but He is unable to work through us to accomplish His plans on the earth when faith is not being exercised.

Faith moves God to action.

Faith gives us an attitude of confidence in our hearts.

Faith is the collateral of heaven. It secures the promises of God.

We live in a world full of doubt. As I said, we are living in a Thomas generation. Man has placed his trust in the wisdom of man instead of in the Word of God. This has left him weak, worried, spiritually impoverished, and far from God, without any hope in a problem-sick world.

You and I must be men and women of faith. The great friend of Paul, Barnabas, is described as a man of faith. When no one else believed in Paul, the converted persecutor of the church, Barnabas did. When no one else trusted that God could actually transform such a man as Paul, Barnabas did. When no one else believed that Paul could become a disciple, Barnabas believed that he could.

—  —
Barnabas had faith
in God, man,
and himself.
—  —

There is no doubt that it is the men and women of faith who have changed the world. You are to be one of this uncommon breed of people who transform this world, joining those who through faith:

**Conquered kingdoms, performed acts of
righteousness, obtained promises, shut
the mouths of lions, quenched the power
of fire, escaped the edge of the sword,
from weakness were made strong, became**

mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

(Hebrews 11:33–34 NASB)

God has dealt to every man, woman, and child a measure of faith (see Romans 12:3). This faith is to be directed. Like a muscle, faith must be developed. It grows through use.

THE WORD OF GOD

Faith and the Word of God are inextricably linked. The source of faith is the Word of God. Job said:

**I have treasured the words of His
mouth more than my necessary food.**

(Job 23:12 NKJV)

Job was the wealthiest man in the East. There is a direct correlation between the measure of God's Word in our lives and the measure of prosperity we enjoy. The psalmist declared:

**The man who delights in the Word of God
and meditates in it day and night will be like
a tree planted by rivers of water. His leaf
will not wither. He will bring forth fruit in
season, and whatever he does will prosper.**

(See Psalm 1:2–3)

When we have no room for the Word of God in our lives, we have no room for success. Many different situations come into our world, some good, some bad. No matter what happens, however, we are called by God to fix our attention upon the Word.

There is a marked difference between truth and the facts. People are very quick to let us know what the “facts” are. However, our faith, focus, and fight are based on the truth, not the facts. God’s Word stands high in opposition to many of the situations we face. We are to make the choice. We either believe God’s Word, or we believe the “facts.”

If we are to enjoy the great blessing of God, we need to choose the truth every time. It may contradict the circumstances. Often it will. Peter told Jesus that they had fished all night and still had *“caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net”* (Luke 5:5 NKJV) for a catch. How is a carpenter going to tell experienced fishermen how to fish? Yet Peter recognized this was no mere carpenter. This was the Word of God. He chose the truth over the facts. The facts of experience and knowledge said there were no fish out there. The Truth said, “There are, so get out there and haul them in!” Truth versus facts.

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If we are to enjoy
God’s blessing, we
must choose truth.
—  —

Joshua was told that when he meditated in the Word of God and acted according to its principles, he would also have success (Joshua 1:8). This is something we must have—for God and for ourselves. The alternative is horrifying.

God’s Word applies to every area of our lives. It is self-interpreting and covers every area of human life that we need to

be aware of. As a literary composition it is the most remarkable book ever made. It is the library of God with sixty-six books, some long, some short. They include all forms of literature—



history, biography, poetry, proverbial sayings, hymns, letters, laws, parables, prophecy, drama. Finis Dake pays tribute to the Bible saying, “It is a book that reveals the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the destiny of believers, and the doom of sinners. The doctrines are holy, the precepts binding, the histories true, and the conclusions

immutable. It is authentic, authoritative, and all powerful.”*

Over forty different authors in five different continents wrote the sixty-six books over a period of two thousand years. The odds of its ever being in harmony are beyond rational explanation. It has been said that man could not have written it if he would, and would not have written it if he could.

It contains light to illumine and food to nourish. It has been called the traveler’s map, the pilgrim’s staff, the pilot’s compass, the soldier’s sword, the Christian’s charter. The Bible opens heaven’s gates and discloses the gates of hell. It rewards all who heed it and condemns outright those who spurn it. It will be opened at judgment to condemn sin and exalt righteousness.

It is indestructible. Countless attempts have been made to destroy it. Jesus Himself said His Word will never pass away

* Finis Dake, *Dake Annotated Reference Bible* (Lawrenceville, Ga.: Dake Bible Sales, 1961), 241.

(Matthew 24:35; Mark 13:31; Luke 21:33). The Bible fits the soul of man like a key to a lock. Thousands of miracles happen all around the world every day to people who claim Bible promises for themselves. It is always up-to-date on any subject. It is historically correct. It is scientifically correct. Nothing has proven—nor will anything ever be able to prove—it to be wrong. It is God’s mighty Word. Paul declared that he preached the “*word of faith*” (Romans 10:8) and went on to state:

**Faith comes by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God.**
(Romans 10:17 NKJV)

There are literally thousands of promises in God’s Word. These are for you and me. It is through these, Peter said, that we become “*partakers of the divine nature*” (2 Peter 1:4 NKJV).

Isaiah 55 says that God’s ways are not our ways. He told us that the Word of God is like rain that comes out of heaven. It is like the seed planted in the ground. It is like the bread made from the harvest. God’s Word is all these things. The Word of God leaps into action when it is believed. The Word is Jesus. Jesus is the Word. When we believe the Word, we are believing Jesus. Jesus was able to perform mighty signs and wonders when people believed Him and acted accordingly. So it is with the Word of God. Commitment to Christ is a commitment to the Word of God. Paul told Timothy to avoid all the empty chatter, philosophies, fables, and reasoning of the world. Rather, he said, “*Preach the Word*” (2 Timothy 4:2). It is the Word that gives life. It is the Word that feeds the spirit of God’s people. It is the Word that provides answers.

Deuteronomy 8:3 says:

**Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes
from the mouth of the LORD.**
(Deuteronomy 8:3 NIV)

When He was being tempted in the wilderness, Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 8:3 to the Devil:

**“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread
alone, but by every word that proceeds
from the mouth of God.’”**
(Matthew 4:4 NKJV)

Anyone is qualified to preach the Word. You don’t need a college education to be an effective preacher of God’s Word. Education is a good thing, but a lack of it should never diminish your belief that you can be effective for God. It’s the Word that saves the lost. It’s the Word that delivers the oppressed, heals the sick, brings guidance, reveals the mind of God, and finally creates faith in the heart of the believer.

You may have heard the story about a man who fell off the side of a cliff. As he sailed through the air, he somehow managed to grasp a protruding branch. He looked up, and there was no way to climb the hundred or so feet back. He looked down a thousand feet and could see no way there either. He thought, *I guess this is a good time to talk to God.* He called, “Is there anyone up there?”

A voice returned, “Yes.”

“Are you God?”

The voice replied, “Yes.”

“Can you help me?” the man asked.

“Yes,” came the reply.

“Well, what happens now?” the desperate man asked.

“First, do you trust Me?” God asked.

“Yes, sure,” said the man.

God answered, “Let go of the branch.”

The man looked up into the heavens and shouted,
“Anyone else up there?”

If we don’t exercise our faith in God, we will exercise it in something else. People have to believe. It’s in our nature to believe. When faith is stolen from our lives, we fall apart.

The biggest robbery of the century is the robbery of faith. When we fall away from faith, we fall away from God. Hebrews 3:12 says:

**Beware...lest there be in any of you
an evil heart of unbelief in departing
from the living God.**

Whenever a generation of people denies God, they turn away from a living God and turn to dead gods, false religions, or empty ceremonies that mimic the reality of God in the earth. Religion is a poor substitute for the power of a living God. The “aliveness” of God is discovered through faith, for this is what the God of all creation responds to—**faith!**

FAITH AND FEELINGS

*“faith is walking in
absolute confidence”*

1

FAITH AND FEELINGS

One of the most damaging misunderstandings about faith comes from a well-meant statement that generally runs like this, “Walk by faith, not by feelings.” In essence, I agree with this. However, when we identify what we should not be doing, we must be equally concerned to understand what we should be doing. The above statement makes it sound as though we are expected to walk without any internal indications whatsoever and just blindly believe God’s Word, without regard to our feelings. Let me say this to you: Faith and feelings go hand in hand.

Faith inspires a feeling of absolute confidence. This complete certainty propelled David to run toward the Philistine army to meet the giant. He was fully assured that God was with him. He was not trying to believe or pretending to be bold, hoping that God was with him. Neither was he confessing the Word to himself, hoping to build his faith. No. He was full of confidence. This man was dangerous! David knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that he was looking at a “dead giant” and that victory was his. This made him feel fantastic.

Faith will make you feel fantastic. David made history that day. He showed us that faith—courageous, confident faith—surely works! Faith is an attitude of victory within.

I have come across enough believers who desperately attempt to confess, see, pray, act, and receive. All are legitimate elements of faith. Yet many remain depressed, disappointed, and devoid of the victory they so ardently seek. Each problem that they attempt to overcome results in their being overcome, leaving them defeated and often confused. They are

————  ————
Joy is the
fruit of faith
every time.
————  ————

neither confident nor assured of anything but just “hoping” that going through the motions will do the trick. But it won’t, because just hoping something will come to pass is not the same as faith. This wishful thinking is not the same hope

that comes from faith—it is not a confident expectation. How can we tell the difference? Joy is the fruit of faith every time. You cannot have faith and self-pity at the same time.

The “*spirit of faith*” (2 Corinthians 4:13) is what God recognized in Joshua and Caleb. It was for this that God selected them to live and not die with the unbelievers. It was for this that they were chosen to lead the children of Israel into the Promised Land. God loves faith. In Numbers 27:18 NKJV, God said to Moses:

**Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom
is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him.**

In the New Testament, Paul's lifestyle is a great example for us today. It seems that the man had boundless energy, undeterred purpose, and an attitude of pure determination that would drive today's most ardent PMA (positive mental attitude) experts to distraction! He perpetually believed that everything would work together for good. Some of the most outrageous things that could possibly happen to an individual happened to Paul. He saw every circumstance through the attitude of faith. He had a feeling within him that all things would work for good.

He knew that his God could not be conquered. He knew his God to be the Truth. Supported by the prayers of believers, Paul made sure that his emotions and mind-set agreed with God's Word. No matter

what the circumstances, he brought his attitudes and emotions into a reflection of what God was saying.

Paul was shipwrecked once. His reaction was, in effect, *Everything is alright. We'll see the power of God protect us all!* They were washed ashore on an island. I imagine he said, *Everything is great. We can preach the gospel to the natives!* They built a fire and a snake bit Paul's hand. *Ouch! That's fine. We'll show these people the power of God,* and, unharmed, he shook the pest into the fire.

Paul went to the city of Lystra, and, as we are told in Acts 14:19, the people stoned him, and the Jews dragged



Faith walks
in absolute
confidence.



him out of the city “as one dead.” What did Paul think of this? *This is great. I’m going home. I’m off to heaven.* God said, *I’m afraid not, Paul. You have a lot more to do yet.* Did Paul develop a bad attitude? Not a chance. His attitude was, *That’s great, God. I’ll go back and preach and see thousands more come to Christ!*

In Philippians 1:23–24 he said that he was torn between two options, both of which were positive: to go and be with the Lord or to remain and fulfill the call of God.

When he had appealed to Caesar, been taken to Rome, and been chained in prison, he thought, *This is wonderful.*

—  —
 Paul lived a
 positive life in the
 will of God.
 —  —

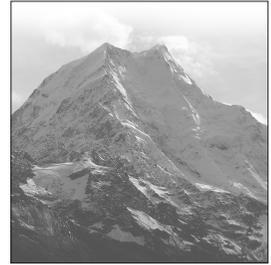
I can preach to the Roman soldiers and the people in Caesar’s household. In fact, he had such a powerful revival in Caesar’s palace that they started a house church, right there in the world’s center of power.

He settled into prison life—and it was good! Peace and quiet. Finally, a chance to sit down and catch up on his correspondence with the churches. During that prison stay, he penned some of the most enduring, powerful writings of all time, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

When he and Silas went to Macedonia, they met with incredible hostility at Philippi, their first port of call. Paul cast a spirit of divination out of a slave girl. She had brought a lot of money to certain businessmen through her powers,

and now that they had lost her, they sought revenge. They had Paul and Silas whipped and thrown into the deepest level of the prison (see Acts 16:16–24).

What did Paul say? “This is miserable. This is what you get for serving God. No one here knows us. We hardly even know their language. We haven’t even begun here in Europe, and the whole thing has collapsed.” Was this his attitude? **No!** Paul was continually filled with the spirit of faith. He said—and you guessed it—*Let’s see the power of God go to work here. We’ll sing some psalms. What’s that new song we’ve learned, Silas?* They began to sing with all their heart. *I will sing a new song to the Lord, as He pours out His Spirit over me!* Well, that song reached all the way to the throne in heaven, and God sent it back to earth in the form of an enormous earthquake. Supernaturally, their chains were broken, as were the chains of all the other prisoners. Sure enough, the great revival destined for Europe had begun—all because these men were filled with a spirit of faith.



I’m not talking here about a substitute for faith called “positive thinking.” That is one of the fruits of faith, but understand clearly that it is not faith itself. Faith begins with a belief in God that is rewarded with an attitude, a spirit within us, a feeling of incredible confidence, a feeling of undefeatable victory over the circumstances. This feeling makes impossibly huge mountains seem like miniature hills. It makes you feel on top and not underneath.