

Head Faith and Heart Faith

“With the heart man believeth unto righteousness.” We have narrowed the word righteousness down to mean only the right condition of the soul. The true meaning of the word is, being right, and it includes spirit, soul and body. When man fell, his whole being suffered through it. God provided a full salvation for the whole man and did all that was necessary to secure this redemption. We can get it by faith. There is a head faith and a heart faith. The head faith brings us nothing. The heart faith brings us everything that Jesus secured for us, which is perfect rightness in spirit, soul and body. Most people believe with the head only, and so do not get what God has promised. The head sees, understands, and counts things true, but only the heart can appropriate or lay hold of and cling to things that are “Freely given to us of God.” 1 Cor. 2:12. The head looks at the surroundings, difficulties and hindrances. The heart looks at the thing desired and the promise of God and refuses to see the hindrances. It is the heart faith that laughs at impossibilities, and cries, It shall be done.” Head faith is strong when things are favorable, but the heart faith is just as strong when all things are against it, because it rests on the Almighty God who rules over persons, powers and things.

Head faith grows weak and fails when the answer is delayed. Heart faith says, “I received when I prayed and the answer is as much mine now as it will be when I have it manifested.” Head faith says, “Be careful not to profess until you can see, for by so doing you may bring reproach on the cause.” Heart faith says, “The thing I am asking is sure to appear soon and confirm my profession and I shall honor His cause because God always rewards faith.” Head faith says, “There might be a failure.” Heart faith says, “Because of God’s promise and His oath to keep His promise, it is impossible for failure to come.” Head faith says, “I trusted until I saw everything getting worse.” Heart faith says, “Though He slay me yet will I trust in Him” (Job 13:15), and “I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance.” Psalm 42:5.

The head reasons about things. God says, “Casting down reasonings (marginal, of imaginations) and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God.” 2 Cor. 10:5. The heart lays hold of things that are beyond all reason; holds fast and expects God to do things that are impossible contrary to reason. The head investigates as to how God is working, and as to the progress and results. The heart clings to His Word, even when there is nothing in evidence. The head says, “I know I have it now, because I have met the conditions and have taken it.” It is the heart that stands still and sees what, to others, is invisible. It is the heart faith of which Paul is speaking when he says it is “the evidence of things not seen.”

Head faith gives up easily, but the heart faith is that of Jacob that cries, “I will not let Thee go, except Thou bless me.” Gen. 32:26. It was heart faith that caused the Syrophenician woman (Matt. 15:22-28) to hold on to Jesus when “He answered her not a word; and not to leave when the disciples wanted Him to send her away. It was heart faith that would not be discouraged, even when Jesus told her that He was not sent to her, because she was not an Israelite and that

is was not right to give “the children’s bread” to her. Heart faith, when all else has failed, will do what she did, fall down at Jesus’ feet in humility and worship until He says, “Be it unto thee even as thou wilt.” Jesus will always say that to heart faith when we are seeking anything that God has promised in His Word. It is only to heart faith that He says, “As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.” Matt. 8:13. Head faith gets discouraged easily, but it is of heart faith that the Bible says, “This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.” 1 John 5:4. Jesus said that satan is the prince of this world. If faith overcomes the world, it must overcome its prince, so the above includes all our spiritual enemies.

If you have been believing for something and have not yet had it in evidence, see if your faith has not been head faith, which is dependent upon seeing, feeling and experiencing before it can rejoice in the answer. See if you have not been reasoning and have not been affected by obstacles in the way. Perhaps you have the head faith that says, “It will be done sometime,” instead of the heart faith that says, “**It was done when I prayed.**” Oh, exercise the heart faith that deals with the unseen and counts things that be not, as though they were, and then you will overcome all obstacles, even the devil himself, by that faith which overcomes the world.

The Bible says that God looketh on the heart. He will not see or regard your head faith. He is not looking at your head, so it will not matter how much head faith you have, but He will see heart faith, even when it is as small as a grain of mustard seed, and He will never fail to say to that faith, “According to your faith be it unto you.” Matt. 9:29. You must remember, however, that it is the heart faith that worketh “by love.” If there is in your heart the least bit of dislike or criticism of even the most trying person, this heart faith cannot work because it worketh only by love. The Bible says, “If our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.” 1 John 3:21. Many of God’s children do not feel condemned by things that God’s Word condemns. If there is any person I will not forgive and truly love, if I am not willing to obey God fully, if there is pride, selfishness, or willfulness in my heart, these things condemn me before God and hinder my heart faith. It is only when we are abiding in Christ that there is “no condemnation” and we have “confidence (faith) toward God.” God says we abide in Christ only as we walk, as He walked. 1 John 2:6. Examine your faith and if you have been exercising head faith, exchange it quickly for the heart faith that will bring to you all that God has promised in His precious Word.