# "Strategic Reserves" (3)

"Precious treasure and oil are in a wise man's dwelling, but a foolish man devours it."

(Proverbs 21:20)

### **Stockpiling Strategies:**

- (1) Die-Hard Discipline (10/28/12)
- (2) Fervent Faith

<u>Galatians 3:2-3, 5</u> – (2) "Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? (3) Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? (5) Does he who supplies the <u>Spirit to you</u> and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith?"

### No Longer Embracing the Grace

Galatians 5:4-7 – (4) "You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. (5) For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. (6) For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love. (7) You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?"

# **Key Point: Above all else, Faith Affects Our Future**

## **Believe to Receive:**

#### Salvation

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God," (Ephesians 2:8)

#### **Transformation**

"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith.'" (Romans 1:17)

### **Glorification**

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word... Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world." (John 17:20, 24)

### **Faith Fortifiers:**

# Listen to God... Today

"As it is said, 'Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.'" (Hebrews 3:15)

#### **Avoid Unbelief**

"For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were unable to enter because of <u>unbelief</u>." (Hebrews 3:16-19)

#### **Keep Close to Believers**

"Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, <u>unbelieving</u> heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. <u>But exhort one</u> another every day, as long as it is called 'today,' that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.'" (Hebrews 3:12-13)

## **Questions:**

What impacted me the most in this message?

Do I desire to strengthen my faith in God? (Acts 16:5; Rom. 4:20) Has doubt/unbelief crept into my heart recently? What are some specific areas of unbelief?

Am I close to other believers that can strengthen, encourage and reinforce my faith? (Heb. 10:22-25)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)