

Pastor Ron Case
5/3/20

“Firming Up”

“For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.” (Colossians 2:5)

What Really Matters

Isaiah 7:1-9 – (1) “In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but could not yet mount an attack against it. (2) When the house of David was told, ‘Syria is in league with Ephraim,’ the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind. (3) And the LORD said to Isaiah, ‘Go out to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Washer’s Field. (4) And say to him, ‘Be careful, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint because of these two smoldering stumps of firebrands, at the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria and the son of Remaliah. (5) Because Syria, with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah, has devised evil against you, saying, (6) ‘Let us go up against Judah and terrify it, and let us conquer it for ourselves, and set up the son of Tabeel as king in the midst of it,’ (7) thus says the Lord GOD: It shall not stand, and it shall not come to pass. (8) ...And within sixty-five years Ephraim will be shattered from being a people. (9) ...If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all.”

Faith – The Indispensable Element

Hebrews 11:4, 6 – (4) “By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. (6) And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

John 6:28-29 – (28) Then they said to him, ‘What must we do, to be doing the works of God?’ (29) Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’”

The First Work of Faith

Acts 16:29-31 – (29) “And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. (30) Then he brought them out and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ (31) And they said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved...’”

Strengthening Our Faith

Romans 10:17 – “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

Acts 14:22 – “strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”

1 Peter 1:6-7 – (6) “In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, (7) so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

The Objective of Faith

1 Peter 1:7-9 – (7) “so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (8) Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, (9) obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”

Jesus Christ is Glorified

I'm with Him in Glory

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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