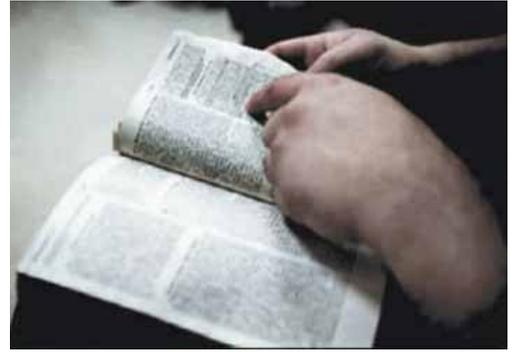


"This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?" Galatians 3:2-3 KJV



The Word of God is the vehicle of faith. Without it, there is no faith. "Faith cometh...by the Word of God." The Word is Truth and when you think of Truth, you are "hearing" God. You cannot think of what you haven't read, heard, or seen. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God." Faith comes when the Word of God enters your consciousness "by the foolishness of preaching." Paul exclaimed, "How shall they hear without a preacher?" Carnal man cannot hear God's Voice, but he can hear a preacher's voice proclaiming Truth and thereby "the entrance of [God's] Word giveth light and understanding to the simple." The Holy Spirit's quickening power is given to all who obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ. "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." The Philippian Jailer was told, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. For WHOSOEVER shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved." What we receive by faith we don't keep by works. Works of righteousness, obedience, simply exhibit faith to the world. "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep (obey) His Commandments. He that saith, 'I know Him,' and keepeth not His Commandments, is a liar, and the Truth is NOT in him. Faith without works (obedience) is dead. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Your life is hid with Christ in God." SAYING you believe is verified by SHOWING you believe! True believers don't obey God, because they HAVE to obey, they obey, because they WANT to obey. They want to obey, because they know and love the Lord Jesus Christ and they hear His Voice of Truth in their thoughts. Meditate on God's Word "day and night." You'll dream about the focus of your thoughts. I was a meat cutter for 20 years and I dreamed out loud about cutting meat and throwing boxes around. It occupied my waking moments for quite a few years. My dreams of it were inescapable. The more we ponder Truth, the more it's thoughts will occupy our waking and sleeping moments. When Truth suddenly becomes clear, it is none other than the "Spirit of Truth guiding you into all Truth." Who is He? "God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in Truth." It is in your deepest meditations that God will speak Truth to your spirit and you will "hear" His Voice in your thoughts. The awesome realization that comes with that "hearing," will solidify our faith as the "Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." Your Heavenly Father's Voice will speak Truth to you in the stillness of your thoughts. "Be still and know that I am God." Only then can we know "joy unspeakable and full of glory" as we bow and worship God "in the beauty of Holiness."

True faith sustains the faithful soul,
Who knows the Voice of Christ, his Lord;
By grace through faith he's been made whole,
And he will hear Truth's spoken Word. ~CGP

God's children need not fear, for "ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Paul reassures us with these Holy Spirit inspired Words of Truth;

"Being CONFIDENT of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the Day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6 KJV