The Three Types of the God Kind of Faith

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Faith to Grow By – is “dealt” to us through the grace of God in our gifts and callings, and is “obtained” by us in the righteousness of God as a gift through the New Birth.

Faith to Live By – “comes” into our hearts by hearing and believing God’s Word (His promises, statutes and judgments).

Faith to Do the Impossible (miracles) – is “activated” by, in and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and is not available without the impartation of, and baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Faith, regardless of which type it is, is the same faith, but is expressed in different ways, and for different purposes. As a definition:

Faith is the process and product of believing something. In spiritual terms it is the process and product of believing in God’s faithfulness to Himself (faithful to His integrity behind the promises within His Word, faithfulness to His love and mercy, and faithfulness to His devotion for His sovereign, prophetic, plans) – this includes His faithfulness in each realm of our relationship with Him, e.g. the three types of faith: (1) Developmental faith dealt through His grace (gifts and callings, including His plan and purpose), and His divine mercy (the ability to cry out to Him in times of distress and obtain mercy, because of His willingness to come to our rescue, and His faithfulness to not leave us without support; (2) Faith in His Word – hearing and believing His Word causes faith to come into our hearts, out of which we learn to act fearlessly and boldly, and when necessary, to produce patience and steadfastness until we have found the actions for our manifestation; (3) Faith in the Holy Ghost to do miracles – a reliance and trust in the manifestations of the Holy Spirit through which we are given supernatural power for miracles.

Once Faith is produced, it becomes the:

“Substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (KJV); or The assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses] (AMP).

1. Faith to Grow By –

This is the faith dealt to every believer in Christ:

Romans 12:3-6 AMP “For by the grace (unmerited favor of God) given to me I warn everyone among you not to estimate and think of himself more highly than
he ought [not to have an exaggerated opinion of his own importance], but to rate his ability with sober judgment, each according to the degree of faith apportioned by God to him. (4) For as in one physical body we have many parts (organs, members) and all of these parts do not have the same function or use, (5) So we, numerous as we are, are one body in Christ (the Messiah) and individually we are parts one of another [mutually dependent on one another]. (6) Having gifts (faculties, talents, qualities) that differ according to the grace given us, let us use them: [He whose gift is] prophecy, [let him prophesy] according to the proportion of his faith.”

And received or obtained by every believer in Christ:

2Peter 1:1 AMP “SIMON PETER, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

This is the faith, as described in Romans 12:3,6 that is dealt “by measure,” with each measure (or proportion) differing in order to be perfectly tailored to God’s plan and purpose for what our individual lives are to fulfill, and thus is inherent by measure within His grace provided with His gifts and callings for each believer, e.g. Romans 12:6 “Having gifts (faculties, talents, qualities) that differ according to the grace given us, let us use them: [He whose gift is] prophecy, [let him prophesy] according to the proportion of his faith.”

Each person as they came to Christ, in the New Birth, was fitted for God’s plan and purpose preordained for them from their Mother’s womb. When they accepted Christ, God spiritually created their inner man as they received grace according to God’s plan for them to fulfill, and within that grace was a force of faith, that as they believed and developed in God’s plan would manifest to fulfill it.

Ephesians 2:8, 10 GNB “For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it. (10) God has made us what we are, and in our union with Christ Jesus he has created us for a life of good deeds, which he has already prepared for us to do.”

This faith needs no development within itself, is given exclusively to us in proportion and fitting for God’s exclusive plan for us, however, as we grow in the development of our spiritual gifts and life callings, that faith, being inherent within the individual grace (gift) growing and developing within us expresses itself in greater measure.

2. **Faith to Live By**
This second type of faith is the one most prevalently taught and exercise attempted in the body of Christ because it involves our specific, individual life needs. It involves those things that we might opt to worry about or in which to become fearful.

It encompasses what we eat, how we are clothed, and our personal health and welfare. We attempt to use this type of faith defensively against the problems and challenges that attack in our lives. We also endeavor to apply it to find fulfillment of our dreams and aspirations. So it is used both positively and defensively. Both uses are in line with God’s plan for us and detailed within the covenant promises of His Word to us.

As already stated, “faith to live by” comes differently than the first type of faith given for us to grow and develop our life gifts and callings. “Faith to live by” comes by hearing (and believing) God’s Word – specifically God’s written Word – Hearing and believing God’s written Word!

It is a fact that our faith involves many aspects of our relationship with the Father, with the Lord Jesus, and with the Holy Spirit. Experiences obtained in our relationship with God definitely affect our faith. We may have faith in a prophecy spoken over us, or the very light brush of the breath of the Holy Spirit within the heart, or a word of knowledge suddenly manifested within the mind, giving us a basis for believing. Any of those may produce a process and product of believing, and thus bring faith into being.

But God’s primary plan for us to produce faith for our daily living is to “hear His written Word preached, and applying it, to set in motion a process and product of believing.

The number one way to produce faith for all aspects of your daily life-needs involves God’s WRITTEN WORD! It is the most powerful influence of this type of the God kind of faith.

“Faith to live by” involves two things primarily: (1) hearing the Word preached (the gospel), and (2) putting a process of believing into action, producing faith (the product of our believing), which is, according to Hebrews 1:1: “The assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses] (AMP).”

You can see then that this is the type of faith that comes from out of the Word of God into our hearts, in which WE DETERMINE THE MEASURE of its growth and working by how spiritually healthy and ready our heart may be. Each promise is heard, goes into our heart, and produces in a measure determined by us.
So we see that the Word itself is filled with all of God’s integrity, power and faithfulness, and goes into our hearts with the degree of perfection of which it was preached and heard. But it goes into imperfect hearts (“by the wayside; stony; thorny; or some measure of good ground be it 30, 60 or 100 fold ability to believe).

Mark 4:14-20 AMP “The sower sows the Word. (15) The ones along the path are those who have the Word sown [in their hearts], but when they hear, Satan comes at once and [by force] takes away the message which is sown in them. (16) And in the same way the ones sown upon stony ground are those who, when they hear the Word, at once receive and accept and welcome it with joy; (17) And they have no real root in themselves, and so they endure for a little while; then when trouble or persecution arises on account of the Word, they immediately are offended (become displeased, indignant, resentful) and they stumble and fall away. (18) And the ones sown among the thorns are others who hear the Word; (19) Then the cares and anxieties of the world and distractions of the age, and the pleasure and delight and false glamour and deceitfulness of riches, and the craving and passionate desire for other things creep in and choke and suffocate the Word, and it becomes fruitless. (20) And those sown on the good (well-adapted) soil are the ones who hear the Word and receive and accept and welcome it and bear fruit—some thirty times as much as was sown, some sixty times as much, and some [even] a hundred times as much.”

Of course there are factors working in conjunction with our hearts responding to the Word of God as “good ground.” Furthermore, where are hearts could be good ground to accept one set of promises, we could have traditional biases and doctrinal beliefs that might causing our heart not to be as good a “ground” for other promises, very much like traditional soil in gardening or farming.

An example might be ground suitable for a wine vineyard. The sugar content of the soil is important in growing grapes for wine, whereas general soil might be suitable for grapes for the table, or growing other types of fruit or vegetables.

The same is true with the “soil” of our hearts. Your heart might be good ground for healing, for personal peace, yet due to doctrinal prejudices, might not be able to produce faith for prosperity or other dynamics of daily living.

This is why making God’s Written Word the final authority for the basis of your believing, puts you in a much better place to see your faith working for each and every one of God’s “exceeding great and precious promises.” This type of faith “comes” by hearing and believing God’s “written Word,” as it is heard through those who are sent to preach it.

Romans 10:14-15,17 AMP “But how are people to call upon Him Whom they have not believed [in Whom they have no faith, on Whom they have no reliance]? And how are they to believe in Him [adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him] of Whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher? (15) And how can men
be expected to] preach unless they are sent? As it is written, **How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings! [How welcome is the coming of those who preach the good news of His good things!]** [Isa. 52:7.]  

(17) So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself).

Example:

Acts 14:9-10 KJV “The same heard Paul speak; who stedfastly beholding him, and **perceiving that he had faith to be healed**, (10) Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.”

Hebrews 4:2 AMP  

For **indeed we have had the glad tidings [Gospel of God] proclaimed** to us just as truly as they [the Israelites of old did when the good news of deliverance from bondage came to them]; **but the message they heard did not benefit them, because it was not mixed with faith** (with the leaning of the entire personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness) **by those who heard it.**

You simply cannot separate God (His divine will and faithfulness) from His Written Word and succeed in this type of faith.

1John 5:14-15 AMP “And this is the confidence (the assurance, the privilege of boldness) which we have in Him: [we are sure] that if we ask anything (make any request) according to His will (in agreement with His own plan), He listens to and hears us. (15) And if (since) we [positively] know that He listens to us in whatever we ask, we also know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that we have [granted us as our present possessions] the requests made of Him.”

3. **Faith to Do the Impossible (Miracles)**

While the second type of faith, “Faith to live by,” contains faith for the impossible in our own personal lives as we believe God’s promises for us, yet, there is another “third” type of faith. It involves not faith for ourselves, or that which is within our personal prevue of life, but involves a type of faith that allows God’s supernatural power (the same “virtue” that flowed from Jesus’ by the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon Him) to flow through us to others in need of deliverance, healing and miracles, as well as other types of working of miracles. This involves another type of faith that operates differently than our first two types of the God kind of faith:

Acts 10:38 AMP “How God anointed and consecrated Jesus of Nazareth with the [Holy] Spirit and with strength and ability and power; how He went about doing
good and, in particular, curing all who were harassed and oppressed by [the power of] the devil, for God was with Him.

Acts 1:8 AMP “But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth.”

Every believer who has received the baptism of the Holy Spirit may expect this type of faith to work in and through them as the gifts of the Holy Spirit are manifested as God wills. This is an important point: A believer cannot “operate” the gifts of the spirit, nor can they “manifest” them at their own will. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are the working of the third person of the Trinity, The Holy Spirit Himself.

Supernatural might be better termed super-natural because it is two separate and distinct things harmoniously working together to produce the miraculous. In Paul’s 1Corinthians 12 description of the nine categories of the “gifts of the Holy Spirit,” he calls one of them, “the working of miracles.” It is the only gift of the spirit that uses the term “working.” Notice:

1Corinthians 12:8-10 KJV “For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; (9) To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; (10) To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.”

Interestingly, almost all of the varied translations keep the use of the English word, “working.” The few who vary use terms such as, Darby Translation says, “operation,” The message (the loosest of the versions) uses the term “miraculous acts,” the New Living Translation renders, “power to perform,” Weymouth Translation says, “the exercise of,” while the rest use the KJV term, “working.”

Thus, it is this manifestation of the Spirit that is the most complex of all of the others in their manifestations. Complex, how?

1. When the working of miracles are done, it is in reality a compilation of two or more of the other manifestation types (or gifts of the Spirit) working in correlation to produce the result called “working of miracles.”
2. It may also involve the need for authority over in agreement with another person, or in conjunction with one or more natural substances or laws, working in harmony with the gifts of the Spirit in manifestation.
3. It is creative in its nature, overcoming what any natural effect could be expected to produce.
For certain, the manifestation of the Spirit, called the Word of Wisdom, must be functioning. Raw, uncultivated knowledge, by itself has no functional ability. “Wisdom” is the ability to use knowledge producing energy in its most cultured, productive and efficient manner.

Without wisdom, there is no successful outcome to anything attempted. The best device or invention will sit undeveloped to any degree of usefulness for the masses until someone is added to the equation with some containment of wisdom.

Proverbs 4:5,7-9 GNB “Get wisdom and insight! Do not forget or ignore what I say. (7) Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do. Whatever else you get, get insight. (8) Love wisdom, and she will make you great. Embrace her, and she will bring you honor. (9) She will be your crowning glory.”

Every creative miracle in the scripture began with a “word of Wisdom.” And although, other “gifts” of the Holy Spirit may have functioned in the process of the working of the miracle, the one common denominator seen in each miracle is the manifestation of gift of the Spirit, the “word of Wisdom.”

It is important to keep in mind, that, while there is a “special ministry office” known as “worker of Miracles,” in no case can miracles be “worked” except by the present working of God, the Holy Spirit operating as the miracle is being performed.

And while there is a special ministry dedicated to the “working of miracles,” every believer may also experience this manifestation as the Holy Spirit wills for them, and the anointing flows for it functioning.

Jesus accepted the witness of the Jewish Doctor of the Law, Nicodemus, when he came to Jesus:

John 3:2 GNB “One night he went to Jesus and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher sent by God. No one could perform the miracles you are doing unless God were with him.’”

Luke recorded in the Book of Acts a confirmation of this truth:

Acts 10:38 GNB “You know about Jesus of Nazareth and how God poured out on him the Holy Spirit and power. He went everywhere, doing good and healing all who were under the power of the Devil, for God was with him.”

So we need to get settled within us that, although we may learn the principles and complexities governing the working of miracles, it will never function except by the flow of anointing of the Holy Spirit from within us.
On the other hand, however, “wisdom” uses “knowledge” of principles and the two work hand in hand. Just as knowledge is of no practical use without wisdom, so it is that wisdom has nothing with which to work without knowledge.

Hosea 4:6 LITV “My people are cut off for lack of knowledge. Because you rejected the knowledge, I also rejected you from being priest to Me.”

Keep in mind again that “wisdom” is the ability to use “knowledge.” Therefore, they are unable to function, the one without the other.

However, this does not mean that you will need both the “gifts” of the word of wisdom and the word of knowledge functioning at all time together. The reason is this: Knowledge is available through the written “laws” or “principles” laid out in the Word of God.

The purpose of this teaching is primarily to give you the “principles” or “laws” of the spirit for working of Miracles. Having knowledge of these principles will make you an excellent candidate whenever God is giving you an assignment for the Working of Miracles utilizing the Word of Wisdom, possibly along with other gifts of the Holy Spirit.

In these teachings we will illustrate using various biblical miracles to demonstrate how miracles are “worked.” While this outline will not list all of the miracles we will reference in the teaching, I will give this one illustration:

Keeping in mind our rule of “complexity” laid out earlier in this outline, we will enlist Joshua and the Children of Israel to aid us in understanding several common principles always at work when miracles are performed. We will use parenthesis to illustrate each gift of the Spirit in operation:

Jos 5:13-6:20 LITV “And it happened, when Joshua was beside Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked. And, behold! A Man stood in front of him, and His drawn sword was in His hand. (Gift of the discerning of spirits – this was a higher level of operation in that Joshua had an “open vision” of the angel or spirit messenger) And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, Are You for us, or for our foes? (14) And He said, No, for I now come as the Commander of the army of Jehovah. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped. And he said to Him, What does my Lord speak to His slave? (15) And the Commander of the army of Jehovah said to Joshua, Take your shoe off your foot, for the place on which you are standing is holy. (Beginning of the Word of knowledge in operation) And Joshua did so. (6:1) And Jericho was closed, and was shut in from the face of the sons of Israel; no one going out, and no one coming in. (2) And Jehovah said to Joshua, See I have given Jericho and its king, mighty warriors, into your hand. (Conclusion of operation of Word of knowledge) (3) (Beginning of the Word of wisdom for the miracle) And you shall go around the
city, all the men of battle, going around the city once; so you shall do six days. (4) And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. And on the seventh day you shall go around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the rams' horns. (5) And it shall be, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the ram's horn, all the people shall shout with a great shout. **(Word of Wisdom held here momentarily in the narrative)** And the wall of the city shall fall down flat; and the people shall go up, each man in front of him. **(Interjection of a word of knowledge)** (6) And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, **(in this command we see faith in motion)** Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of Jehovah. (7) And he said to the people, Pass on, go around the city, and he who is armed shall go on before the ark of Jehovah. (8) And it happened, when Joshua spoke to the people, the seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before Jehovah passed on and blew with the rams' horns. And the ark of the covenant of Jehovah went after them. (9) And he who was armed went before the priests blowing the rams' horns. And the rear guard after the ark, going on and blowing with the rams' horns. **(this shows actions of faith in what God had commanded)** (10) And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, You shall not shout, nor cause your voice to be heard, nor shall there go from your mouth a word until the day I say to you, Shout! Then you shall shout. **(Another part of the Word of wisdom for the miracle)** (Beginning here we see the people responding with actions of faith) (11) And the ark of Jehovah went around the city, going around one time. And they came into the camp, and remained in the camp. (12) And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests bore the ark of Jehovah. (13) And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns were walking before the ark of Jehovah, going on, and were blowing with the rams' horns. And he who was armed went before them. And the rear guard went behind the ark of Jehovah, going on and blowing with the rams' horns. (14) And they circled the city on the second day one time, and returned to the camp. So they did six days. (15) And it happened on the seventh day, they rose early, at the dawning of the day, and went around the city seven times in the same way. Only on that day they circled the city seven times. **(Their actions of faith prove the wisdom is heeded for the working of the miracle)** (16) And it happened at the seventh time the priests blew with the rams' horns. And Joshua said to the people, Shout! For Jehovah has given you the city. **(Joshua and Israel, completing the instructions from the Word of wisdom)** (Then we begin with a Word of knowledge) (17) And the city shall be devoted to Jehovah, it and all that are in it. Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. (18) And you shall certainly keep clear of the devoted things, that you not become accursed by taking from the devoted things, and shall make the camp of Israel become accursed, and trouble it. (19) And all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, they are holy to Jehovah; they shall come into the treasury of Jehovah. **(This ends this portion of the Word of knowledge)** (The
following begins the completion of their actions of faith) (20) And the people shouted, and blew with the ram's horns, and it happened, when the people heard the sound of the ram's horn, the people shouted a great shout. And the wall fell under it; and the people went up into the city, each man in front of him; and they captured the city.” (The miracle completed!)

Notice in this particular example we had various instances of the (1) discerning of spirits; (2) the Word of knowledge, (3) the Word of wisdom, and (4) the interspersing of examples of obedient actions of faith. This illustration I Joshua is indicative of examples all through the scripture where in the narrative we are living out the physical part of the miracle, yet, in each and every case, behind the scenes there are spiritual principles unfolding, as the Holy Spirit manifests the Working of miracles.

Understanding these principles, and their importance, will enable us to cooperate better with the Holy Spirit during the time of the outpouring of God’s greater glory upon the Church for the Working of miracles throughout the earth.