

Solid Rock Christian Church Manassas, Virginia

Bible Study for December 3, 2020

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Title: "Faith Stands Still"

Scripture Reference: James 1:6,7

"But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord."

I. Introduction

A. It should come as no secret that the devil will try to knock you back from your stance of faith when you are facing a difficult challenge.

B. Never-the-less, in this pivotal moment when the pressure is being applied harder and harder, you must be aware that you are at a crossroad. You then have a very crucial decision to make.

C. You can give up or you can stand your ground and boldly declare, "I shall not, shall not be moved; just like a tree, planted by the water, I shall not be moved." (Does anyone remember that old song?)

**Comment:** Yes, the words of that old song (which is Scripturally based [cf. Psalm 1:3a]) comes to mind; but here is a portion of Scripture that should also convict your heart and mind and encourage you. It is found in 1 Corinthians 15:58 - **"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."**

D. If you have sometimes found it difficult to stand firm in your faith against the pressure of the enemy, don't feel condemned.

But let's look to the Lord for encouragement and help. The Word of God says: **"I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."** (Psalm 121:1,2)

E. To experience a breakthrough during those difficult times, those times of struggles, you must take a bold stance of faith and then, **stand still!**

F. It may take some time for your answer to come, but remember, **"For ye have need of patience (i.e., endurance), that after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."** (Heb. 10:36)

**Comment:** Just because your request is in accordance with God's Will (which it should be ((1 John 5:14,15))), it does not always mean that the answer will quickly come to pass.

G. We have an enemy who does not want us to experience God's will for our lives.

H. We also have to deal with our own flesh; flesh that loves comfort. Our flesh does not like a challenge. Your faith may need to grow to deal with this challenge.

I. Faith does not vacillate, it never moves. ***Faith stands still!***

J. In James 1:6, James described the unwavering attitude a believer must have when they ask God for something in faith. This verse says: **"But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."**

## II. Exposition [Part I]

A. First, James said that we must "ask." The word "ask" is the Greek word aiteo, which means to **be firm** or **adamant** in requesting assistance to meet tangible needs, such as food, shelter, money, etc...

B. The petitioner is so sure that their request is correct that they ask boldly and with an expectation to receive what is firmly requested.

C. This depicts a person who speaks up, speaks out, and prays boldly and authoritatively.

### Comments:

- 1) Let me also say this to you - you **can not** demand or dictate to God what He must do. When we pray and go before God's throne of grace, this must **always** be done with an attitude of humility.
- 2) **DO NOT** misinterpret or confuse Hebrews 4:16 and go before God's throne with a spirit of arrogance. The passage says, "**Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in the time of need.**" (Heb. 4:16) - The word "boldly" means with "confidence" or with "assurance."

## III. Exposition [Part II]

A. Next, James said that we must ask "in faith." The Greek places emphasis on the word "in" - as something that the person is **locked into** or as something that **is immovable**.

B. In other words, the person is praying from a **stable, immovable, decided position**. He or she knows what they desire and is **not going to bulge**.

**Comment:** Faith knows what it desires, and *faith stands still*. Faith does not waver.

#### IV. Exposition [Part III]

A. For an even clearer understanding of the first part of Verse 6, I am providing the full Greek translation, which says - **"But he must ask in faith without any doubting."** The word "doubt" in Greek is *diakrinomai*, which means *to differ* or to *be at variance* with one's self.

B. In other words, your mouth may be saying all the right words, but your heart is not really in agreement. You are not really asking in faith! Your heart **must agree** with your mouth!

C. Some Christians doubt that God will give them what they need but your request must be backed by genuine trust in God's character, purpose, and promises

#### V. Exposition [Part IV]

A. Fourth, James said that if we are not asking in faith - that is, if we are **not standing firm** in our position of faith - we are like unto a **"wave of the sea."**

B. The word "wave" is the Greek word "*kludunai*," and it describes *the billowing sea*, or *one roll of waves after another*, or the *ever-changing sea*.

D. Waves may look impressive, but they don't last long. Likewise, a person who does not stand firm in faith may temporarily look or sound impressive when they pray, but like a wave of the sea, their prayers and desires are ever-changing. Therefore, they are not standing firm in a position where they can be blessed.

**Faith Stands Still!**

## VI. Exposition [Part V]

A. In James 1:7, he says: "Let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord."

B. It is not that God doesn't want to bless the man, but God will not bless the man because the man does not stay in a position of faith long enough to receive an answer to his prayers.

C. Like the waves of the sea, the man is shifting all the time from one request to another about the same issue, and then, when a little pressure is applied and he doubts, he shifts again.

D. Let us consider our own walk with God. Perhaps this is one reason a prayer request has not been answered. Therefore, I say again - **FAITH STANDS STILL!**

E. Take hold of this truth and plant it firmly in your heart and in your mind. If you are moving around and wavering in your faith all the time, you make it **difficult** for God to bless you. (Notice I did not say - **impossible!**) Why did I not say impossible? Simply because with God, all things are possible. But God will not violate His Word! Therefore - **STAND STILL!**

F. Please continue to listen carefully - When you are determined to do things God's way, then you are positioned as someone that God can bless. **Thank You Lord!!**

### A PRAYER FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

Father, I repent for the times I have made a statement of faith, but then I allowed myself to waver because of something I saw or felt. I acknowledge that my vacillating is to be double-minded, and the double-minded person will not receive anything from You. I also acknowledge that without faith, it is impossible to please You. And I choose to please You. I commit to You with my whole heart,

to remain fixed and stable in my position of faith, until your reward is fully manifested in my life, according to Your will.

This I pray in Jesus' name, Amen!

## QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

1. Is it possible that your prayers haven't been answered because you have changed your prayer request so many times?
2. Has your behavior met the description of how faith behaves? (Remember, Faith Stands Still.)
3. What Scriptures are you standing on for the things you are requesting and trusting God for in your life? (I want to encourage you to write them down and review them as you pray and remain faithful to God.)
4. Have you ever known anyone who habitually changes his or her prayer requests, and as James says, they are like the waves of the sea, driven by the winds and tossed? If so, do you have a word of encouragement you could offer them?

It is once again interactive time. Please complete the below Scripture passages by filling in the blank spaces. As always, all Scripture passages have been taken from the King James Version of the Holy Bible.

1. "**And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, ye shall receive.** [Matthew 21:22]

2. "\_\_\_\_\_ and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ you: \_\_\_\_\_, and ye shall \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_, and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ unto you." [Matthew 7:7]
  
3. "Be \_\_\_\_\_, and know that I am \_\_\_\_\_: I will be \_\_\_\_\_ among the heathen, I will be \_\_\_\_\_ in the earth." [Psalm 46:10]
  
4. "But they that \_\_\_\_\_ upon the Lord shall renew their \_\_\_\_\_; they shall mount up with \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_; they shall run, and not be \_\_\_\_\_; and they shall \_\_\_\_\_, and not \_\_\_\_\_." [Isaiah 40:31]
  
5. "\_\_\_\_\_ on the Lord: be of \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_, and he shall \_\_\_\_\_ thine heart: \_\_\_\_\_, I say on the Lord." [Psalm 27:14]

As always, please feel free to share what you have learned from this lesson and may the Lord continue to bless and keep you in His Loving arms of care and protection.

Jude 3  
Pastor Austin