3rd Quarter 2018

Concepts of Faith

REBUILDING YOUR WALLS AND SETTING NEW BOUNDARIES

by Annette Capps

New Study Guide for FAITH AND CONFESSION

FAITH SEES THROUGH THE Storm

BY CHARLES CAPPS

FAITH SEES THROUGH THE SOLUTION

You have heard the old saying that seeing is believing. Well, that's not really true. *The Bible indicates that believing is seeing*.

Somebody may say, "Well, now, old brother So-and-So, he just had blind faith."

But true faith is never blind. Faith always knows. Faith always sees. Faith is able to look through the storm and see the end results. *Faith will always talk the end results, instead of what exists at present.*

Faith is like radar in an airplane. If it is turned on when you are approaching a thunderstorm area, it will paint those storm cells on a screen that looks like a TV screen. You can tell exactly where the cells are and avoid them. That radar can see through that storm and show you exactly how many miles it is to the other side, and exactly what turns you must make to miss the heavy rain cells. With the help of the radar, I have flown through widespread thunderstorm areas that I couldn't go around. It looked like a solid line to me, but my radar could see through the storm. I went through the storm without getting into the heavy rain. I couldn't see anything outside the windshield of the airplane. But with the radar I could see through the storm.

FAITH KNOWS

That's what faith does, and faith is not blind. Faith always sees and faith always knows. What some people call "blind faith" is presumption – and presumption is blind. What some people call "faith" is not faith at all. It is foolishness. They just assume that something will happen, not because they have faith in God's Word, but because of what happened to some other person.

Some have done things acting in what they thought was faith, because

someone else did it. "Well, Brother So-and-So gave his car away and he got a new one. I'm going to give mine away."

Yes, and you may walk for ten months.

Don't ever base your faith on what someone else did. Don't base what you are doing on someone else's faith.

You have to hear from God. You see, God may have told Brother So-and-So to do what he did. But did He tell you to do that? When you check up on some of these things, you will find that's why so many have what they call "faith failures." *It wasn't faith at all. They just did it because someone else did it,* or because someone else got blessed. You see, it makes a difference when you do things because of the Word of God.

If God makes the Word come alive to you in a certain area, and impresses in your spirit that this is what you are to do it will work for you. Your faith comes from God's Word to you. Faith always sees. Like radar, faith sees through the storm. It knows what the end results will be. *Believing is seeing through faith*.

...faith is the substance of things... Some get uptight when you start talking about things. They say, "Well, you're just teaching people to get things."

But God has lots to say about things – especially things that he has given us. According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

2 Peter 1:3

DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING UNSAID

You wouldn't think that people would be this foolish, but one man said, "Well, the Bible said that God has given us all things, then I'm just taking what's mine. I'm not really stealing; I'm just taking what's mine. Paul said, 'All things are yours.' So if all things are mine, I'll just go get what I want; I don't have to pay for it."

Now you wonder about people like that. We shouldn't have to say these things, but we do: If you are going into the ministry, you will have to deal with some people who think that way.

We sometimes assume that people understand what we are saying. But don't ever assume anything. You must cover every avenue. Say it so many ways they can't miss it. Cover all areas, and repeat what you covered. Don't leave anything unsaid.

Faith is the substance of things. It is the evidence of things not seen. You use your faith on something you don't see. Let me give you a simple illustration. Let's use a clear plastic or Plexiglas podium as an example. The person who built it didn't create it. It

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was made of soybeans, or petroleum, and other substances.

Well, the podium exists. It is in the natural realm. We can see it. It's clear, so it's a little hard to see sometimes, but it is in the natural realm. I don't have to use my faith to believe it's there. I can look away and still touch it. When I slap it, I can hear it. By the realm of the five senses I know it's there. There is no need for me to use my faith to believe it's there. Why would I want to use my faith when I can see it? It's in the natural realm. I know it's there, you know it's there. There is no need to use faith on it.

GOD DOES NO-CREDIT BUSINESS

You use faith on things you can't see; things which are not manifest.

But somebody may say, "I'm going to believe it when I see it."

But God doesn't do any credit business. You have to believe it first. You have to pay cash "up front" to get things from God.

You have to believe before you see it with the natural eye. That's what faith is about. Faith is the title deed. In other words, faith is of the same value as the thing hoped for.

Faith is seeing in the Spirit what the Word promised, when it is not yet manifested in the natural.

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Mark 11:24

What "them" is Jesus talking about? "Them" things you prayed. The things you prayed are the things you believe that you receive.

If you prayed the Word of God, that will increase your faith. If you pray the words of the devil, or if you pray the problem, it will decrease your faith and cause fear to come.

If we are going to operate in the law of faith, we have to believe some things that we can't see in the natural realm.

The best way to get the image in you of the thing hoped for is with your own words. You must speak words of faith. You must speak the word of promise. God has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:3)

It's not a matter of God doing anything else about it. Often we say that we believe God is *going to* do this, referring to a promise. But that is really not the right way to state it, for God is not *going* to do it. *God has already done it.*

We need to acquire the substance of things that will cause the manifestation of the thing.

God gave us that faith-power and creative ability in His Word. His Word is filled with faith. There is enough faith in every promise of God to cause it to become true in your life and in the life of every person on the face of the earth.

That's why Paul said the gospel is the power of God. It's the good news, it's the power of God, when you gain the knowledge of it, you will gain faith.

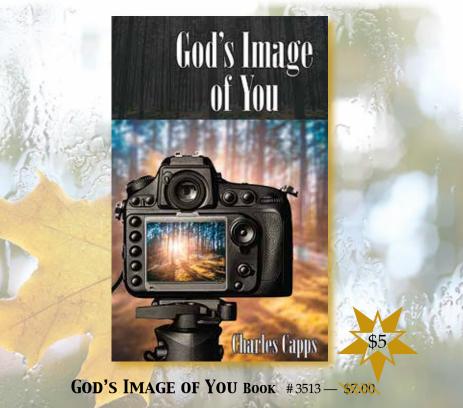
The evidence then is the faith. And faith stands in the place of the thing promised until it appears.

When it appears, you don't need the faith in it anymore. You have the reality of it; it's in the natural realm. But until it is manifest, faith is the only evidence that you have. Remember, we are talking about God's kind of faith. It has to do with nothing other than the Word of God. It has to do with only the things that God has promised.

Some say, "Well, what if God does not want you to have what you are confessing?"

FAITH AND THE PROMISE ~~___

Let me say it again. This faith I am referring to has nothing at all to do with anything outside of what God has promised. Would it be wrong for us to



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believe God for the things that He gave us, or the things that He promised us?

I believe it hurts the heart of God when His people do not take advantage of the provisions that He has made. He has made a way for us. It's through faith. The Apostle Paul says the only way that you can enter into the grace of God is through faith. (Ephesians 2:8-9) You can't be saved any way other than through faith.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

You cannot enter into some things unless you enter in through faith. Salvation is one of them. You can't be born again without believing the Word of God.

Faith is the substance of salvation. Somebody said, "If God has given us all these things, then where are these things? Why don't I have them?"

FAITH IS THE SUBSTANCE OF THEM

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Hebrews 11:3

The worlds were framed by the Word of God. We could say it this way:

"We understand that it was through faith that the worlds were framed by the Word of God." That's the way God framed the world. It was through His Word; the words which He spoke. He spoke words which brought creation into existence. There was nothing created without words. All things were made by words.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1:1-3

Without Him – Him Who? Him, the Word. Without the Word, nothing was made. In the beginning all creation was made by the Word. If the Word was with God, the Word was God. *The Word is still God over every situation*.

When you use the Word of God by *quoting* it to bring a situation under control, you will sometimes have people say, "You're just trying to act like God." Some will get upset at you. They don't like people acting like God would act. *But I'm not trying to be God. I'm acting as God would act in this situation.*

Just simply say what God says about things, regardless of the circumstance. That doesn't mean that you ignore the circumstance. I'm doing something about the circumstance.

You see, this faith is the evidence of things not seen. God did not see

the world when He said that, except through the eye of faith. In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth. Then we see the recreation, the reforming of this earth when God looked out and saw darkness, and He said, *"Light be.*"

GOD'S WORD TRANSPORTS

What God saw was darkness. But He said, "*Light.*" God spoke what He desired. God spoke His will. God's Word was His will, and it carried power. It was a spiritual force.

He framed the world with His words. You can't build without substance. He took words, faith-filled words were God's substance.

Here, essentially, is what God did. God filled His words with faith. He used His words as containers to hold His faith and contain that spiritual force and transport it out there into the vast darkness by saying, "*Light, be!*"

That's the way God transported His faith causing creation and transformation. That is the way God changes things. You find it all through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation.

God never does anything without saying it first.

That may sound simple, but it is also profound. If you will check up on yourself, you will find that you hardly ever do anything without saying it first. You usually say it several times before you do it. That's the way we are made. We are made in the image and likeness of God. Faith is the ability to conceive God's words in our heart. *That brings into our spirit being, into our heart, a spiritual force greater than our circumstance.* We can take that faith which comes from the Word of God, fill our words with it, and use those words as containers to transport our faith into our situations, into the circumstances of life, and transform that circumstance.

This is the good news. This is the power of God. The gospel is the good news. It is the power of God unto deliverance, preservation, healing, and soundness. We are talking and using the power that is in God's Word to cause us to live victorious in this life.

We are not out to obtain something that God doesn't want us to have – as some want to imply. But *we are* out to receive what God promised us in His Word, and to obtain it by God's method. And God's method is by faith.

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REBUILDING YOUR **WALLS** AND SETTING NEW BOUNDARIES

Rebuilding Your Walls and Setting New Boundaries —

"He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls." Proverbs 25:28

In my book, *REVERSE THE CURSE*, I used this scripture to teach people how to keep the enemies out of their city.

Your spirit is like a city that must be guarded from the attacks of enemies such as negative thought, negative self-talk, and negative people. Some of us haven't always been successful and as a result, our walls have holes in them and may have even crumbed completely. This teaching, a follow-up to *REVERSE THE CURSE*, will show you how to rebuild the walls and set boundaries that will prevent this from happening again.

Survey the Destruction —

The holes in your walls represent emotional pain and hurt in your life. The only way to rebuilding is to first survey the damage and know **where** the damage is. When Nehemiah heard of the destruction of Jerusalem and its walls, he sat down and wept. **"And they said**

by Annette Capps

unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire. And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven." Nehemiah. 1:3-4

There is nothing wrong with grieving and crying over the pain and hurts that have occurred in your life. That is a natural reaction, but you do not want to be stuck there. We all know people who are still crying and complaining over things that happened 20 years ago. Crying can be productive as long as we allow it to motivate us to seek God for direction to go on with life. Getting the grief out is a starting point, because it is an acknowledgement that there is a hole in the wall. You can never repair walls until you acknowledge that they have been damaged.

As soon as possible, Nehemiah went and viewed the destruction to try to find a way to rebuild. Never view destruction in your life as an invitation

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to a pity-party. Nehemiah took a realistic look at what needed to be done. He was able to do this because he had already grieved over what had happened. He knew that he must proceed with the rebuilding process because with the walls down the city was open to invasion. Walls don't repair themselves and you certainly can't expect your enemy to repair them for you, so guess who does the work? You must rebuild your walls.

Symptoms and Common Causes of Damaged Walls

Some of the symptoms of damage to a person's spirit are: **feeling of rejection and inferiority, anger, hatred, fear, and anxiety.** These are symptoms or reactions to being wounded or hurt in your emotions. If you've been wounded, it leaves a gaping hole in your wall. You begin to **react** out of hurt instead of reason. A chain reaction begins and you develop a pattern of continually being hurt. How does this happen? If a city is protected by walls and the enemy knocks a hole in it, he will continue to enter through that same hole again and again until it is repaired.

Breaking the Patterns In Your Life

Patterns or cycles develop in relationships, in sin, and satanic attack. It is a well-known fact that many who leave a home where there are alcoholic parents, or abuse of some kind, will marry a person who is abusive and/or an alcoholic. Even though they divorce that person, they soon find themselves attracted to another relationship that is abusive in some way. This pattern repeats itself until that person is healed and their walls are repaired.

I have good news! You can break that pattern. If you are continually rejected or hurt in relationship of any kind, you can repair those walls through the help of the Holy Spirit. How did the hole get there in the first place? Why do these things always happen to you? Why do you suffer from feelings of rejection and inferiority?

Perhaps your feelings of inferiority came from continually being told you are stupid in school, or perhaps you heard things such as, "You'll never amount to anything. Can't you do anything right?" You were wounded in your spirit before you reached an age where you could defend yourself. That caused a hole in your wall. After that, the enemy continually harassed you about being stupid, inferior, and unwanted. Because of that hole, you felt inferior in most every situation, even when it was the farthest thing from the truth. It's too late to change the past, but you can make the decision to change the present and future by setting new boundaries for yourself.

Setting New Boundaries

Walls set boundaries. Boundaries set limits, and protect you. Most of us have been taught that it is selfish to take care of ourselves and protect ourselves. No, Jesus taught us to love our neighbor **as** ourselves. You will have a hard time loving your neighbor if you don't know how to love yourself and take care of **you** first. How can you help others if your spirit is broken by being used and abused?

Boundaries say, "You cannot use me and hurt me. I won't allow it." You cannot allow the devil or others to take your God-given self-respect. There will always be people who will want to control you and rule your city. God has given you authority over your own life, to be directed by Him. Why give it to someone else? Usually, they want to rule your city because they haven't done so well with theirs!

Jesus was effective in His life and ministry because He loved and respected people, but only the Holy Spirit controlled and directed Him. He did not let anyone control Him or rule His city. No one was able to take his life from Him, but when the time came, He freely gave it. It is OK to give when it is your own free choice, but it is not God's will for people to take from you, whether those possessions are concrete, spiritual, or emotional. It is not God's will for anyone to rule your city. Neither is it God's will for you to rule someone else's city! To do so, would violate the Spirit of God within them. For someone to march into your city and take over grieves the Holy Spirit within you. It is always amazing to me, but I have found that if you treat yourself with respect, other will. Draw the line, set the boundary, refuse to be taken advantage of, and you will gain self-respect and respect of others.

Specific Skills When Encountering Your Enemy

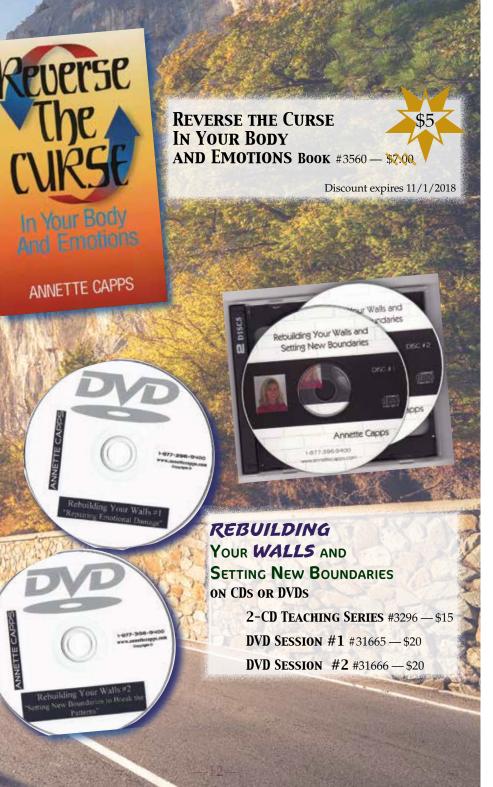
When you set the boundaries and draw the lines, don't expect things

to be easy. If you will read the book of Nehemiah, you will see that the enemy continually taunted him while he rebuilt. The number one thing to remember is: **People become upset when you change your life!** Nehemiah was laughed to scorn when he began to rebuild. You will hear people say, "It's only a phase they are going through. It won't last." You may do as Nehemiah and answer with silence. Sometimes silence keeps you out of trouble.

After they see you are determined, the battle may get more intense, and you may encounter a verbal attack by others, or a demonic assault. Keep your weapons at your side, (the spiritual, not the carnal). Refuse to be moved, and don't waver in your new boundary lines. Some areas can be negotiated, but abuse and lack of respect for you as a child of God is not one of them.

Nehemiah experienced many accusations from the enemy. You can expect such accusing statements. "You are so selfish! All you care about is yourself!" Of course! If someone has been able to manipulate and control you, they will be very angry when you stop it. What they do not realize is that you are not doing them any favors by allowing such ungodly behavior. Locking them out of your city will force them to go back and deal with **their** city.

Where do you draw the line? How can you walk in love? Do as much for others as you can do without hurting or compromising yourself. The old adage, "Give 'til it hurts", is totally unscriptural! The only time Jesus did was when He fulfilled the plan of redemption by His suffering. Redemption is complete now, so **give 'til it blesses you!**



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