



MANNA NEWS
 “THE BREAD OF LIFE”

MANNA Ministries International, Inc.

Faith: The substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen—Hebrews 11:1



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The eleventh chapter of the book of Hebrews is a well known chapter to most Christians. The whole intent of this epistle was to keep those to whom it was addressed from apostatizing (turning away from) the Christian faith and relapsing again into Judaism. They were going through trials and tribulations and suffering persecution. The thing that was going to secure them and keep them from turning away was **faith**. Therefore, in order to show the efficacy of faith, the Apostle Paul wrote an extensive account of the nature and effect of faith.

It was the intent of Paul to show that faith in the Divine promises, has been in all ages the means of perseverance in true religion and consequently of salvation. Here he defines the nature of faith and then gives us numerous examples of the power of faith and the people of faith. Paul wanted to show these believers that faith has the power to keep the mind and heart in the midst of trials and to encourage them with the examples of these great men and women of faith.

This epistle is not only for those of Paul’s day; but to Christians around the world today. In a world of high technology that in some instances is starting to replace human beings, medical advances beyond belief, moral decline, extortion in high places, the ravages of nature upon the land, children being stolen and murdered, men and women of God falling out of fellowship with the Lord they profess to love and are called to serve and wars and rumors of war; we need to have examples that will remind us that faith in God does indeed have the same power today that it had at the time of this writing. When I stop and think of Abraham who had the faith in his old age to believe that God would bring forth a nation out of his loins; and then had the faith to trust God when commanded to offer up Isaac as a sacrifice; I wonder why we can’t have the faith to believe that God can handle the day to day issues we are faced with. When I reminisce about Noah building an ark because God told him it was going to rain; I’m amazed at his level of faith. Noah didn’t know what a boat was. He had never seen rain. Yet because God said build the boat, it’s going to rain; he moved in obedience and built a boat by faith. Where is our faith today??

Whatever the trials and tribulations you find yourself in, remember the faith of our forefathers and mothers. Remember that we serve a God that is faithful. Remember that there is great power in faith; and with great faith you have the confidence of acting out the reality of those things not seen; and the ability to believe what we have not seen based on faith in what God has declared to be so.

Pastor Patricia Sealy

Pastoral Remarks

Grace and Peace be Unto You From God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,



We are fast approaching our eighth annual MANNA conference. This year we are truly walking in faith and believing God for every need of the ministry and the conference. There are times in our lives when God really stretches our faith. This is one of those years for MANNA. God has brought significant change to the ministry and it has been faith in the vision He has given, but more so faith in the God who has given the vision to move out into new adventures and to remain true to the “plan of God” for this work.

The test of our faith often comes in ways we seldom think about. Sometimes it comes in the waiting. Waiting to see how God is going to move and when He’s going to move and where He’s going to move. Sometimes the test of faith comes in having everything that you know and are comfortable with changed and moved out of your life. Sometimes the test of faith comes in crisis situations at home, on the job, in the church. Often times the test of faith comes in having to go it alone and wondering why God has you in such a place. Whatever the test of faith, this I know; that without faith it is impossible to please God; and when it’s all said and done, I want to be found pleasing in His sight.

**“ for he that
cometh to God
must believe that
he is”....**

Hebrews 11:6



The 6th verse of Hebrews 11 says to us ... “for he that cometh to God must believe that he is... Who has ever seen God? Who has ever had God sit at their table and dine with them? Who has ever gone for a walk with God? And yet, we must believe that he is! We must believe that the God of the Scriptures is real, is all knowing, is all powerful, is all caring, is every where present. We must believe that the God that we read about did just exactly what the bible says He did and is still doing and meeting the needs of His people today. We must have the faith to know that despite our finite minds and understanding, there is an Infinite One who is sovereign. We must know that He is sovereign in all the heavens and in all the earth and has made a way of escape from the bondage of sin and eternal damnation for each of us who has the faith to believe.

I want to have the faith of Enoch. I want to be translated without seeing death. I want to have the faith of Elijah. I want to be taken up in a chariot of fire to see the Lord. I want to have great faith. My prayer is “Lord, increase my faith”



The Prayer of Faith

Is any one among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith

will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; ... (James 5: 13 – 15) Revised Standard Version

The writer of this epistle directs the reader to pray. James asks three questions and provides prayer as the solution to all three. “Is there any among you suffering? Let him **pray**. Is any cheerful? Let him sing **praise**. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them **pray** over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the **prayer** of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up...” In both this pericope and in the one found in Sirach 38:9, the reader is instructed to pray. Sirach says “My child, when you are ill, do not delay, but **pray** to the Lord, and he will heal you”.

The epistle of James says “**the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up**”. In the next verse -16- we are also informed that “the prayer of the righteous man has great power in its effects”. In this passage of James 5: 15, faith is of paramount importance to prayer. Here prayer is described by the word faith. An understanding of the word faith must be ascertained from the original language of the New Testament in which we find this passage of Scripture. In the New Testament Greek the word for faith is – **pistis** – **pistis** has the following meanings: **when related to God**, is the conviction that God exists and is the creator and ruler of all things, the provider and bestower of eternal salvation through Christ. **When related to Christ**, it has the following meaning: a strong and welcome conviction that Jesus is the Messiah through whom we obtain eternal salvation in the kingdom of God. Therefore, faith for the Christian means that we believe that there is a transcendent God who is Sovereign and rules and reigns over all creation and whom through His grace and mercy has made a way for our redemption,

(continued on page 4)

News From the Kingdom

The Safe Harbor Mentoring Program was born out of a vision given to Pastor Roy Kirton, who began volunteering as a Para-Chaplain in 1994. While teaching a life skills class on a weekly basis in the Nassau County Correctional Facility, he began to connect with the men that attended in a positive way. The men remained in contact with Pastor Kirton when they went to State facilities. Upon their return home, Pastor Kirton and the members of Circle of Love Ministry worked with these men as they made the transition back to society. Out of this outreach, Safe Harbor was born. The Safe Harbor Mentoring Program derives its name from the hamlet of its origin. Copiague is a Native American word meaning “Safe Harbor”.

The program is designed to assist people with a criminal/troubled past, who are being released from prison and need to focus on living socially acceptable and productive lives— some of them for the first time. The cost to families, the judicial system, taxpayers and countless victims has to be reversed. Our culture has to be prepared to turn a blight into a self-sufficient resource.

Safe Harbor Mentoring Program is an outreach of the Circle of Love Ministry Worldwide located at 20 Reith Street, Copiague, New York. Circle of Love along with several other churches will be hosting the annual Day of Prayer on May 4, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. For more information, you may contact Circle of Love Ministry Worldwide at 631-789-2688

Pastor Patricia A. Sealy

[The Prayer of Faith \(cont. from page 3\)](#)

reconciliation and salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ. Because we believe that God is Sovereign, we also believe and trust that He has our lives in His control. We may not always understand the mystery of this transcendent God, but we believe in Him and we trust Him to carry out His will for our lives. The prayer of faith then is a prayer said in belief and trust that God will do what is best for us, even if we don't like or understand the situations in which we find ourselves. The prayer of faith is willingness on the part of the one who prays to accept the will of God in their lives. The prayer of faith is the prayer that faces the unknown with an assurance that we are certain that God will take care of His people.

The writer of James 5:15 does not equivocate. He is absolutely sure that the prayer that is said in faith will save the sick. The Scripture is replete with the words "thy faith hath made thee whole", and we find that the words whole and save are the same in these Scriptures – *sozo* – to save. When the woman with the issue of blood touched the hem of Jesus' garment, He declared to her that her "faith" had made her whole. Jesus told blind Bartimeus to go his way because his "faith" had made him whole. When Jesus healed the lepers in the Gospel of Luke and one returned to give glory to God, Jesus said "Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole". In all of these situations, we can see the relationship of believer and healer. We see that the woman believed that she could reach out and touch the garment that Jesus wore; this signifies a connection between them. When Bartimeus heard that Jesus was passing by, he cried out to Him to have mercy, cast his clothes off and went to Jesus expecting to have his sight restored. The returning leper came back with a heart filled with gratitude to give glory to God for his healing.

In each of these situations, there was a connection – relation- between the healer and the believer. What I believe we see is a connection between the action of faith and the action of Jesus' healing power. Faith is the fuel that sets prayer in action to touch the heart of God and to ignite the power of the Holy Spirit to heal and make whole. The prayer of faith is a prayer that is offered in expectation that it will make a connection and that God will heal, in whatever manner He chooses to heal.

However, there are times when we stand face to face with someone we have prayed for and they do not recover. Often we are faced with the mysteries of the Divine that are too much for us to understand. It is at these times that we are impressed with the agony and suffering of Christ on the cross at Calvary; and we are given the privilege of sharing in His suffering and knowing that He shares in our sufferings. It is in the midst of our suffering with loved ones that we come to know and understand the power of our faith and the power of our prayer. Prayer knocks at the door of Grace, while Faith opens it. Our prayers for our loved ones often knock at the doors of Heaven and our faith obtains the entrance for them to pass through to complete healing in the Presence of the Lord. Even then, we must always remember that the faithful prayers of the righteous avail mightily.

Pastor Patricia A. Sealy

What Scripture Has to Say About Faith:



“... If ye have **faith** as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you”. Matthew 17:20

“And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our **faith**”. Luke 17:5

“Therefore being justified by **faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1

“So then **faith** cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”. Romans 10:17

“(For we walk by **faith**, not by sight:) II Corinthians 5:7

“Above all, taking the shield of **faith**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”
Ephesians 6:16

“Now **faith** is the substance of things hope for, the evidence of things not seen”.

Hebrews 11:1

“But without **faith** *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”. Hebrews 11:6

** Bolding of the word faith done by the writer of this column.**

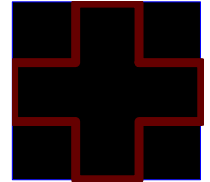
Humbly submitted by

Sis. Sandy Wallace

Jones Temple Church of God in Christ

Health & Holiness

**“He sent his word, and healed them , and delivered them from their destruction”
Psalms 107:20)**



Touching HIS Hem: Relief from Back Pain

“If only I may touch the hem of HIS garment, I would be made well”... but my back hurts so bad today, I can barely walk let alone press through this crowd!”

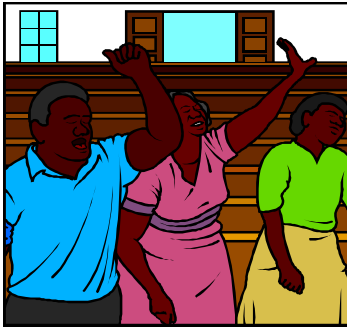
Have you ever wondered what would have happened if the woman with the issue of blood focused on her condition and not on the solution? Did you ever think that you wouldn't be able to get up after spending quality time in prayer to the LORD; or consider whether you would be able to walk the day after you praised the LORD in dance in your favorite heels; or if you'd be able to get out of bed and go to your secular job after having spent a busy weekend in ministry and service to the LORD? If so, then you might be one of the many adults who suffer from lower back pain, who is focused on the symptoms instead of on the healer.

Back pain is one of the most common reasons that adults visit health care professionals. It results most often from a lifetime of stress and strain related to 1) poor posture, 2) improper lifting and 3) prolonged standing; although, sometimes its results from a traumatic injury. When pain occurs it usually signals that you have put additional stress on your back. I get prepared for my back pain when I spend too much time wearing my 2” heels when I should have had on the 1” heels. Or, if I am standing up, either walking or stationary, for one plus hours, especially if the floor on which I am standing is concrete. Then, because I have arthritis in my knees, I often times do not bend my knees when I lift; and that, plus the amount of weight I am lifting, contributes to excess strain on my back. These are the factors that contribute to my pain but there are others such as arthritis, herniated disks or disk disease in the spine that may affect you or your family members.

Whatever the cause(s) of our back pain, the WORD of GOD tells us that we “are” and “were” healed. In Matthew 14:35-36 when the men of the land of Gennesaret recognized JESUS, they sent out into all the surrounding region bringing to HIM all who were sick and begged HIM that they might only touch the hem of HIS garment. “And as many as touched it were made perfectly well”. What faith they had to believe that they only needed to bend down and touch that Precious hem. Some days, I feel like I'll never reach that hem unless JESUS is standing on stage or sitting on a chair and all I have to do is walk carefully to HIM! SMILE Seriously, our faith in GOD and HIS healing power will result in our eventual or immediate resolution of cause, symptoms and pain. But if the relief from our back pain is not immediate, here are a few strategies that we can use as we continue to “press through the crowd”:

1. Put ice on the area for the first 24-48 hours of pain to reduce the inflammation and swelling; apply the ice for 5 – 10 minutes each hour by wrapping an ice pack in a towel to protect the skin.
2. After 2 days, apply heat to the areas to increase blood flow to the area.
3. If there is no contraindication from your health professional, use a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory over-the-counter medicine such as Motrin, or Aleve for 2-3 days according to the label directions.

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Worship & Faith



Worship means to ascribe worth to; to reverence and honor. Luke 7: 2-10 tells the story of the centurion who sent word to Jesus, asking that Jesus would heal his servant. The centurion, being a Gentile, did not consider himself worthy of a personal audience with Jesus, but he recognized the greatness, power, authority, and majesty of Christ, and he believed that if Jesus would just speak a word, the servant would be healed.

This centurion, by virtue of his position in society, was himself a man of status. It was the highest office that a Roman soldier could obtain. He knew what it was to have power and authority. He was not a Jew, yet he had a heart for God and the people of God. He had built a synagogue for the Jewish people, and had endeared himself to them. This would indicate that he believed that the God of the Jews was worthy of honor and praise, worthy to be worshipped. He may have felt that, as a Gentile, he had no place or part as one of God's people, but his actions showed that he was willing to offer himself to God's service however he could. Truly we serve God when we serve His people. As Matthew 5: 40 says, what we do for the least of the brethren we do unto God. This is worship acceptable unto God!

In verse 9 of this scripture passage, Jesus stated that He had not found such great faith, even among the Jews. Let us consider this Gentile who had never met or had a personal encounter with Jesus. Based on the things he had heard, he believed in his heart that Jesus could work a miracle for him. As Jesus said in John 20: 29, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed". The centurion's worship of the Christ whom he had worshipped from afar, led to faith unlike any other. And, his faith was demonstrated by his statement that if Jesus would just speak the word, the servant would be healed. You see, worship and faith go hand in hand.

If the centurion so revered and worshipped God, how much more should we. He, even as an outsider, knew without a shadow of doubt, that Jesus had power over life and death. We, who have been invited to enter into the Holy of Holies, to get up close and personal with Christ, to freely enter into His presence with thanksgiving ought to worship Him and come to Him in faith, believing that if He just speaks the word everything will be alright. Oh, can Jesus find such great faith in us?

Pastor Cynthia Allen

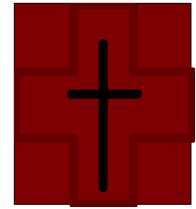
Society for Helping Church

Health & Holiness:

“He sent his word, and healed them , and delivered them from their destruction”

(Psalms 107:20)

(continued from page 6)



Touching His Hem: Relief From Back Pain

4. Start walking to stretch muscles, lubricate joints and develop strength. Be sure to wear supportive shoes and walk erect (shoulders back, head up).

5. See a physical therapist for a program including ultrasound, electrical stimulation, heat/ice, massage and stretching. These programs are designed to break the cycle of pain, spasm and de-conditioning to promote healing.

6. See a health professional if you experience any of the following symptoms:
 - a. A backache that does not improve after trying the things listed above;
 - b. Pain that radiates down an arm or leg;
 - c. One or both of your arms or legs are numb;
 - d. You experience difficulty with bladder or bowel function;
 - e. Backaches occur more often and become progressively worse; or
 - f. Back pain occurs suddenly.

By faith, the woman who had been ill for twelve years made her way to the Person who could provide the healing. By faith, we stand on the promises of GOD for our healing and resolution of signs and symptoms. And by faith, believing that we can do all things through CHRIST who strengthens us (Philippians 4:13), we stretch out our aching backs, bending down to touch the hem of HIS garment. Then sit back and with joy and peace, in absence of pain, look forward to hearing “Be of good cheer,... your faith has made you well!” (Matthew 9:21-22) Until the next issue, **May you live in a state of “Health & Holiness”**

Sis. Phylis Christian Ragland

The Church of God in the Word

Praise in Prose

Faith

We all need Faith

**As of a grain of mustard seed;
And by believing the Word of God,
You'll find he'll supply all of our needs.**

**We must understand that Faith
Is the substance of things hoped for;
Not knowing how, when or where
But at the exact time, it's at your door.**

**Oh Yes, Faith is indeed,
The very evidence of things not seen;
Your next payment on the house,
When you've exhausted all your financial means.**

**Faith is the trust that we carry,
While walking up to the mountain top,
Holding on to our loved one,
Which is the only sacrifice we've got.**

**Faith is the shield we uphold for protection,
When all the fiery darts are flying high
But as we stand dressed with the whole armor of God,
The sword makes them pass us by.**

**Faith is the key,
That unlocks every chain of command.
Without Faith, it's impossible to please God
And the result is too confounding for man.**

**In fact, Faith without works,
Is absolutely dead
So hold on to what you now possess
If you desire to move ahead.**

Deaconess Elizabeth A. Buie,, Jones Temple Church of God in Christ

MANNA Ministries International, Inc.

Eighth Annual Summer Conference

July 13–16, 2006

'A Call to a New Level of Worship'

Miracle Mountain Christian Resort, Catskill Mountains

Conference Host:

Pastor Patricia A. Sealy



Principle Teacher:

Bishop Dr. Roger K. Samuel



Conference Chairman

Pastor Cynthia Allen



Conference Preachers and Speakers



Rev. Dr. Laura B. Sinclair



Pastor H. Curtis Douglas



Rev. Deborah McCaffity



Rev. Karen Jones



Rev. Dr. Marvin J. Bentley

Please go to our web site for additional information.

www.mannaintl.org

Wisdom's Corner

"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom; and with all thy getting get understanding"

Proverbs 4:7

" Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the world of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. Hebrews 11: 1 -3

Our words of wisdom refer to the Scripture found in Hebrews 11: 1–40, the entire chapter. This chapter is better known as the "Hall of Faith"

Old Testament heroes provided examples of faith and obedience to God. Faith is more than a belief in God. It is also a way of life. Heroes of faith, although imperfect, trusted God and gave their lives to him. Faith is belief that God will do what is right!

God's help is near and always available to those who seek to do something that demonstrates faith; for faith with no effort is no faith at all. God has never rejected a genuine gesture of faith in the believer.

Mother Lois Land

The Power of Faith:

"And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you."

Luke 17:6



MANNA MINISTRIES
INTERNATIONAL, INC.

MANNA News "The Bread of Life"

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MANNA Annual Conference

July 13–16, 2006

MIRACLE MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN
RESORT CENTER

Registration for the conference is now open.

Non-refundable deposit of \$100.00 down

**payment due now. Final payment due June 30,
2006. Call for further information.**

516-334-5905 ext. 3

Coming Events!!

Koinonia Prayer Breakfast—3rd Saturday of Every Month @ 8:30 a.m.

733 Clinton Street, Westbury, New York. Pastors Alistair & Patricia Sealy.



Bible Study and Prayer Fellowship—Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m beginning on May 9. 733 Clinton Street, Westbury New York. Pastors Alistair & Patricia Sealy

Leadership Breakfast—April 27, 2006 at the Shelter Rock Church, Manhasset, New York; in preparation for the Leadership Summit 2006—August 10-12, 2006. Church leaders, staff, market place leaders are welcome. Call for information.

Health Education Seminar—May 13, 2006. Call for location and directions.

Prayer Retreat—June 2-3, 2006. Mount Manresa Jesuit Retreat House, Staten Island, New York. Call for information.

Annual Conference—July 13–16, 2006. "A Call to a New Level of Worship" Miracle Mountain Christian Resort. See website for information or call.