

The Rock House Church
February 19, 2017
Today God IS!!

What is the Substance of Your Faith?

TODAYS VERSE: MATTHEW 4:1 *Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into desert To Be Tested---by Satan---after 40 days of fasting---Satan came---*
2 Chronicles 16:9 *The Eyes of the Lord go around looking in ALL the earth for people who are faithful to Him so He can make them "STRONG."*

TODAY'S WORD: "Empty your mind of Limits , I have NO Limits!! Free your mind of Worry, I have everything in control, Come and spend time with ME."

TODAY'S TOP QUESTIONS:

- 1) What is the "Substance" of your Faith? (Hebrews 11:1) Faith then is the substantiation of things hope for. Substance is an object I Possess—something before me; Substantiation means that I have the power or facility to make that substance real to me
- 2) What is the difference between Mass Destruction and Mass Distraction?
- 3) What is the "Substance" of Distraction for you? (Colossians 3:2-4)
- 4) What was Jesus "Substance of Defense?" (Matt. 4:4) "It is written"

Temptations we face: Provision (My God shall----); Protection (Nothing can-----); Power (My God is--)

Matt. 4:1-3 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

Matt. 4:5-6 Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU' ;and 'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'"

Matt. 4:8-9 The devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."

GRAHAM COOKE: A lens is a simple technology. It either bends light or blocks light. When working properly, a lens should actually be invisible because it is not suppose to be something we see, rather it is intended to be something we see through.

Our lenses in life, directly affects what we see, how we think, and how we speak. They can either inhibit or accelerate our growth in God, which is why it's important to constantly be examining and upgrading our lenses.

Over the course of our life and relationship with God our lenses are going to change multiple times, causing our minds to be renewed and giving us a new language. This is how the transformation process happens for us in God!

Watchman Nee said, "There are two aspects of salvation that should be manifest in a Christians life:

First is the forgiveness of sin and the second is his deliverance from sinning. Anyone who is not experiencing both of these aspects in his life is living beneath the privileges that God has accomplished for us in Christ.

The Blood can wash away my sin, but it cannot wash away my “old man” (Romans 6:6). For this we are in need of the Cross, that the old man may be crucified. Through the blood deals with sins, it is the Cross that deals with the sinner. (Romans 6:3) (The more I try to please the Lord the more I find that part of me just doesn’t want to go there.) The Cross terminates the first creation, and out of death comes a new creation in Christ: The second Man.

There are 4 conditions for living the Christian life:

- 1) Knowing: it’s a revelation from God of what Christ has done for you/in you.
- 2) Reckoning: It’s experiencing what He reviles to you in your living, today;
- 3) Presenting: Giving ourselves To God or consecration to God of that which pertains to the new Life He has placed you in.
- 4) Walking: Lead or being in the Spirit or maturing in our spirits to be sensitive to His every leading.

God’s way of deliverance is different from mans: Mans way is to suppress sin by seeking to overcome it but God’s way is to [remove the sinner](#). God sets us free from the dominion of sin, not by strengthening the “old man”, but by crucifying him; not by helping him to do anything, but by entirely removing him from the scene of action.

Not an intellectual knowledge at all—but an opening of the “Eyes of the heart” to see what we have in Christ. Eph. 1:17 For the “Written Word” has become a “Living Word” from God to you “The Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the Knowledge of Him.”(Question #4)

We are the factory and our actions are the products. The blood of Jesus has dealt with the question of the products, manly, our sin, and the Cross has made a clean sweep of the factory that produces the goods.

What is “in Christ” cannot sin; what is “In Adam” can and will sin every time Satan is given a chance to exert his power over it. Faith then is the substantiation of things hope for(Heb. 11:1) Substance is an object I Possess—something before me; Substantiation means that I have the power or facility to make that substance real to me. We as Christians are never told by God to struggle to get into Christ—because we are already there. We just need to remain there. Every true spiritual experience means that we have discovered a certain fact in Christ.

The old world, “Old man” and ‘New world New man” separated by a tomb; the first Adam must stay on the cross; my old man must stay in the tomb. “The New Man,” my Spirit Man come alive as my life is hidden in Christ.

Romans 8:38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Death Brings Life—Derek Prince

John 12:24 Jesus replied, *“I tell you the truth, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”*

What a vivid picture that is. Do you see it? You are holding the grain of wheat there in your hand. It’s got a hard little shell around it, it’s all by itself, it’s right there in your hand. It’s yours, it’s your life, you control it, you make the decisions. You can decide what you want to do to it. You can hold onto it and keep it. But if you keep it, Jesus says, it will remain alone. Nothing more will ever come out of it.

How many lonely people there are all around us in the world today? They are lonely just for that very reason. They are holding onto that little grain. They are not willing to let it go. And so they have it. It’s all theirs but it’s, oh, so lonely. What’s the alternative? Let it go, drop it. Hand it over to God. Let God take control of it. Be willing to drop into the ground, lose sight of it, and be buried even there in the dark. Maybe people will walk over it, but God’s promise is that a new life will come out of it: a life that’s worth living, a life that’s not just for time, but for eternity

Alicia Bruxvoort’s prayer was this, “Jesus, be my greatest dream. I want to love You more.”

I persisted until that small plea became the greatest cry of my heart.

Not long ago, I realized that the 44-year-old woman [staring back at me in the mirror](#) has something in common; I really do love Jesus more; More than my well-laid plans; More than my fabulous family; More than my achievements or success; More than my fears or my failures; More than my hopes or my wishes; much More than a 15-year-old girl ever thought she could when she lay beneath the stars with a gaggle of little girls and a friend who dreamed big.

I can't pinpoint when it happened, but somewhere along the way, my Savior answered my prayer. And He'd love to do the same for you. We could pray it together — this big and beautiful prayer — and see where it takes us. I have a feeling that it will lead us somewhere far beyond our wildest dreams.

Jesus, be my greatest dream. I want to love You more. In Jesus' Name, Amen”

Col. 3:2-4 Then if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. ³For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Jodie Hughes said; “Earlier this week, suddenly I woke up at **12:35am**. I knew immediately God was speaking. I have been seeing **1235** regularly as of late, and it has caught my attention knowing God had something to say.

I already understood 1235 to mean, "He's lining everything up, and there's a grace to take the next step" (1-2-3 means "lining everything up" and 5 means "grace"). **As God brings alignment to promises in your life, there is grace and urgency to take the next step into what He is saying, and extend the borders of your faith.** But I knew there was more.

As I prayed and waited, His presence was thick and imparted such a burning desire for Jesus that has only increased. I heard His voice:

Luke **12:35**: "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning."

The Secret Place Prepares You For Suddenlies.

Suddenlies are by definition, *suddenly*. So steward God's words to you now, and lean into authentic heart connection. Hearing and discerning His voice is crucial in these days and will guide you into breakthrough. Whatever the Lord has been speaking to you about, obey NOW as it is positioning you for the next step.

Keep Going - You Are Being Made Ready For Breakthrough.

Tenacity, endurance and courage to keep going, even in the challenges, is being added to you. **Breakthrough takes persistence to push past bumps and seeming set-backs. These "bumps" you are experiencing are a normal part of breaking into greater breakthrough.**

TODAY: *"I AM the Risen One, Who Lives in you always. No matter how your circumstances look to you, My Spirit in Lighting the way, revealing the pitfall in front of you today so you can walk in My Resurrection Life with Confidence and Victory Power. Yesterdays Victories or failures are just that—Yesterday!! Now be Thankful for today; press into Me "Today" and I will open your eyes to see all that I have for you."*

Larry Tomczak: The Biblical Solution to the Angry, Anti-Trump Resistance:

There is a masterpiece of a movie in theaters now. It's nominated for multiple Oscars including Best Picture—it has no nudity, sensuality, or violence (although it does include some profanity). It is a PG-rated true story and even features people unashamedly praying in the name of Jesus and declaring, "Thank You, Jesus!"

The entire story revolves around three women of character working silently behind the scenes against resistance and shameful opposition. Yet instead of rage-filled protests, they demonstrated grace, humility, and patience to bring about change.

In this season of Trump-hating vitriol and angry marches, it's inspiring and refreshing to be reminded that there is a God-given pathway to progress. The film, *Hidden Figures*, is a tour de force that deserves our support.

I wish I could reassure readers that the current swelling "resistance movement" will subside, but it won't. Nasty, vulgar women, subsidized anarchists, and lawless legislators are only the beginning. The propagandist media complies as evidenced by their narrative on "airport chaos," when Chief of Staff Reince Priebus said on Sunday's *Meet the Press* (January 29, 2017) that only 109 foreigners from select Muslim countries were delayed briefly for questioning out of 325,000 in one day.

So this movie has compelling lessons for us at this time. Seeing it, I couldn't help but recall words from the greatest teacher who ever lived in the greatest sermon ever given. **"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how shall it be made salty? It is from then on good for nothing but to be thrown out and to be trampled underfoot by men" (Matthew 5:13).**

Becoming Informed Influencers: When “The Bullseye Challenge” was launched months ago, the book cover stated the goal of preparing salt and light Christians: “Becoming informed influencers in today’s changing culture.” Through 30 videos and the book, Christians invest 15 minutes daily for one month to learn to influence others confidently and charitably.

God's people need to be equipped on today's hot-buttoned themes. Whether it is abortion, social justice, illegal immigration, transgenderism, or other topics, we need to know what to say and how to say it. Reflecting on salt and its many uses can help us in carrying out our assignment as “hidden figures” in our spheres today.

Five Uses for Salt: Salt is composed of two poisons, sodium and chloride, which kill if ingested separately. What formerly brought death can bring forth life. With simmering and swelling tensions today, being salt of the earth nails our task.

1. Preservative: Salt has been a food preservative since ancient times. It is extremely effective in destroying microorganisms that cause the spoilage of food.

Jesus Christ calls us to preserve morality and stop corruption in our culture. Pastors and God's people cannot be passive. Standing up to opposition, we have an assignment no matter how disrespectful those we face may be. Salt does irritate wounds. Think of hate-spewing celebrities and protesters wounded by sin. At the same time, we need caution so our actions don't unnecessarily grate on people because we're obnoxious.

2. Source of Flavor: Just as salt adds flavor to food, we are called to do likewise in the midst of an insipid world. Following the ways of God enables us to “**rejoice with joy unspeakable**” (see **I Peter 1:8**) as His ambassadors bringing zest to the world. Scripture speaks of the “**pleasures of sin for a time**” (see **Hebrews 11:25**) but afterward come consequences that weigh people down in discouragement and depression. Don't let appearances fool you, as many defiant demonstrators and detractors are broken and bitter and need to witness another way. We may be the only Bible that onlookers ever read.

3. Makes One Thirsty: Jesus said, “**If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink**” (see **John 7:37**). He went on to describe the Spirit-filled life wherein obedient followers radiate His love to a darkened world. It's not by accident that bars have bowls of pretzels and peanuts in front of customers to create thirst. Our assignment and privilege is to be a literal pretzel for Jesus in our corner of the world.

4. Uplifts: Salt has a unique quality called buoyancy. When something has enough salt, it lifts objects and people up. Think of the Dead Sea phenomenon, where there's so much salt no one ever sinks or drowns there. The wicked Roman commander Vespasian once tried to execute slaves by dumping them bound into this sea, yet failed because they floated. Surrounded by people who are living with heavy burdens, what a golden opportunity we have each day to lift people up by expressing love rather than disdain. We saw this in recent demonstrations where Christians didn't retaliate when spat upon or punched.

5. Permeates: The Bible directs salty saints to seize the opportunity to engage unbelievers wisely and not withdraw into isolation. God directs us, “**Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, wisely using the opportunity. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you should answer everyone**” (**Colossians 4:5-6**).

I'm personally committed to authenticity ever since God impressed on my heart 40 years ago, “Let it never be said of me that I presented the world a caricature of Christ.”

In our dealings with lost people, we must be calm and confident. May we be so winsome in our behavior that even when folks disagree with us, they're left with “the sweet fragrance of Christ” (see **II Corinthians 2:15**).

Closing Cultural Challenge: Ten weeks past the election, millions of people are bitter and some, hateful. If ever we needed to maintain our composure and be the salt of the earth, it's now. Jesus said, “**Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another**” (**Mark 9:50**). Humorist Mark Twain once said, “**If Christ were here, there is one thing He would not be, a Christian.**” Let's prove him wrong as we behave in the opposite spirit of the world, like the “hidden figures” in the film.

There's never been a better time for us to be the “salt of the earth.” And remember, “**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God**” (**Matthew 5:9**).