



KINGDOM EMBASSY MINISTRIES

Remembering our Roots. Restoring Authority. Maturing Disciples. Advancing the Kingdom.

Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

FROM FAITH TO FAITH

- Romans 1:1-17
- Acts 9:1-16
- Romans 5:1-2

- Obedience to the Faith
- Famous Faith
- The Just live by Faith

SEED:

*“Through Him we have received grace and apostleship **for obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name, **among whom you also are the called** of Jesus Christ;” Romans 1:5-6 NKJV*

FRUIT:

“For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**, for it is **the power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it **the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith**; as it is written, **“The just shall live by faith.”**” Romans 1:16-17 NKJV

“Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through **whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand...**” Romans 5:1-2

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

It's a mouthful, but if you can't string these words together and understand what they mean—grace-empowered-faith-based-obedience to God—then it will be impossible for you to understand the Book of Romans, and more importantly, how those words unpack, “The just shall live by faith.” It's a life of famous faith; that's what it will take, faith imparted and faith practiced. You can't practice the faith necessary to save you; that brand comes gift-wrapped from heaven. And you can't bury that gift in the sand and believe your life will be pleasing to God. Your faith must be practiced—demonstrated by obedience.

From faith to faith explains what those ancient words mean; “The just live by faith.” That is how the righteousness of God becomes evident to others. By God's grace, through faith, you received a free invitation into His family. But, you must be aware that the gift also confers upon you a responsibility; you are justified by free faith to then live by faith—you must practice your faith. And you practice your faith by purposely accessing God's grace. That is how your faith-filled-grace-empowered life reveals God's righteousness to the world—from faith to faith. It's the life of grace-empowered-faith-based-obedience to God!

OBEDIENCE TO THE FAITH

1. Grace, Apostleship, and Obedience

A. A Divine Calling

- (1) Separated to the Gospel

- (a) Unpacking the Bondservant and the Apostle
1. “Paul, a **bondservant** of Jesus Christ, **called** to be an **apostle, separated** to the gospel of God”
Romans 1:1 NKJV
- (b) Where does identifying as a bondservant originate?
1. “If you buy a **Hebrew servant**, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh **he shall go out free** and pay nothing. If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. **If his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master’s, and he shall go out by himself.** But **if the servant plainly says, ‘I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,’** then his master shall **bring him to the judges.** He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master **shall pierce his ear** with an awl; and **he shall serve him forever.”** Exodus 21:2-6 NKJV
- (c) Is this not precisely what Y’shua did in the Garden of Gethsemane, when He made His final decision to stay?
1. “And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, **“Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”** Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And **being in agony, He prayed more earnestly.** Then His **sweat became like great drops of blood** falling down to the ground.” Luke 22:41-44 NKJV
 2. [became a bondservant when He came a man] “*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, **who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.** And **being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.***” Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV
 3. [received His bride by becoming man] “*Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,** that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He **might present her to Himself a glorious church,** not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”* (Ephesians 5:25-27) “*“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be **joined to his wife,** and the two shall become one flesh.” This is a great mystery, but **I speak concerning Christ and the church.**”* Ephesians 5:31-32 NKJV (See: [Wedding Day](#))
 4. [He chose to to stay] “**“nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”** Luke 22:42 NKJV
 5. [He chose to submit and not fight] “*But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or **do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?**””* Matthew 26:52-54 NKJV

6. [He chose to forgive, get pierced, and stay on the cross] *“Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, **“He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him.** He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ”* (Matthew 27:41-43) *“Then Jesus said, **“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”** And they divided His garments and cast lots. Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, **“If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.”** And Jesus said to him, **“Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”**”* Luke 23:34, 39, 43 NKJV
- (d) The Church Foundation: called to be an Apostle
1. “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Jesus Christ Himself being the **chief cornerstone**,” Ephesians 2:19-20 NKJV
- (e) The Apostle (and apostolic offices), and the Prophet
1. “And He Himself gave some to be **apostles**, some **prophets**, some **evangelists**, and some **pastors** and **teachers**, for the **equipping** of the saints for the **work of ministry**, for the **edifying** of the body of Christ, till we all come to the **unity of the faith** and of the **knowledge of the Son of God**, to a **perfect man**, to the measure of **the stature of the fullness of Christ**,” Ephesians 4:11-13 NKJV
 2. “There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope** of your calling; **one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” Ephesians 4:4-6 NKJV
 3. “For as the body is **one** and has many members, but all the members of that **one body**, being many, are **one body, so also is Christ**. For by **one Spirit** we were all baptized into **one body**—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into **one Spirit**. For in fact the body is not one member but many.” I Corinthians 12:12-14 NKJV
 4. “And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: **THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.**” Matthew 27:37 NKJV
 5. “And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**” Revelation 19:16 NKJV
- (f) Separated to the gospel. What does Paul mean?
1. “As he [Paul] journeyed he came near Damascus, and **suddenly a light shone around him from heaven.**” Acts 9:3 NKJV
 2. “But the Lord said to him [Ananias], “Go, for **he is a chosen vessel of Mine** to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For **I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.**”” Acts 9:15-16 NKJV
- (g) Separated to the gospel: What does Paul mean? There is no better place where Paul summarizes that calling than in his letter to the Galatians.

1. "But I make known to you, brethren, that **the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man**. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, **but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ**. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. **But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles,** I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. **Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem** to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother. (Now concerning the things which I write to you, indeed, before God, I do not lie.) Afterward I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. And I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea which were in Christ. **But they were hearing only, "He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy."** And they glorified God in me." Galatians 1:11-24 NKJV
2. **"Then after fourteen years** I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain." Galatians 2:1-2 NKJV

(2) The Promised One

(a) As the prophets said, Y'shua Messiah...

1. "which He **promised before through His prophets** in the **Holy Scriptures**, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was **born of the seed of David** according to the flesh," Romans 1:2-3 NKJV

(b) The Seed of David!

1. *[Nathan the prophet speaking to David]* "'When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, **I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body,** and **I will establish his kingdom**. He shall build a house for My name, and **I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son...**" II Samuel 7:12-14 NKJV
2. **"And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever** before you. **Your throne shall be established forever.**" ' ' ' According to all these words and according to all this vision, **so Nathan spoke to David.**" II Samuel 7:16-17 NKJV

(3) Declared with Power

(a) The Spirit of holiness

1. "and **declared to be the Son of God** with **power** according to the **Spirit of holiness**, by the **resurrection** from the dead." Romans 1:4 NKJV

2. *"But now **Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep."* I Corinthians 15:20 NKJV
3. *"and what is the exceeding **greatness of His power** toward us who believe, according to the working of **His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,"* Ephesians 1:19-20 NKJV

B. Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based Obedience

(1) Through Him....

(a) Grace and Apostleship FOR Obedience to the Faith

1. "Through Him we have received **grace** and **apostleship** for **obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name, **among whom you also are the called** of Jesus Christ;" Romans 1:5-6 NKJV

(2) Free Faith vs. Practicing Faith

(a) First you receive free faith...

1. "Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us **by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:**" II Peter 1:1 NKJV
 - a) This faith comes ONLY by God! It is His doing by His righteousness alone.

(b) It's the only way to be saved!

1. "For by **grace you have been saved through faith**, and that **not of yourselves; it is the gift** of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 NKJV
2. *"the **message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing**, but to **us who are being saved it is the power [grace] of God.**"* I Corinthians 1:18 NKJV

(c) Then you must live by faith...

1. "But **without faith it is impossible to please Him**, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that **He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**" Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

(d) How can we live a life of faith?

1. "Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV

(3) Greeting to all believers in Rome!

(a) Grace and Peace

1. "**To all who are in Rome**, beloved of God, called to be saints: **Grace to you and peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 1:7 NKJV

(b) Don't overlook this calling—to be saints. You received a NEW identity once you became a member of the family of faith: you once were a sinner; now you are a saint!

1. "Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." II Corinthians 5:17 NKJV
2. "Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But **where sin abounded, grace abounded much more**, so that as sin reigned in death, **even so grace might reign through**

righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 5:20-21 NKJV) “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! **How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?**” Romans 6:1-2 NKJV

3. “Whoever has been born of God **does not sin**, for **His seed remains in him**; and he **cannot sin**, because he has been born of God.” I John 3:9 NKJV

FAMOUS FAITH

2. Rome is on My Heart

A. The Whole World is Watching

- (1) What is the faith that gets noticed?

- (a) Thank God for Your Faith

1. “First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that **your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.**” Romans 1:8 NKJV

- (b) Their faith is famous, and so is their obedience.

1. “For **your obedience has become known to all**. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to **be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil**. And the God of peace will **crush Satan under your feet shortly**. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.” Romans 16:19-20 NKJV

B. Getting to Rome

- (1) Paul’s longstanding desire to go to Rome.

- (a) By any means possible...

1. “For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, **that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers**, making request **if, by some means, now at last I may find a way in the will of God to come to you.**” Romans 1:9-10 NKJV

- (b) He was certain that he would get there, just not when and how.

1. *[on trial in Jerusalem Summer 58 AD around Pentecost]* “But the following night the Lord stood by him and said, “Be of good cheer, Paul; **for as you have testified for Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome.**”” Acts 23:11 NKJV
 2. *[on trial in Caesarea 58 AD]* “For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, **I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar.**” Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, “**You have appealed to Caesar? To Caesar you shall go!**”” Acts 25:11-12 NKJV
 3. *[caught in a storm sailing to Rome 60 AD]* “**“Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.’** Therefore take heart, men, for **I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.**” Acts 27:24-25 NKJV

- (c) Why did he want to go to Rome?

1. “For I long to see you, that I may **impart to you some spiritual gift**, so that you may be **established** — that is, that I may be **encouraged** together with you by the **mutual faith** both of you and me.”

Romans 1:11-12 NKJV

(d) Spiritual Gifts Preview

1. “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as **God has dealt to each one a measure of faith**. For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us**, let us use them: if **prophecy**, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or **ministry**, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in **teaching**; he who exhorts, in **exhortation**; he who **gives**, with liberality; he who **leads**, with diligence; he who shows **mercy**, with cheerfulness.” Romans 12:3-8 NKJV

(e) Why had he not yet been there?

1. “Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that **I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now)**, that I might have some **fruit** among you also, just as among the **other Gentiles**.” Romans 1:13 NKJV
2. “*And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, **not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man’s foundation**, but as it is written: “To whom He was not announced, they shall see; And those who have not heard shall understand.” **For this reason I also have been much hindered from coming to you.**”*” Romans 15:20-22 NKJV
3. “*But Paul said, “I am a Jew from Tarsus [part of Rome], in Cilicia, **a citizen** of no mean city; and I implore you, permit me to speak to the people.”*” Acts 21:39 NKJV
4. “*And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who stood by, “**Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman, and uncondemned?**”*” Acts 22:25 NKJV

(f) Greeks and barbarians?

1. “I am a **debtor** both to **Greeks** and to **barbarians**, both to wise and to unwise.” Romans 1:14 NKJV
2. “*Or do you not know, brethren (**for I speak to those who know the law**), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?*” Romans 7:1 NKJV

(g) Ready to Preach

1. “So, as much as is in me, **I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome** also.” Romans 1:15 NKJV

THE JUST LIVE BY FAITH

3. Faith²

A. The power of God to salvation!

(1) Don’t be ashamed...

- (a) It’s not about your heritage; it about your faith!

1. "For I am **not ashamed of the gospel of Christ**, for it is the **power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the **Jew first and also for the Greek.**" Romans 1:16 NKJV
- (2) Note of Distinction: Greek vs. Other Gentiles
 - (a) Sometimes you see the separation of Jew from Greek, and sometimes Jew from Gentile. We see the specific distinction of Greeks from other Gentiles here a few times in Romans 1:
 1. "I am a **debtor** both to **Greeks** and to **barbarians**, both to wise and to unwise." Romans 1:14
 2. "for the **Jew first and also for the Greek.**" Romans 1:16
 - (b) And we also saw it earlier in I Corinthians:
 1. "whether **Jews or Greeks**, whether slaves or free." I Corinthians 12:13
 - (c) And we will see it again later in Romans 10:
 1. "For there is no distinction between **Jew and Greek**, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him." Romans 10:12
 - (d) And Paul also wrote about it in other areas as well...
 1. "**There is neither Jew nor Greek**, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28 NKJV
 2. "**where there is neither Greek nor Jew**, circumcised nor uncircumcised, **barbarian**, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all." Colossians 3:11 NKJV
 3. In Romans 15:10, *And again he says: "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!"*
 4. It seems Paul is emphasizing another distinction as he separates Greeks as a special type of Gentile. "*I am a **debtor** both to **Greeks** and to **barbarians**, both to **wise** and to **unwise.**"* (Romans 1:14)
 5. John admonishes us: "*Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as He is righteous.*" (1 John 3:7)
 6. "*But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth... and He will tell you what is yet to come.*" (John 16:13)

B. The righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith!

- (1) The exclamation point of Paul's message...
 - (a) "The just shall live by faith."
 1. "For in **it the righteousness of God** is revealed from **faith to faith**; as it is written, "**The just shall live by faith.**" Romans 1:17 NKJV
 2. "*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all **ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,***" Romans 1:18 NKJV
- (2) The gospel of Christ and it's power of God for salvation (Romans 1:16) is both simple and complex.
 - (a) **Simple:** Grace for Faith; **Complex:** Faith for Grace
 1. "Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV