

## Faith Toward God

We have been discussing the “elementary teachings” of Christ and “going on to maturity”. (Heb. 6:1-3). The reason that most have not gone on to maturity is because they have never been taught the elementary doctrines and without them, we cannot go on to maturity as Christians. Today, I would like to introduce the second of these elementary doctrines, “faith toward God.”

We are not unfamiliar with faith toward God, but the problem is, we’ve been told about faith in a very limited view. We have isolated faith to selfish desires, such as faith for health, wealth and possessions. God has allowed faith to be associated with these things because of our immaturity. But, in our immaturity, our desire has been consumed with what God can do, and in our present estimation, should do for us.

It is time for us to mature and move away from our preoccupation with health, wealth and possessions. It is time to move on into a maturity where we only desire what is important to Him, even at the expense of our health, wealth and possessions.

An example of mature faith is in understanding that God lives in us and intends to reveal Himself through our lives. This requires a trust in God, not just for provision, but that He is guiding our life and displaying His glory in us, that others might see Him, not us. Our faith must mature from what God can do for us, and we must be willing to follow the example of Jesus, even to the point of giving our life, if that is what the Father requires of us.

Jesus lived by the principles of only saying what the Father was saying and only doing what the Father was doing. Most of the church today is running rampant with what they want to do and what they want to say, with no regard as to whether it is God’s will, and in most cases, not even consulting Him on the matter. We are far too familiar with a God we barely know, and our maturity will be displayed only when it is no longer about us, but about Him.

Hebrews 11:13 says, “These all died in faith, not having received the promises...” In our present immaturity, we are not prepared for God to deny us what we believe is ours, yet, “these all died in faith, not having received the promises.” We must come to a higher level of maturity, understanding that we are not living for this world, not for ourselves, but that His name is glorified and His will is accomplished in the earth.

Our level of maturity must come to a place where we are not concerned for our welfare, but, with whether the Kingdom of God is being advanced. When our faith is truly toward God, our testimony will be that our life is not our own, that we are living for Him to be revealed in us, and that it is undeniably about Him.