

Save our Faith (Acts 9:32-43)

Book of Acts chronicles Peter's activity, Phillip, Stephen, Conversion of Saul and back to Peter's story. "Opening the door of the Gospel" is the central point. It is a miracle that Gospel spread out to gentiles from Jews because thoughts were that Israelites was the selected and exclusive. However, after Holy Spirit came, the world awoke. Because of events such as Martyr of Stephen in Jerusalem, all disciples scattered everywhere which resulted in beginning of missions for gentiles. In today's verse, Peter traveled about the country and showed miracles and wonders. Healing Aeneas who was paralyzed eight years. And reviving from dead disciple named Tabitha (Dorcas) Though Peter denied Jesus three times, after his repentance, God used Peter as pathway to show His power. God will use whoever repents in faith like Peter or Paul. Only faith will save us.

Manage Faith to keep our Faith well Birds flock together: To keep faith, we should be with believers. A strong belief is contagious. In the times of Apostle Paul, there were churches built wherever he goes because of the heat of his faith. **"Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.(Proverbs 22:24-25).** God always bless through community. Jesus put all (who did not believe) out and only with disciples and parents, raised dead daughter of Jairus the leader of synagogue because he could not show miracles among non believers. Still no relationship in faith? Decide to belong in a group, a community of faith. it is the first step to maintain own faith.

Faith is saved(accumulated) "In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time she became sick and died,... they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.(Acts 9:36-39) Peter got down his knees and prayed, and said her to get up then she open her eyes and sat up. This woman had saving of good and helped the poor in faith. God gave power to raise her when Peter prayed. Likewise, we should save our faith to use in unexpected suffering difficult times. How we save our Faith?

1. Keep Lord's day as holy "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the Lord, and I will cause you to ride in triumph on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob."For the mouth of the Lord has spoken (Isaiah 58:13-14) We should keep Lord's day well and save our faith in heaven to ask God's help in our needs.

2. We should save our material in heaven. "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty. "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the Lord Almighty (Mal 3:10-12). It is about the promise that God will pour out blessing when we save our material in the storehouse of heaven.

3. Give Relief to others We should have two things to confess to live well in this world. First, know for sure to return after death. "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me (John 14:6). "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.(Acts 4:12) We will go to heaven as children of God when we accept Jesus who is the only way. Second, though we are children of God - acceptance of Jesus, it will be shameful salvation without the fruits in faith when we stand in judgment. Bible says, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. (Matt 25:31-33) Though we are in same place, separated either eternal life or punishment in the last day. What will be the Judgement criteria? It is whatever we did for one of the least."The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me (Matthew 25:40) Who is the least one? Bible says whoever needs our help; people in need of food, poverty, in prison, illness, no place to stay. Prayer and worship service is not all... We should bear fruit in faith as well as living by Words and Holy Spirit. It is "Relief others" which is expression of love in relationship with God. "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. (James 2:14-17) "We should pray hard but also give relief to other people." One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.(Proverbs 11:24-25)

4. Save our prayer Prayer does not fall on the earth. Success or failure of our life depends on prayer. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Spiritual power is the greatest in this world and prayer is the only way to accumulate it. We will be fulfilled by Holy Spirit when we keep praying so as to live a capable life We should prepare tomorrow with our prayer. As long as we build up ability and strength from God, we would overcome any spiritual obstacles or difficulties. Prayer is like a seed which buds and bears fruit when farmer sows, waters and fertilize. Likewise, our prayer we planted will bear fruit of answer. We should pray for ourselves as well as our children. We should keep praying which determines success or failure of our children.