

**Outline of  
the Messages for the Full-time Training  
in the Fall Term of 2007**

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**GENERAL SUBJECT: THE BELIEVERS**

Message Nineteen

**Faith—the Unique Way  
for God to Carry Out His New Testament Economy**

Scripture Reading: Gal. 1:23; 2:16, 20; 3:2, 5-9, 14, 22-26; 5:6; 6:10

**I. God's economy is in faith—1 Tim. 1:4:**

- A. The New Testament economy of God is a matter in faith, that is, in the sphere and element of the faith, in God through Christ.
- B. God's New Testament economy, which is to dispense Himself into His chosen people, is not in the natural realm nor in the work of law but in the spiritual sphere of the new creation through regeneration by faith in Christ—Gal. 6:14-15; 3:23-26:
  - 1. By faith we are born of God to be His sons, partaking of His life and nature to express Him—v. 26; John 1:12-13; 2 Pet. 1:4.
  - 2. By faith in Christ we are put into Christ to become the members of His Body, sharing all that He is for His expression—John 3:15; Rom. 12:4-5.

**II. The book of Galatians reveals that faith is the unique way for God to carry out His New Testament economy—2:16, 20; 3:2, 5-9, 14, 22-26; 5:5-6; 6:10:**

- A. Faith is the unique requirement for people to contact God in His New Testament economy—Heb. 11:6; John 3:18; Gal. 2:16.
- B. Faith is the basic principle according to which God deals with His people in the New Testament—3:2, 5, 22-25.
- C. In the New Testament, faith has both a divine aspect and a human aspect, for it implies something on God's side and something on our side—1:23:
  - 1. On God's side *the faith* in verse 23 implies that God sent His Son to earth, that Christ died on the cross to accomplish redemption, that He was buried and resurrected, and that in resurrection He released the divine life and became the life-giving Spirit—all that He might enter into all those who believe in Him to be life, grace, power, and everything to them—John 3:14-16; 1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 13:14.
  - 2. On our side faith is related to hearing, appreciating, calling, receiving, accepting, joining, partaking, enjoying, rejoicing, thanking, praising, and overflowing—Gal. 2:20; 1 Thes. 5:16-18; Eph. 5:20; Heb. 13:15.
- D. Faith has come and has been revealed—Gal. 3:22, 25:
  - 1. Faith was not revealed until Christ came—John 1:12; 3:16, 18.

2. To say that faith has come is to say that the processed Triune God as grace has come—1:16-17.
- E. The faith in Galatians 2:16 and 20 refers to the faith of Jesus Christ in us, which has become the faith by which we believe in Him:
  1. Christ has become in us the faith by which we believe in Him; this is the faith in Him, and it is also the faith that belongs to Him.
  2. *Faith in Jesus Christ* denotes an organic union with Him through believing—v. 16.
  3. We are justified out of faith in Christ—vv. 16-17:
    - a. Through believing, we are joined to Christ and become one with Him—John 3:15.
    - b. It is by means of our organic union with Christ that God can reckon Christ as our righteousness; only in this way can we be justified by God—Gal. 2:16-17; 3:11.
    - c. If we believe in Christ, we are righteous to the uttermost before God, and God reckons this faith as our righteousness.
  4. *The faith of the Son of God* refers to the faith of Jesus Christ in us, which becomes the faith by which we believe in Him—2:16, 20; 3:22; Rom. 3:22, 26.
- F. Both the receiving of the Spirit and the supplying of the Spirit are out of the hearing of faith—faith in the crucified and glorified Christ—Gal. 3:2, 5.
- G. Those who are of faith are sons of Abraham and are blessed with believing Abraham, the father of faith—vv. 6-9:
  1. Faith was the principle by which God dealt with Abraham—Heb. 11:8-9.
  2. The New Testament economy is a continuation of God's dealing with Abraham, and all the New Testament believers should be in this continuation—Rom. 4:12.
  3. To be *of faith* means to take faith as the principle—Gal. 3:7, 9:
    - a. Everything we do should be in keeping with this principle.
    - b. By faith we come to Christ, receive Him, and become one with Him.
- H. Faith in Christ Jesus brings us into the blessing that God promised to Abraham, which is the promise of the Spirit—v. 14:
  1. We have received the greatest blessing, which is the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—as the processed, all-inclusive life-giving Spirit dwelling in us in a most subjective way for our enjoyment.
  2. The Spirit is the compound Spirit and actually is God Himself processed in His Trinity through incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, and descension that we may receive Him as our life and our everything.
- I. Faith in Christ makes the believers sons of God; through faith we are identified with Christ so that in Him we may have the sonship—v. 26; 4:6.
- J. Faith operates through love to fulfill God's purpose, that is, to complete the sonship of God for His corporate expression—the Body of Christ—5:6.
- K. The household of the faith is composed of all who are sons of God through faith in Christ—6:10; 3:26:
  1. This household is a great family, and the name of this family is *faith*.
  2. We are all members of the faith-house, the household of believers; this faith-house believes in God through His word.