

**Hebrews 11:32 0.- 40 (AMP)**

Heb 11:32 And what shall I say further? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,

<sup>33</sup> Who by [the help of] faith subdued kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promised blessings, closed the mouths of lions,

<sup>34</sup> Extinguished the power of raging fire, escaped the devourings of the sword, out of frailty *and* weakness won strength *and* became stalwart, even mighty *and* resistless in battle, routing alien hosts.

<sup>35</sup> Some] women received again their dead by a resurrection. Others were tortured to death with clubs, refusing to accept release [offered on the terms of denying their faith], so that they might be resurrected to a better life.

<sup>36</sup> Others had to suffer the trial of mocking and scourging and even chains and imprisonment.

<sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were lured with tempting offers [to renounce their faith]; they were sawn asunder; they were slaughtered by the sword; [while they were alive] they had to go about wrapped in the skins of sheep and goats, utterly destitute, oppressed, cruelly treated—

<sup>38</sup> [Men] of whom the world was not worthy—roaming over the desolate places and the mountains, and [living] in caves *and* caverns and holes of the earth.

<sup>39</sup> And all of these, though they won divine approval by [means of] their faith, **did not receive the fulfillment of what was promised,**

<sup>40</sup> **Because God had us in mind *and* had something better *and* greater in view for us, so that they [these heroes and heroines of faith] should not come to perfection apart from us [before we could join them].**

I don't know about you, but this passage of Scripture sounds like living the Christian Faith can be kind of trying. But, as I have said many times in the past, you must interpret Scripture with Scripture. Be encouraged that God, through the Scriptures, proves He honors His Word over and over again. He never forsakes us or leaves us. He is with us, **if we have made that confession of faith**, for eternity.

I will tell you there are some preaching what they claim is God's word and **proclaiming a false presentation that receiving Christ means all our troubles are over.....**all you have to do is plant that money seed and you will receive healing, financial freedom, etc. In other words, whatever you speak and claim, by sowing that seed of money, you will receive whatever you claim you are believing for because **by sowing that money seed you are exercising faith and the more seed you sow, the greater the harvest you will receive.**

**If that were true, then why does God give us the information found here in Hebrews.** Do you see any

mention from God about sowing seeds of any type in the lives of these HEROES of Faith to produce a specific outcome in their lives. The TRUTH is God tells us in **John 16:33 (AMP)**

- Jn 16:33 I have told you these things, so that **in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration;** but **be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]**

The truth from the lives of these mentioned in the Bible's Hall of Faith, **is our God is the God of many chances.** Just do a study of lives of some of the names mentioned in this excerpt from Hebrews and see the many failures they experienced in their lives, yet God lists them as people of FAITH. **He gives us this list of people of Faith to encourage us, in spite of our many failures also.**

Take David for example. God says of David; **Acts 13:21 - 23 (AMP)**

Ac 13:21 Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years.  
 22 And when He had deposed him, He raised up David to be their king; of him He bore witness and said, **I have found**

**David son of Jesse a man after My own heart, who will do all My will and carry out My program fully.**

<sup>23</sup> Of this man's descendants God has brought to Israel a Savior [in the person of Jesus], according to His promise.

Recall, the many times David goes before God and confesses his sins. David committed adultery, conceived a child out of wedlock, (**2 Samuel 11:3 ff-** <sup>3</sup> And David sent and enquired after the woman. And *one* said, *Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?* When David learned that his adulterous affair resulted in a child, David tried to cover his sin by arranging for Uriah the Hittite, to be killed in battle. If you really study David's life, you will find a multitude of other sins which we see his confessions of throughout the Scriptures. Just keep in mind as you look at David's many failures, Jesus came forth from the line of David. That should speak to us of God's forgiveness as well as God's plan and purpose for our lives. **Regardless of David's failures, God had a purpose and plan for his life and brought that purpose and plan to fruition in spite of David's actions.**

God tells us in His Word, **Jeremiah 29:11 (KJV)** - <sup>Jer 29:11</sup> For **I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.**

We could spend several hours looking at the failures of the individuals God includes in the Hall of Faith, but instead let us focus on how that information should help us live our lives. Always keep in mind Paul's admonition to Timothy (**2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV) - <sup>15</sup> Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth**).

One of the things you should learn from the study of David's life is his heart would convict him of sin and he would confess that to the Father. Take for instance the following verses from the Psalms of David.

**Psalm 41:4 (KJV) - <sup>Ps 41:4</sup> I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.**

**Psalm 32:5 (KJV) - <sup>Ps 32:5</sup> I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.**

**We should, if we are true students of God's word, learn confession of our sins is a pre-requisite of living a life of victory in this sin sick world.**

**1 John 1:9 (KJV) - <sup>1Jn 1:9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

I have observed from my experiences of many years as a pastor, that **people tend to try and justify their sins instead of confessing them, and they try to pass that fact off as righteous indignation.** Let me assure you, **God knows our sin and HE will convict us of sin and if we continue to ignore His conviction, the consequence of that/those sins becomes more severe.** You may be able to hide your sin (s) from others but you cannot hide them from God who knows the contents of our heart.

**Remember this truth concerning sin: Romans 6:23 (KJV) - <sup>Ro 6:23</sup> For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Also remember these truths from the Word of God.

**Psalm 44:21 (KJV) - <sup>21</sup> Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart.**

**1 John 3:20 (KJV) - <sup>20</sup> For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.**

**Let me encourage each of you to rest in the knowledge of this truth God gives to us in: John 14:26 (KJV) - <sup>26</sup> But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, **he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.****

That covers both sides of the coin so to speak: we are reminded, by the Holy Spirit, of the Scriptures which convict us of sin, as well as the Scriptures which speak of the forgiveness of sin. God, **through the Holy Spirit, reminds us of the consequences of sin** but **also reminds us of the joy of the forgiveness of those sins.**

Let me remind you again of **1 John 1:9 (KJV) - <sup>1Jn 1:9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let me also remind you that God tells us very clearly in His Word what sin is. **1 John 2:16 (KJV) - <sup>16</sup> For **all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.**** We live in this world but God tells us we are not of this world and that the life we are living is only temporal .... Here for a short time. Even though our life is in this world for the time being,

God has given us precious promises that we can depend on fully.

**2 Peter 1:4 (KJV) - <sup>2Pe 1:4</sup> Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**

**Galatians 5:16 (KJV) - <sup>16</sup> This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of th flesh.**

To put this in simple terms, **God is telling us this truth in many different ways!** In simple Words, when we begin to see truth presented in several different ways, it is not by accident...**it has a purpose!**

One of the things I remember from my studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary is repetition of truths in Scripture serve an important purpose..

- **First, the use of repetition in the Bible usually emphasizes the importance of either a person, theme, or event., both in the OT and the NT.**
- **Second, the repetition of the Gospels offers greater credibility and gives us a broader perspective.** This is explained in **Deuteronomy 19:15 (KJV) - <sup>Dt 19:15</sup> One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of**



**two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.**

- **Third, the use of repetition in the Scriptures allows us to see Biblical Truths by different authors from different view points but yet mark the validity of those truths.**

**I think these three principles give us a very good explanation of why we see repeated TRUTHS throughout the entire Bible.**

The important thing to remember is the Bible contains repeated **chunks of text because the repetition serves a very valid purpose.**

**Isaiah 28:10 (KJV) - Isa 28:10 For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little:**

Therefore, looking for repetition is a key tool for studying God's Word and know that it is repeated for a valid purpose.

Take **1 Peter 4:12-13 (KJV) - <sup>1Pe 4:12</sup> Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: <sup>13</sup> But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.**

This same truth is repeated in a slightly different way in **John 16:33 (KJV)** - <sup>Jn 16:33</sup> These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. **In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**

We are reminded that in the world we are going to have tribulation but then He also tells us in many different ways that **the power to deal with those times of tribulation is through the power of His Word.**

With that Truth in mind, we can see why it is so important to have a daily quiet time to study the Bible and to converse with our God about what we read.

**Listen to these Scriptures concerning the Word.** Remember this TRUTH as we look at the truths following it. **Jesus is not only the WORD, but HE is the Way, The TRUTH, and the LIFE.**

**John 14:6** - <sup>6</sup> Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life:** no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: King James Version.\*](#), electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version. (Bellingham WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1995), Jn 14:6.

He also says in **John 10:10** - <sup>10</sup> The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: **I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.** <sup>2</sup>

By deductive reasoning, then we see not only the importance of the Word of God, **but the importance of speaking that Word!**

**Deuteronomy 30:19 (KJV)** - <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* **I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:**

**Jeremiah 23:28 (KJV)** - <sup>28</sup> The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and **he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully.** What *is* the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

Isaiah 8:10 (KJV) - <sup>10</sup> Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; **speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us.**

**Jeremiah 26:2 (KJV)** - <sup>2</sup> Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and **speak unto all the cities of**

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<sup>2</sup> [The Holy Bible: King James Version.](#), electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version. (Bellingham WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1995), Jn 10:10.

**Judah**, which come to worship in the LORD'S house, **all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:**

**Matthew 8:8 (KJV) - <sup>8</sup>** The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: **but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.**

**Matthew 4:25 (KJV) - <sup>25</sup>** And **there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.** As I read this Scripture, I was impressed with this thought: There are some really big churches around today but the success of the ministry of that church is not that it has large crowds but whether those crowds are not only learning the WORD but most important, learning to speak that Word. **Philippians 1:14 (KJV) - <sup>14</sup>** And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are **much more bold to speak the word without fear.**

**Deuteronomy 30:14 (KJV) - <sup>14</sup>** **But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.**

Psalm 119 is a great example of repetition about God's Word and revealing to us the truth of **Isaiah 55:11 (KJV) - <sup>Isa 55:11</sup>** So

shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: **it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it..**

As we look at the following verses from Psalm 119, it is interesting to note that the Word for Word is (dabar, used **24 times**) and the idea is of the spoken word, God's revealed word to man. Out of the 176 verses of Psalm 119, there are only 5 verses which do not use the Word in them, which definitely point to the importance of the Word as well as the importance of speaking that Word.

**Psalm 119:9 (KJV) - <sup>9</sup> Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.**

**Psalm 119:11 (KJV) - <sup>11</sup> Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.**

**Psalm 119:16 (KJV) - <sup>16</sup> I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.**

**Psalm 119:17 (KJV) - <sup>17</sup> Deal bountifully with thy servant, *that* I may live, and keep thy word.**

**Psalm 119:25 (KJV) - <sup>25</sup> My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.**

**Psalm 119:28 (KJV) - <sup>28</sup> My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.**

**Psalm 119:41 (KJV) - <sup>41</sup> Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, *even* thy salvation, according to thy word.**

**Psalm 119:42 (KJV) - <sup>42</sup> So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.**

**Psalm 119:49 (KJV) - <sup>49</sup> Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope.**

**Psalm 119:81 (KJV) - <sup>81</sup> My soul fainteth for thy salvation: *but* I hope in thy word.**

**Psalm 119:89 (KJV) - <sup>89</sup> For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. (Remember where you are seated—in heavenly places IN CHRIST).**

**Psalm 119:105 (KJV) - <sup>105</sup> Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. (Have you ever tried walking in the dark without any light—that compares to us trying to walk in this world without HIS WORD).**

**Psalm 119:107 (KJV) - <sup>107</sup> am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.**

**Psalm 119:114 (KJV) - <sup>114</sup> Thou *art* my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.**

**Psalm 119:116 (KJV) - <sup>116</sup> Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.**

**Psalm 119:133 (KJV) - <sup>133</sup> Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.**

**Psalm 119:140 (KJV) - <sup>140</sup> Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.**

**Psalm 119:160 (KJV) - <sup>160</sup> Thy word *is true from the beginning*: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.**

**Psalm 119:169 (KJV) - <sup>169</sup> Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word.**

**Psalm 119:170 (KJV) - <sup>170</sup> Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word.**

**Psalm 119:172 (KJV) - <sup>172</sup> My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments *are* righteousness.**

**Psalm 138:2 (KJV) - <sup>2</sup> I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.**

**Then we have these verses from the New Testament which give us corresponding truths concerning the importance of knowing and speaking God's Word.**

**John 17:14 (KJV) - <sup>14</sup> I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.**

**John 17:17 (KJV) - <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.**

**Acts 4:29 (KJV) - <sup>29</sup> And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,**

**Romans 10:8 (KJV) - <sup>8</sup> But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;**

**Revelation 3:8 (KJV) - <sup>8</sup> I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.**

My prayer for you is that the message today inspires you to not neglect the study of God's Word. **His Word will guide**



**your way, direct your steps, give you light for the path, strengthen you, make you more than conquerors, and His WORD become the seed planted in the lives of others producing a harvest of souls for the kingdom according to GOD'S PURPOSE and PLAN!**

Let us pray!