

WHAT FAITH IS — Part 4 by Jan van Rooyen

(Continued from the December issue of Kingdom Lifestyle)

In our previous issue we discussed the authenticity of God and His Word, including the importance of living in the reality and certainty of His faith working in and through us (Gal 2:20).



Jesus has this to say about our abiding in Him:

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. John 15:4-9 (KJV)

It is at this point of encountering His Reality in its completeness where we will experience Him living His faith in and through us.

Now, let us move onto and discuss in more detail how the "unreal" becomes the "real".

THE UNREAL BECOMES THE REAL

It is important to realize that what we think is "unreal" is in fact more real than the tangible world we live in. I am merely saying that the spirit world where God lives and reigns is of a *higher order* than this natural world and therefore more real.

When God speaks to us and releases a vision into our spirit, this vision consists of a higher reality than that which we can see in the natural world.

How is this possible, you may ask?

Everything we can see with the natural eye first existed in the heart and mind of God. The Creation God planned became so real inside His heart that at a certain point in time and space the Substance of His Faith gave literal substance to His Dreams. It all manifested when He opened His mouth and spoke it into existence as recorded for us in Genesis 1.

Creation was born out of the "substance of faith" which is, as we have seen previously, a spiritual substance proceeding from the heart of God.

An important fact to consider is that God did not "become" the Creator because He created. He was, is and will always be the Creator since that Is Who He Is in the core of His being. He is also Love and through the Creation we see Him expressing this Love in various shapes and forms, with man forming the pinnacle of His Creation.

As sons of God created in His Image we also have this inherent desire and aspiration to create. We do this by releasing our faith in accordance with His Word, Will and Purposes.



Jan & Annika van Rooyen had the privilege of ministering in the Rosendal Dutch Reformed Church which was planted in 1914.

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THE DEFINITION of FAITH

IN THE beginning God (prepared, formed, fashioned, and) created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and an empty waste, and darkness was upon the face of the very great deep. The Spirit of God was moving (hovering, brooding) over the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.

Gen 1:1-3 (Amplified)

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Hebrews 11:1,3 (KJV)

Here is a basic definition of faith:

Faith lays hold of the unseen and unreal and brings them into the realm of reality. (read Hebrews 11:1 & 3 again to see the Biblical definition)

FAITH REQUIRES PICTURES and IMAGES

What are those unseen and unreal things I speak of? They are the pictures and images in your heart and mind of the things you are believing God for. They do not yet have natural substance, yet they exist in the imagination of your heart, and they have definite spiritual substance in the heart of God.

When the faith of God works in and through us, natural circumstances and situations will change and line up with the Will and Purposes of God for our lives. Genesis 30 contains a wonderful example of this:

And Jacob took him rods of green poplar, and of the hazel and chesnut tree; and pilled white strakes in them, and made the white appear which was in the rods. And he set the rods which he had pilled before the flocks in the gutters in the watering troughs when the flocks came to drink, that they should conceive when they came to drink. And the flocks conceived before the rods, and brought forth cattle ringstraked, speckled, and spotted.

Genesis 30:37-39 (KJV)

KEEP THE VISION IN FRONT OF YOUR EYES !

In faith Jacob took branches from the trees, made marks in them and placed them in full view of the flocks he was tending. The offspring of these flocks were spotted and speckled.

A number of different translations of this same passage of Scripture all clearly indicate that Jacob placed the branches in full view of his flocks. In fact, some of the translations even say "in front of their eyes".

The principle here is simply this; *they became what they saw before them.* These flocks gave birth to offspring which were spotted and speckled.

This principle is crucial in our walk of faith and is probably one of the greatest "secrets" for success in faith. This "secret" has been obscured from our spiritual sight for centuries by religious dogma and traditions. The enemy has used our ignorance to keep the Church in captivity while the world used many of these principles to advance their purposes with great success.



Annika van Rooyen sharing with Business Men & Women about our Ministry & Business.

NOTHING THEY IMAGINED WAS IMPOSSIBLE !

We are all familiar with the account of the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11. Two points from this passage stand out:

And the whole earth was of one language and of one accent and mode of expression. vs 1 (Amplified)

And the Lord said, Behold, they are one people and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do, and now nothing they have imagined they can do will be impossible for them. vs 6 (Amplified)

These verses tell us that what we imagine on the inside will manifest on the outside. This point will be explored in more detail in the February publication of *Kingdom Lifestyle*.

Message continued in our February issue...