

# Faith's Confession

## I Believed and Therefore I Spoke

Ken Birks, Pastor/Teacher

### I. Introductory Remarks.

In this message my goal is to impart a desire to grow to a higher level of faith by making the appropriate faith declarations that are consistent with what we believe God has covenanted to us through the great New Covenant He has made with us.

Paul, the apostle is a great example of what a believer can accomplish when he has a powerful faith confession that results from what he believes.

***2 Corinthians 4:13*** *And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,*

I will be showing you biblical examples of persons who have walked in great levels of faith, simply because they understood this important faith principle.

**What do you believe?** Do you believe the promises of God and the wonderful things He has given to you through His covenant?

Do we often find ourselves speaking doubt and unbelief more than we find ourselves making faith declarations concerning what God is able to do for us?

A continuous pattern of confession of doubt and unbelief will never establish our faith. We must believe in God and His Word if our faith is to be established.

By making faith declarations or simply speaking that which we believe, we will find that it actually reinforces our faith and releases it in a manner that gets results.

***Mark 11:22-24*** *So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup>"For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. <sup>24</sup>"Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.*

The key to having this kind of faith is the ability to discern the difference between faith and presumption. As we go through this message, I believe we will see the difference; and be able to apply this important principle to our own lives.

## II. Building Assurance in our Hearts.

One of the major keys that we find in all of those who have gone before us as great heroes of the faith is that they were assured in their hearts of what God was able to do and perform.

**Romans 4:20-21** *He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, <sup>21</sup>and **being fully convinced** that what He had promised He was also able to perform.*

Faith, belief and confession all work together. You must have all three of these elements working in your life for your faith to be released. We must be fully convinced of what we believe before our faith can be released.

- There are many things God has made clear that belong to us.
- It's a matter of knowing what God's will is.

**Hebrews 10:23** *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.*

## III. Biblical Examples of Men of Faith.

### 1. The Example of Abraham.

God had established a covenant with Abraham of which was to be established through his son Isaac.

**Genesis 17:21** *"But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year."*

When God told Abraham to go sacrifice his son, Isaac, Abraham was able to make the appropriate faith confessions that released his faith, because of his confidence and assurance in the covenant that God had previously established with him.

**Genesis 22:5** *And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and **we will come back to you.**"*

**Genesis 22:8** *And Abraham said, "My son, **God will provide for Himself the lamb** for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.*

- **Abraham believed and therefore he spoke.**

## **2. The Example of Jonathan and His Armor Bearer.**

This is the story of how Jonathan and his armor bearer took on the stronghold that was being held by the Philistines from which they were launching attacks daily upon the Israelites.

Jonathan decides to take action and begins with a confession that is based on what he believed the Lord was capable of.

**1 Samuel 14:6** *Then Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; **it may be that the LORD will work for us. For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few.**"*

As He made a simple confession of faith that was simply based on what He knew God was able to do, he began to take action.

His confession of faith developed as he went from faith to faith, to point that his confession of faith became one of invincibility. In the beginning a confession of invincibility would have been presumptuous. It was as he stepped out in what he knew God was able to do, that his faith developed into invincibility.

**1 Samuel 14:12** *Then the men of the garrison called to Jonathan and his armorbearer, and said, "Come up to us, and we will show you something." Jonathan said to his armorbearer, "**Come up after me, for the LORD has delivered them into the hand of Israel.**"*

**Romans 1:17** *For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."*

## **3. The Example of David.**

David was able to make a strong confession of faith regarding the defeat of Goliath, because:

- A. He too knew what God was able to do.

- B. He had already experienced victory and the hand of God working on his behalf.
- C. He saw the revelation of what was taking place in this situation and was able to understand what the will of the Lord was.

**1 Samuel 17:26** *Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"*

**1 Samuel 17:37** *Moreover David said, "The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, **He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.**" And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"*

An important thing to bear in mind in David's situation is that he did not step out in presumption against Goliath. He had a revelation of the situation, seeing it from God's perspective.

He was able to go beyond God's general promise and into the specific application for him through the personal revelation he was receiving through God's Spirit. He was going from faith to faith.

- **David believed and therefore he spoke.**

#### **IV. Concluding Remarks – Making Faith Declarations.**

We have been given many wonderful and precious promises in God's Word that have been made available to us through the covenant that He has established with us. I believe God desires for us to declare these things continually so that our belief system will become stronger and stronger.

**Psalms 66:16** *Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul.*

**Psalms 71:15** *My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness and Your salvation all the day, For I do not know their limits.*

In our praise and worship before God, we should be continually confessing and declaring the power and the victory we have in Jesus Christ, the healing we have, the blessings and the wonderful inheritance we have in Him. He has given to us all things that pertain unto life and godliness.

**2 Corinthians 4:13** *And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,*

We must base our faith confessions on the covenant God has established with us, being fully convinced that what He has promised He is also able to perform. When God gives us confirmation to go on, we must speak it and go on.

We must also be open to seeing the situation through God's perspective and then making the appropriate confessions and finally we can make confessions according to unfilled prophecy in our lives.

Remember, you have to be convinced, otherwise it is presumption.