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Manifestation Gifts

Lesson Four: The Gift of Faith

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I. DEFINITION:

- A. “Faith.” Greek, πίστις (*pistis*), “a firm persuasion, conviction; not just mental assent, but reliance upon.”
- B. The Distinction Between Saving Faith & Gift of faith—
 - 1. Salvation is by faith. We receive Christ by faith. Our faith in Christ as our Savior is not the gift of God. It is our response to His gift, which is His saving grace (Ephesians 2:8-9).
 - 2. This reference in 1 Corinthians 12:9a, however, is to a particular gift. The gift in question one that is specified as a miraculous manifestation of the Spirit.
- C. A Dependent Gift--
 - 1. Faith always has an object, whether you’re talking about saving faith *in Christ* or believing *God* for a miracle.
 - 2. This gift does not stand on its own. It consistently occurs with other manifestation gifts, just as the interpretation of tongues accompanies speaking in tongues, and never operates independently.
- D. A Dependent Gift--The gift of faith, then, “...is a supernatural surge of confidence from the Spirit of God...” (David Pytches, *Spiritual Gifts in the Local Church*) In giving this gift the Holy Spirit supernaturally expands our capacity to believe. Those to whom the Holy Spirit gives this gift are able, with God-given faith, to receive the power of God to accomplish His work.

II. OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES OF THIS GIFT:

- A. Genesis 41:15-16

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B. 1 Kings 18:16-40

III. JESUS SPOKE OF FAITH FOR EXTRAORDINARY MIRACLES:

A. Matthew 17:20-21

B. Matthew 21:21-22

C. Mark 11:22-23

D. Compare with 1 Corinthians 13:2

IV. EXAMPLES FOUND IN ACTS:

A. Acts 3:3-7, 16

B. Acts 9:32-34

C. Acts 9:36-42

D. Acts 14:8-10

V. CONTEMPORARY EXAMPLES: