

The Gift of Faith in the Unknown

The Gifts of God - Week 11 (1-18-23)

2 Timothy 1:6-7 - Don't fear the gift, just stir it up!

- I. "God has something big for you!" - Kaleb ... (And it's good!)
 - A. Whatever God has for you is big, and it is good!
 - B. James 1:17 - Any gift that is good and perfect is from God.
 - 1. Perfect = having reached its utmost development.
 - 2. Kaleb - quote from Frozen 2, "I'm afraid of what I'm risking if I follow you into the unknown."
 - a) If we boil it all down, we fear pressing into the things of The Spirit because we are not sure if we can trust Him or not.
 - b) Do you trust God with the uncharted areas of the Spirit? If not, it's probably not because He has ever done you wrong.
 - 3. James 3:13-18
 - a) Verse 17
 - (1) Pure = Ceremonially clean; in a condition prepared for worship
 - (2) Gentle = Forbearing, fair, reasonable
 - (3) Easy to be intreated = compliant, obedient
 - (4) Without partiality = Whole hearted, undivided
 - b) There is spiritual wisdom that does not come from God and is evil. We certainly need to be aware of this wisdom and the spirit behind it.
 - (1) Just because there are evil things in the spiritual realm, that should never keep us from pursuing the good things that are involved in the spiritual realm.
 - 4. 1 John 4:1-6
 - a) It's more dangerous to "avoid" the things of the spirit completely than to at least seek Him in small ways.
 - (1) If we don't take time to learn of the Good Spirit, the Holy Spirit, then we will not easily be able to identify the spirit of evil.
 - b) "Ye are of God... and have overcome them!"
 - (1) We ARE of God and have no need to be fearful of the evil that resides in the spiritual realm!
 - C. There will always be "uncharted" areas to explore in the spirit.
 - 1. 1 Corin. 13:9-12 "...see through a glass, darkly..."
 - 2. 1 Corin. 2:12-16 - We do have the Spirit and the mind of Christ so blaze the trail!
- II. Why is it so important to press into the unknown areas of the Spirit?
 - A. 1 Corin. 12:7, 14:4 & 12 - "Seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church."
 - 1. It's not about you, it's about the church/body of Christ and expanding the kingdom of God.
 - B. Failure to cross over to the Promised Land

1. Conquering and prevailing in the fruitful promised land was a type of living a life empowered by the Holy Spirit today.
 - a) Still many battles to be won, and much uncharted ground to cover.
 - b) It was dangerous and scary but the land was plenteous and promised by God Himself.
 - (1) Most of God's people failed to enter in because of fear and ultimately disobedience to what God was asking them to do.
 - (2) Receiving the Holy Spirit requires obedience - John 14:15-16
 - c) The crossing of the Jordan River and moving in to expand the kingdom of God can be seen as the initial outpouring of the Holy Spirit that empowered Jesus' followers to spiritually conquer and expand the Kingdom of God.

“How can I have faith in the unknown? Because in the place is a known God.” - Kaleb