

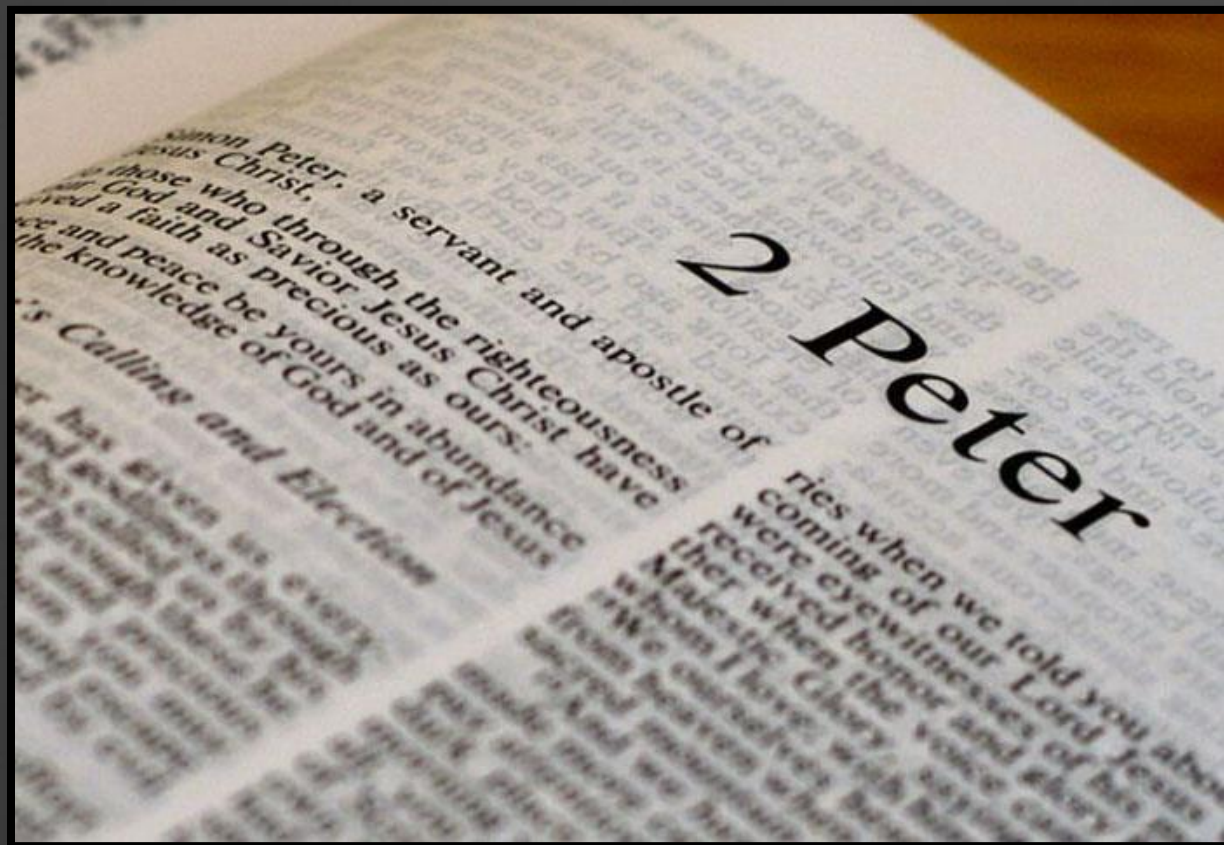
**IF YE DO
THESE
THINGS,
YE SHALL
NEVER
FALL**



Lesson Two

Faith

Peter's final letter to the church contains one of the greatest promises in the Word of God, with the assurance that, "If ye do these things, ye shall never fall."



2 Peter 1:5-7, 10

5 And beside this, giving all diligence,

add to your **faith**
virtue;

and to virtue **knowledge;**

6 And to knowledge **temperance;**

and to temperance **patience;**

and to patience **godliness;**

7 And to godliness **brotherly kindness;**

and to brotherly kindness **charity.**

10 ... give diligence to make your calling and election sure:

for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

It is our “precious faith” that gives us communion one with another.

2 Peter 1:1-2

- ¹ Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like **precious faith with us** through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:
- ² Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,



It is our faith that qualifies us as *believers*.

John 20:29

Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and yet have believed.



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Christianity.

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We **STAND** by faith (2 Corinthians 1:24),

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LIVE by faith (Hebrews 10:38).

And, we are THE CHILDREN OF GOD by faith
(Galatians 3:26).

Now, as Christians, we should be concerned that our life is pleasing to God.

1 Thessalonians 4:1

Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as **ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God**, so ye would abound more and more.



You *cannot* please God without faith.

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith *it is impossible*
to please *him*:
for he that cometh to God must
believe that he is,
and *that* he is a rewarder of them
that diligently seek him.



The two components of faith in God:

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The two components of faith in God:

1. Acknowledgement

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The two components of faith in God:

1. Acknowledgement
2. Expectation

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The two components of faith in God:

1. Acknowledgement
2. Expectation

Here is that word again:

"Giving all diligence...
...give diligence to make
your calling and election
sure..."

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith *it is impossible* to please *him*:
for he that cometh to God must believe that he is,
and *that* he is a rewarder of them that **diligently** seek him.



When you can say YES to these two things, you know your faith is intact:

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But without faith *it is impossible to please him:*

for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.



We know that God is not a liar.

Numbers 23:19

God *is* not a man, that he should lie;
neither the son of man, that he
should repent:

hath he said, and shall he not do *it*?
or hath he spoken, and shall he not
make it good?



But this information does nothing for you until you *believe* it.

Numbers 23:19

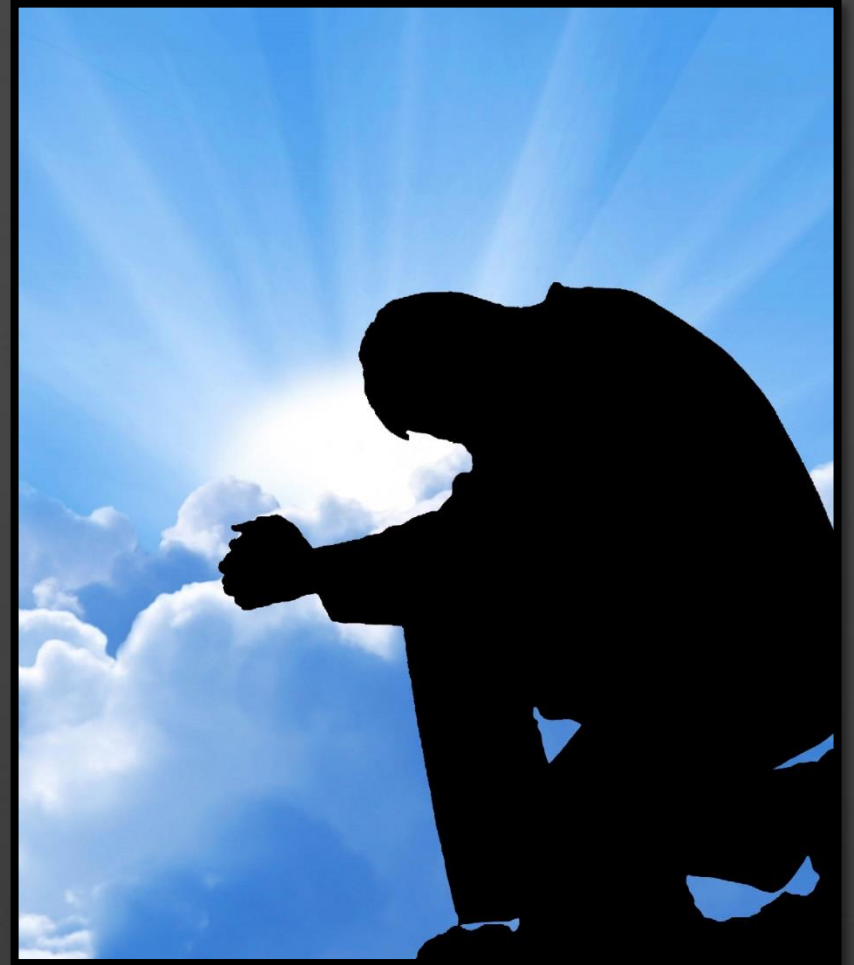
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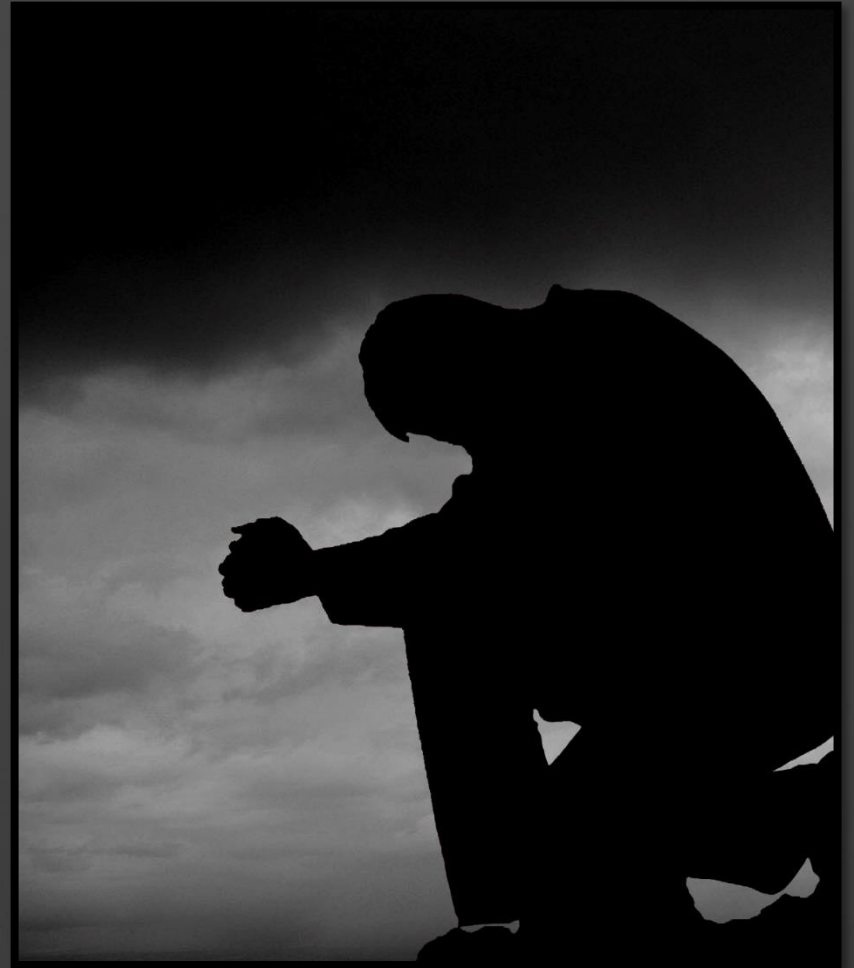
Too many Christians have TWO gods:

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The God they worship at church is
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Too many Christians have TWO gods:
The God they worship at church is
almighty, loving and generous.

But the god they pray to when church
is over is negligent and indifferent.



Make the God you worship at church
your ONLY God!

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith *it is impossible to please him:*

for he that cometh to God must
**believe that he is, and that he is a
rewarder of them that diligently
seek him.**



Faith makes each Christian experience unique. God can only take you as far as your faith allows.



In that way, God is limited by a man's faith.

Psalm 78:40-42

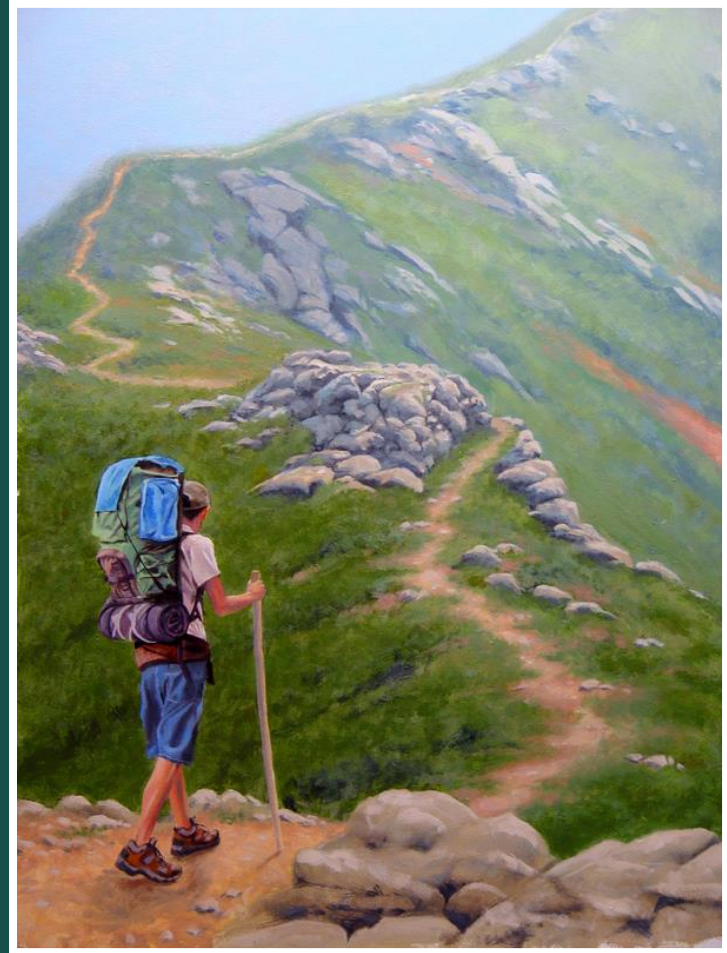
⁴⁰ How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, *and* grieve him in the desert!

⁴¹ Yea, they turned back and tempted God, **and limited the Holy One of Israel.**

⁴² They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.



In order to help them grow, Jesus put his disciples in situations that tested the limits of their faith.



Jesus accompanied them on a boat ride through a terrible storm.



Luke 8:22-25

- ²² Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth.
- ²³ But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled *with water*, and were in jeopardy.



Luke 8:24a

And they came to him, and
awoke him, saying, Master,
master, we perish.



Luke 8:24a

And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish.

How bad did the storm get before they decided to wake Jesus?



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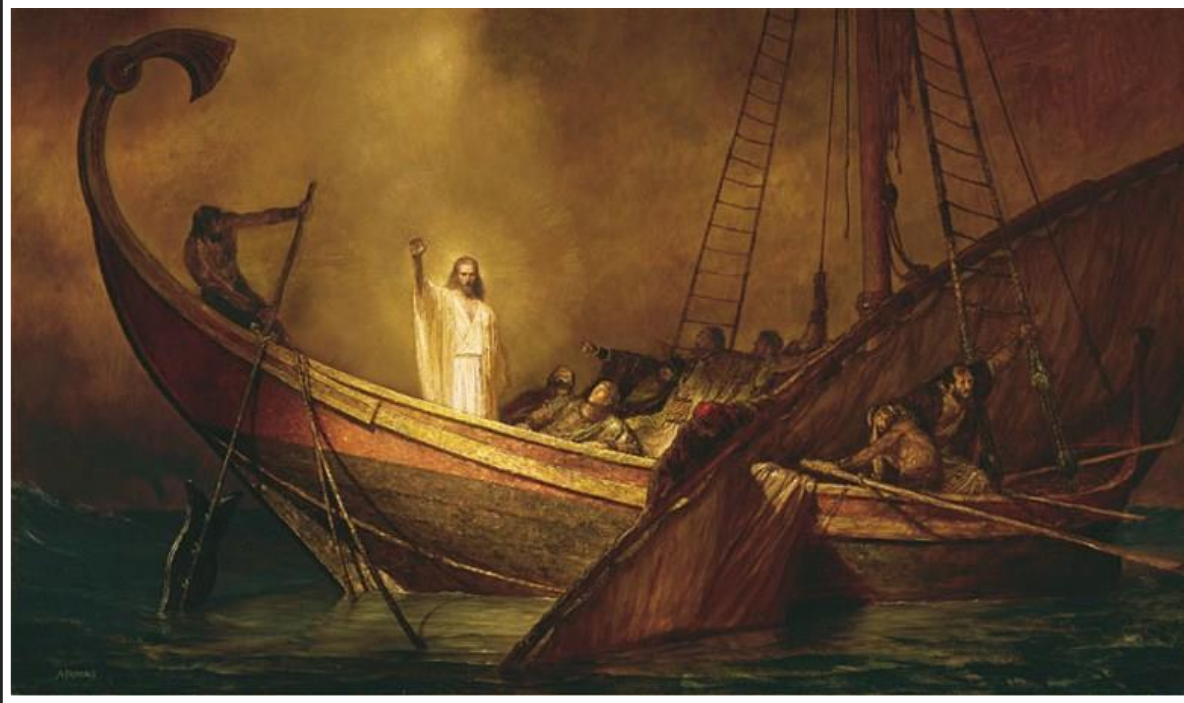
Who did they choose to wake him up?



Luke 8:24b

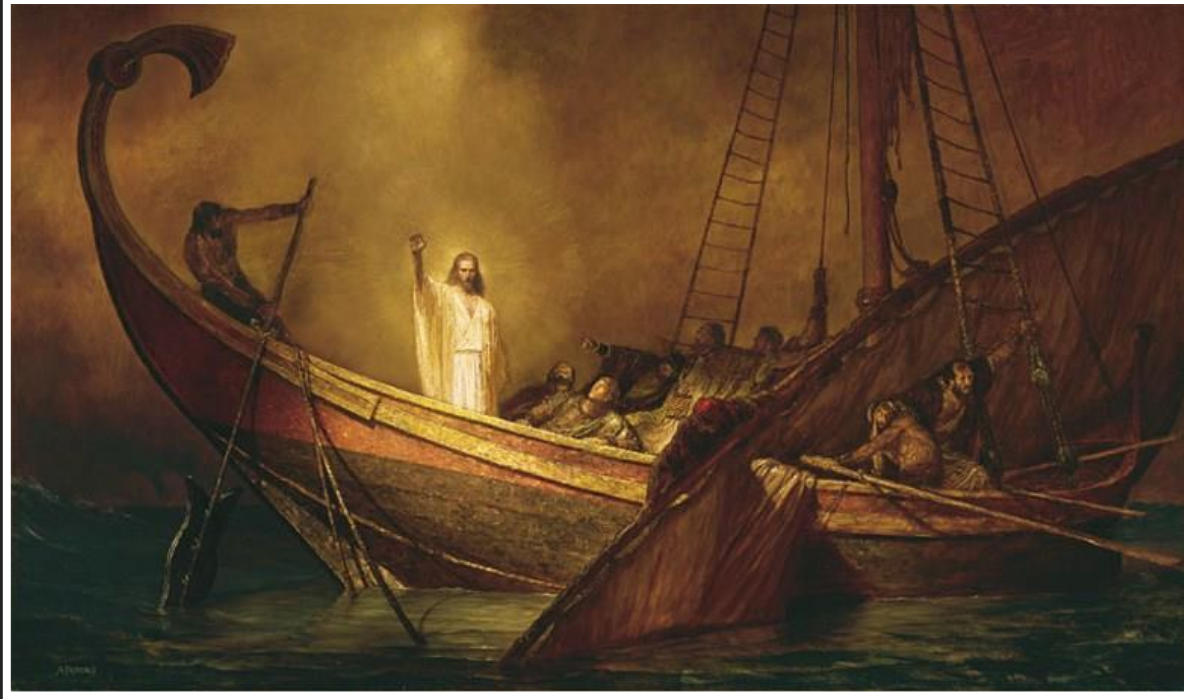
... Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.





Luke 8:25

And he said unto them,
Where is your faith?
And they being afraid
wondered, saying one to
another, What manner
of man is this!
for he commandeth
even the winds and
water, and they obey
him.



The safest place on earth was on the boat with Jesus.



The safest place on earth was on the boat with Jesus.

Does your God abandon ship when trouble comes?

For their next test, Jesus sent his disciples out by themselves.

Mark 6:46-48a

⁴⁶ And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

⁴⁷ And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land.

⁴⁸ And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them ...





Mark 6:48b

... and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them.

The disciples marveled
when Jesus calmed
the wind and sea.
Imagine their
astonishment when
he walked on water!





Mark 6:49-51

49 But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out:

50 For they all saw him, and were troubled.

And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.

51 And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

The stakes were raised yet higher when Jesus challenged Peter to join him on the water.



Matthew 14:28-29

²⁸ And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

²⁹ **And he said, Come.**

And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.



Matthew 14:30-31

- ³⁰ But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.
- ³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

As far as I know, no other mortal man has ever walked on water, and yet Jesus called it 'little faith.'



As far as I know, no other mortal man has ever walked on water, and yet Jesus called it 'little faith.'

Imagine how life would be if we never gave surrendered to doubt!

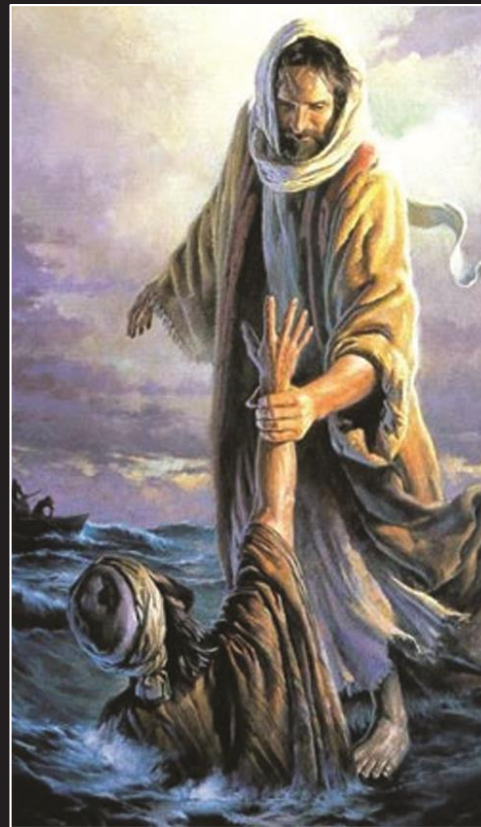
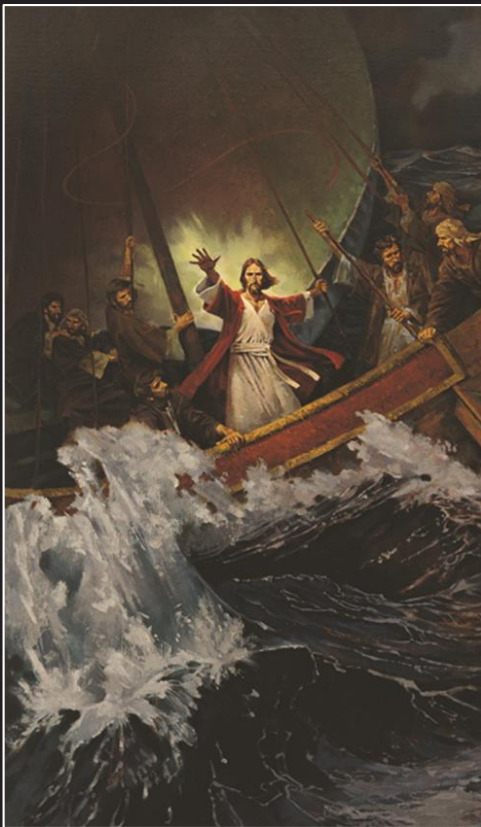


Matthew 14:32-33

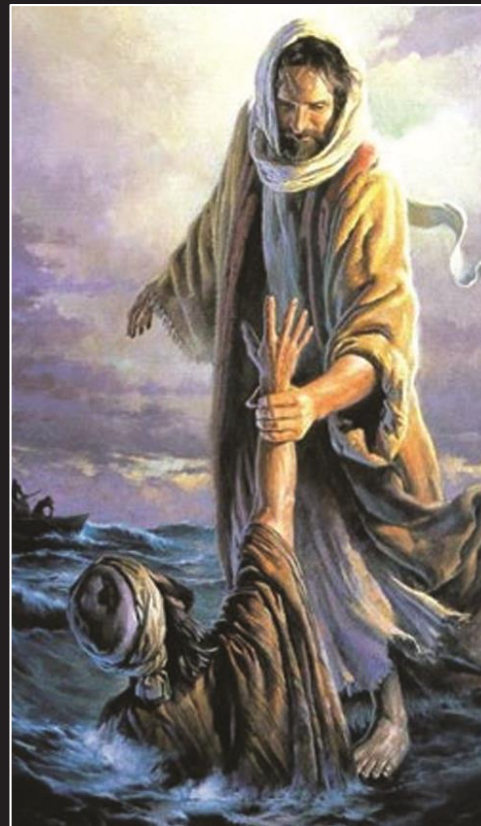
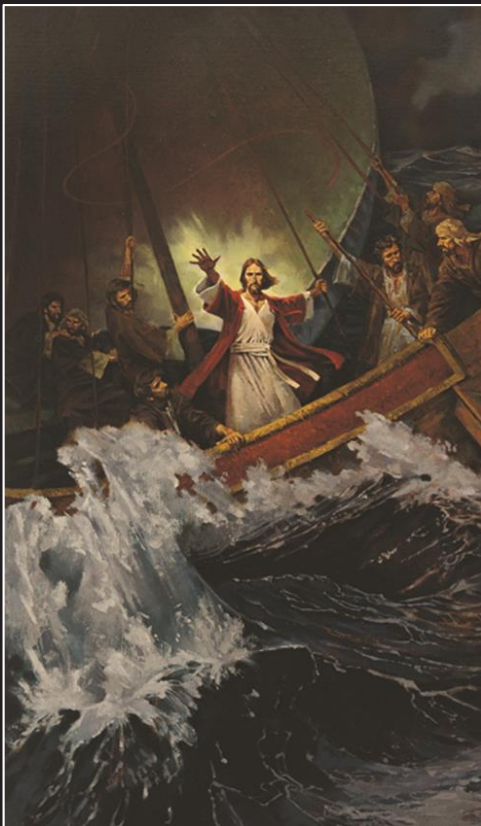
³² And when they were
come into the ship,
the wind ceased.

³³ Then they that were
in the ship came and
worshipped him,
saying, Of a truth
thou art the Son of
God.

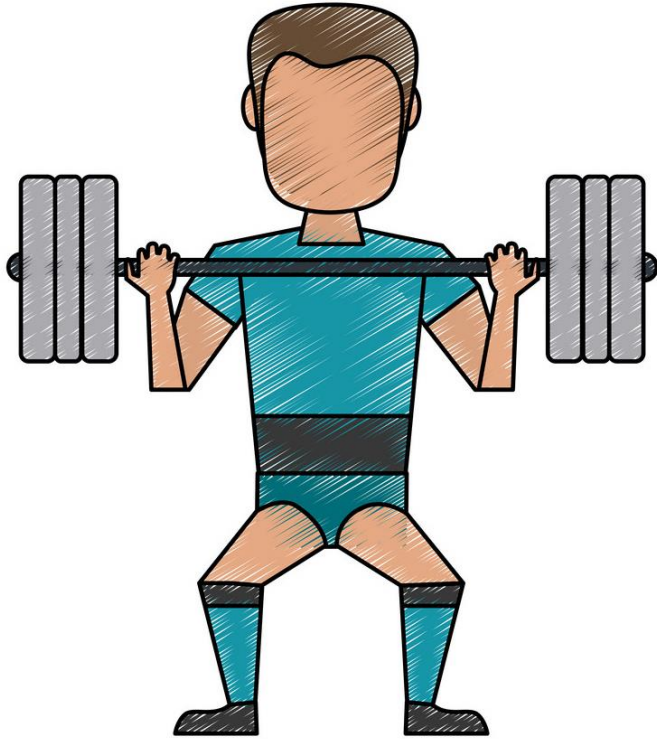




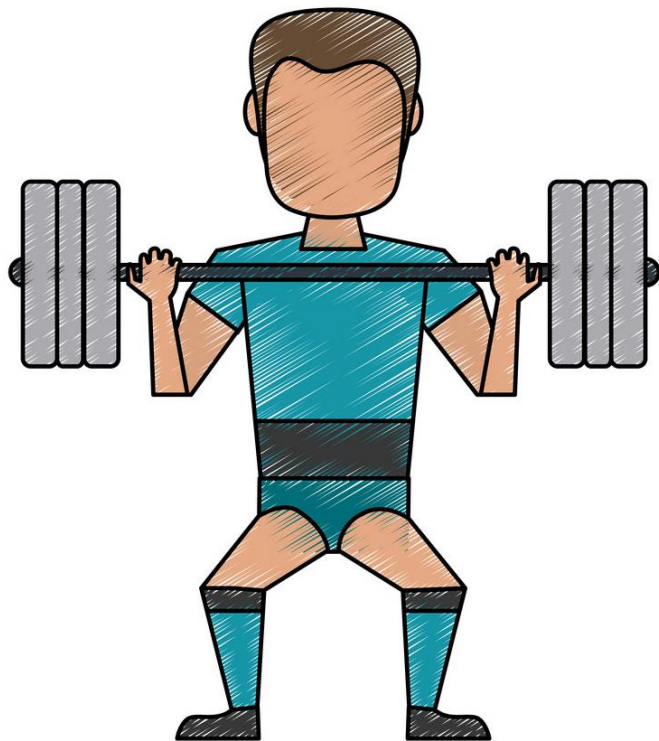
Jesus lifted his disciples to greater levels of faith as he set greater and greater – and yet achievable – obstacles before them.



How much faith will you exercise before you give in?



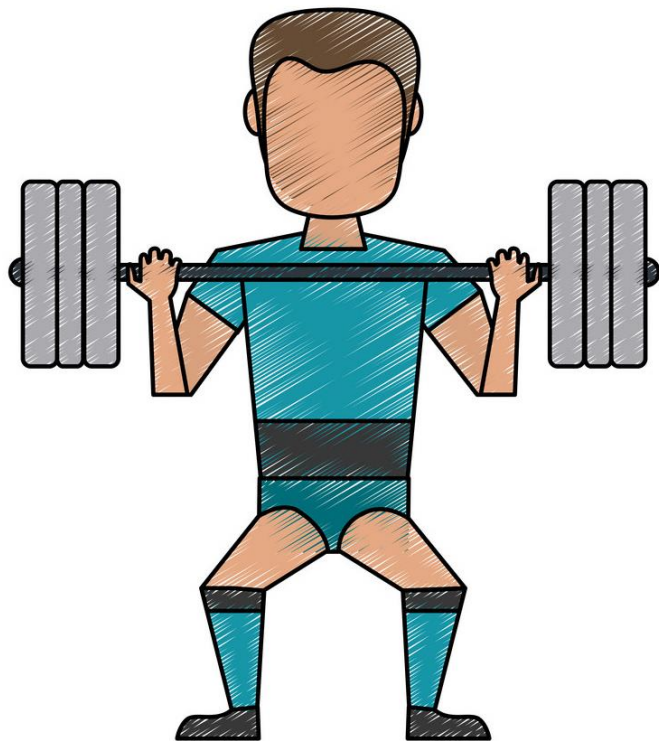
Like the muscles in your body,
faith must be strained in order to grow.



1 Peter 1:7

That **the trial of your faith**, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:





We pray for God to change our situation, but God is using our situation to change us!.

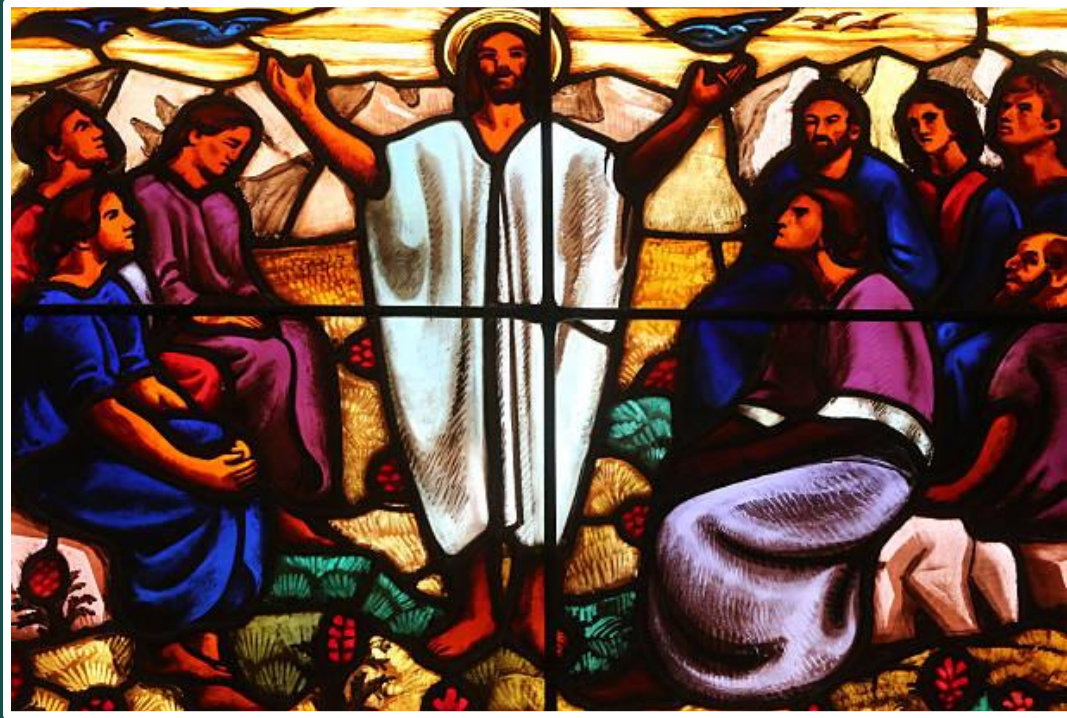
Don't be a 'fair-weather' Christian.

Matthew 13:20-21

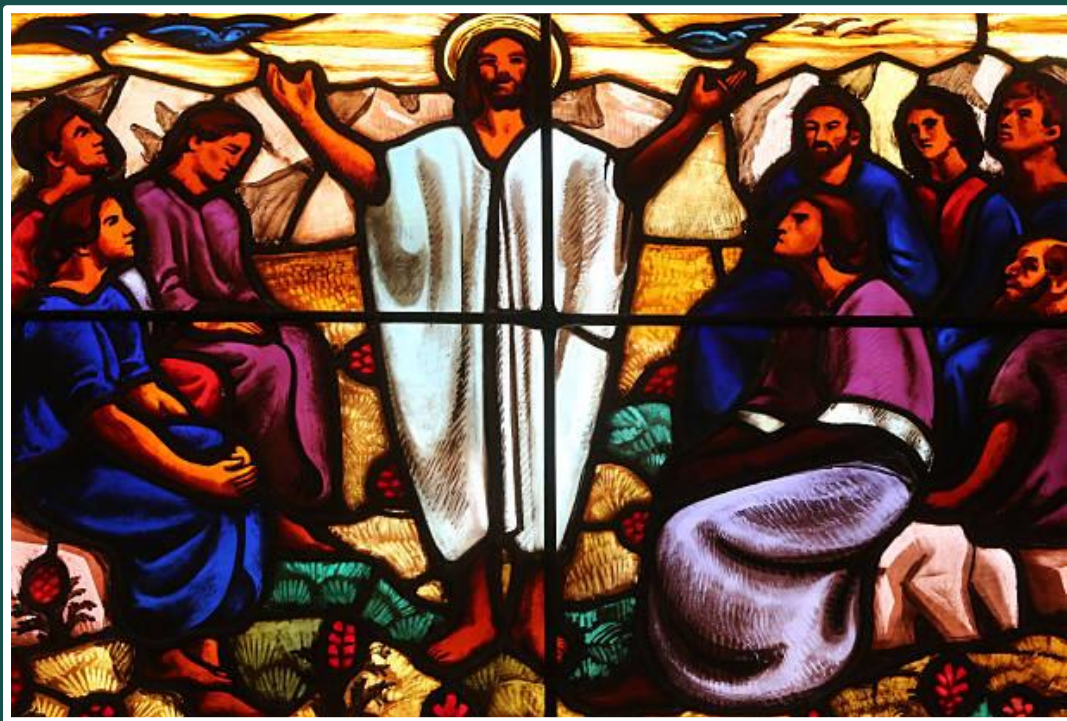
²⁰ But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;

²¹ Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.





Jesus pointed out examples of 'great faith' and 'little faith.'



Jesus pointed out examples of 'great faith' and 'little faith.'

He chastised the 'little faith' of those who did not believe God would take care of them.



Matthew 6:26

Behold the fowls of the air:
for they sow not, neither do
they reap, nor gather into
barns; yet your heavenly
Father feedeth them.

Are ye not much better than
they?



Matthew 6:27-29

²⁷ Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

²⁸ And why take ye thought for raiment?

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

²⁹ And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.



Matthew 6:30

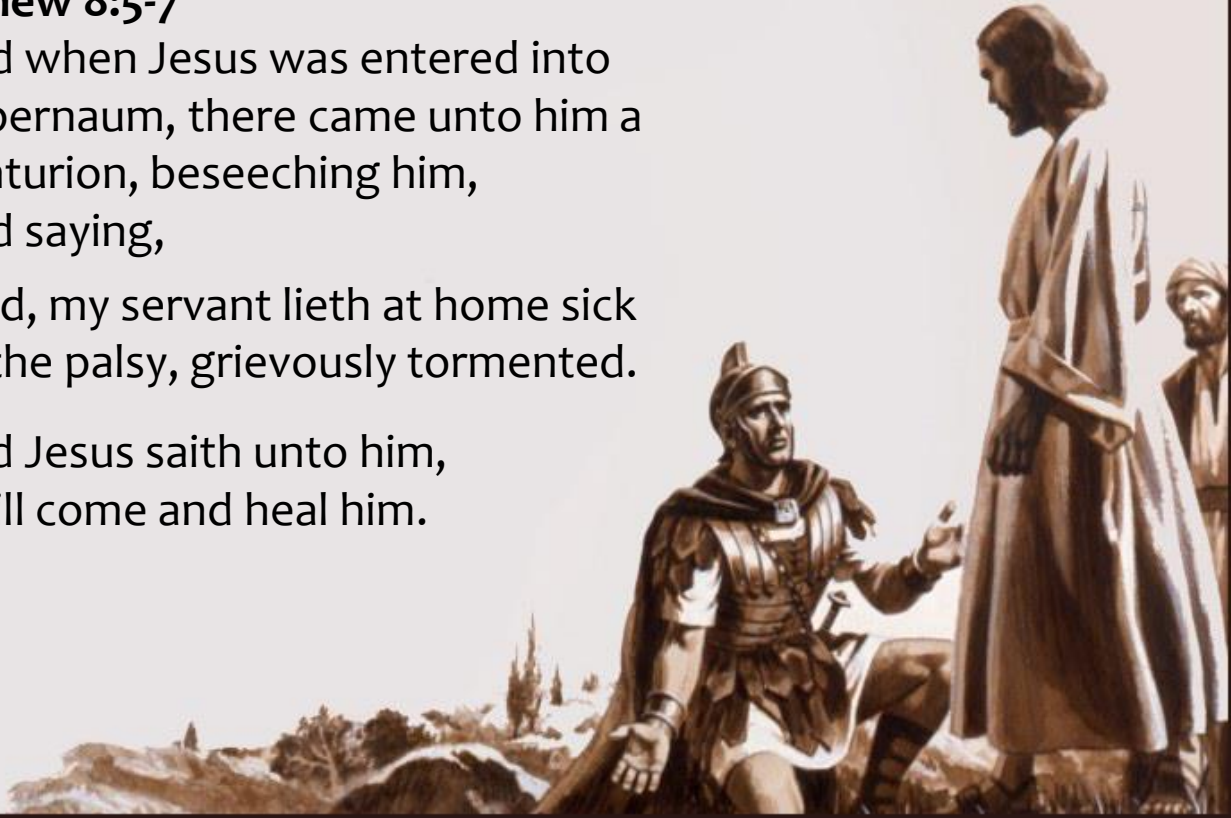
Wherefore, if God so clothe
the grass of the field,
which to day is, and to
morrow is cast into the oven,
shall he not much more *clothe*
you, O ye of little faith?



Jesus marveled at the
'great faith' of the Roman
officer:

Matthew 8:5-7

- 5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,
- 6 And saying,
- Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.
- 7 And Jesus saith unto him,
I will come and heal him.



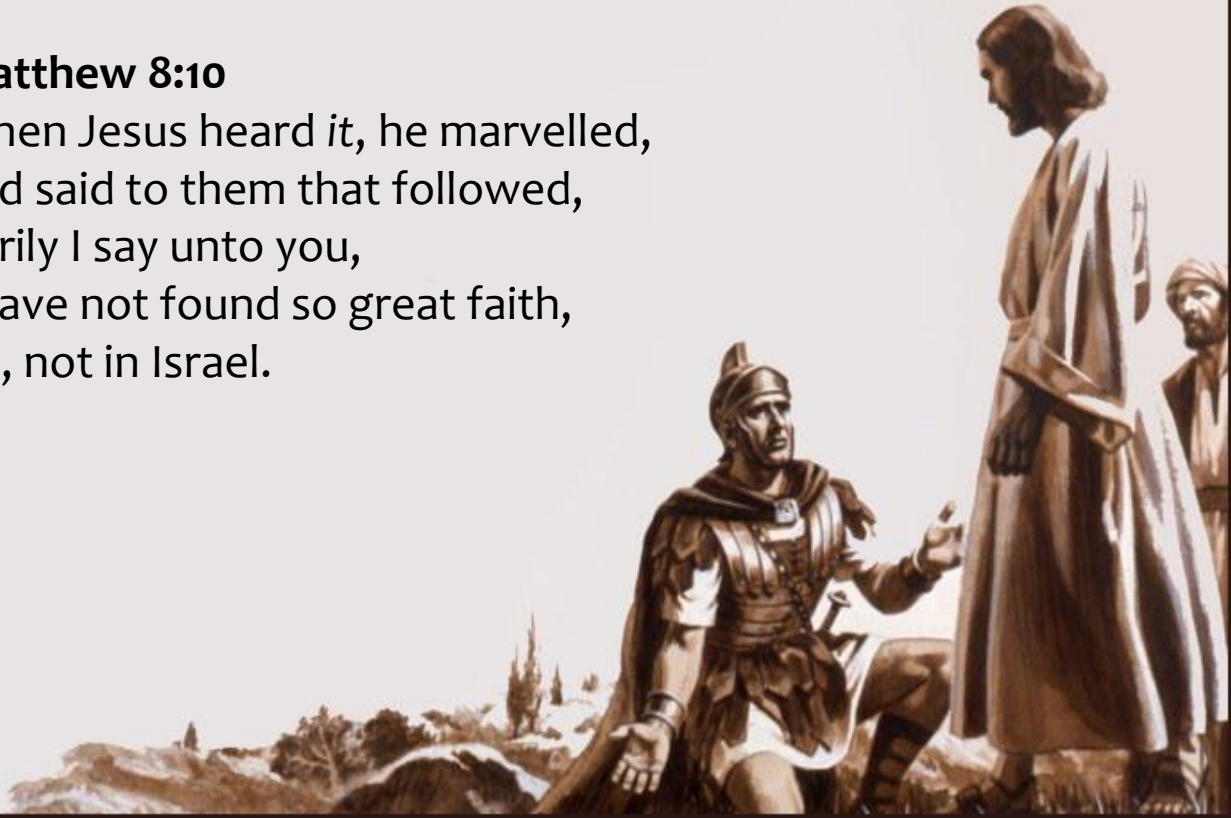


Matthew 8:8-9

- 8 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.
- 9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

Matthew 8:10

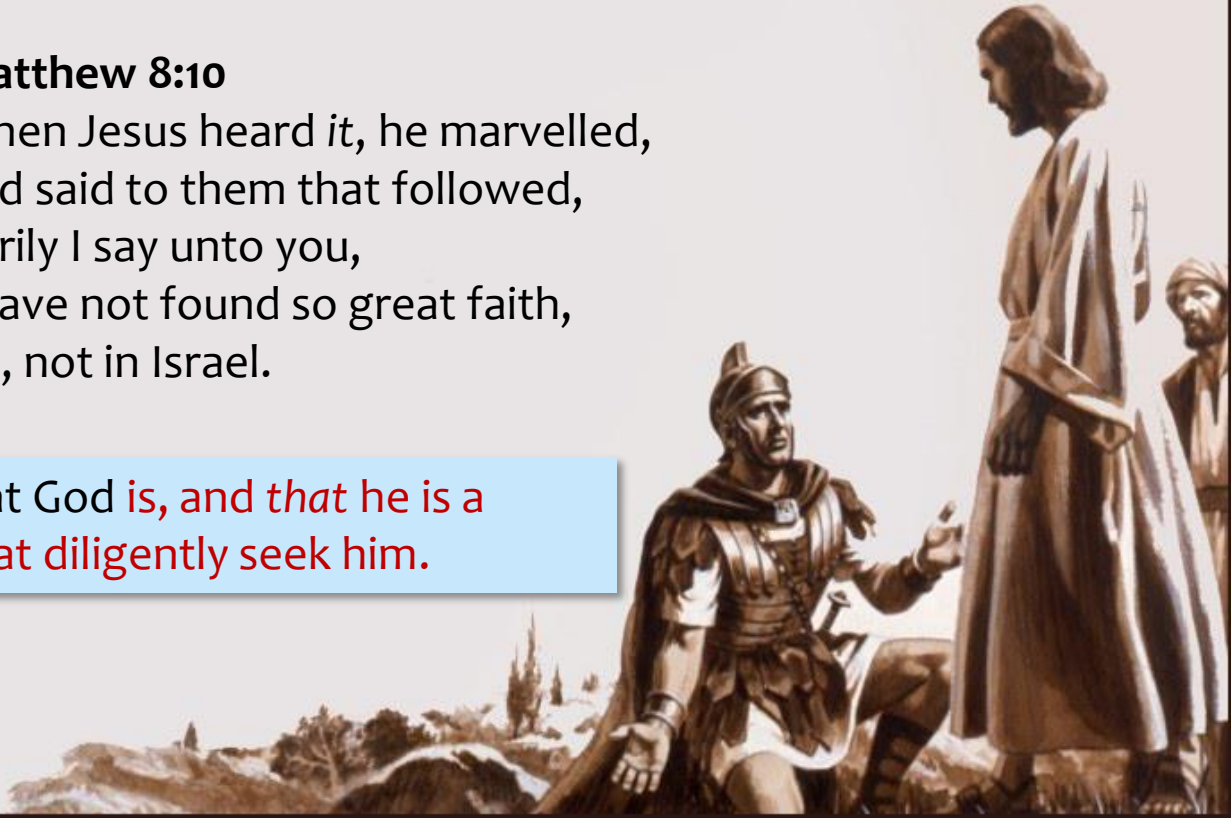
When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled,
and said to them that followed,
Verily I say unto you,
I have not found so great faith,
no, not in Israel.



Matthew 8:10

When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled,
and said to them that followed,
Verily I say unto you,
I have not found so great faith,
no, not in Israel.

This soldier knew that God *is*, and *that he is a*
rewarder of them that diligently seek him.



Where is *your* faith?

In things seen or unseen?

In the things of the moment, or the things of eternity?

2 Corinthians 4:18

While we look not at the things

which are seen,

but at the things

which are not seen:

for the things which are seen

are **temporal;**

but the things which are not seen

are **eternal.**



What is BIGGER to you?
Your PROBLEMS or your GOD?

Where is *your* faith?

**IF YE DO
THESE
THINGS,
YE SHALL
NEVER
FALL**

Up next:
Add to faith, VIRTUE



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