

Faith Revealed December 5, 2021 Twila Senter

When God calls us to be in a relationship with him, we start on a journey of faith on which we are conformed to the image of his Son.

Romans 8:29-30 NIV

29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Conformity into the image of the Son is a process by which we go from glory to glory until the day we see Jesus' face to face and share in his glory.

2 Corinthians 3:18 NIV

18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the LORD's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the LORD, who is the Spirit.

If we believe the wrong thing about God and our relationship with him, then we will build our lives on a faulty foundation.

Hebrews 11:1-2 NIV

1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for.

So, as those who have been called by God, who are justified, and who will share in God's glory, what is it that we hope for?

Romans 8:23-25 NIV

23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

When we put our faith in God, that which is unseen becomes "seen" by us.

Hebrews 11:3 NIV

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Hebrews 11:6 - NIV

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

CROSSOVER

Sermon Notes

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1 Peter 1:8-9 NIV

8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

We may not be able to see God with our physical eyes, but we can see and know the effects of his grace at work in our lives and in the lives of others.

Another aspect of our faith that I would like to share about is that our faith is a faith like that of the prophets, the apostles, and disciples of Jesus who have come before us.

Ephesians 4:4-6 NIV

4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

1 Peter 1:10-12 NIV

10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow.

12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

The message of the prophets concerning Jesus our Messiah and the teachings of the apostles are the foundation we build our lives upon.

Ephesians 2:17-21 NIV

17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. 19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the LORD.

Our faith is based on the covenants of God, the promises of God, and the word of God spoken through the prophets.

Jesus himself quotes passages from the OT in some of his teachings.



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Luke 24:44 NIV

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled **that** is **written about me in** the Law of Moses, **the Prophets** and the Psalms."

2 Peter 1:16-21 NIV

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." 18 We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. 19 We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

When Paul wrote to Timothy, he described the gospel in this way:

2 Timothy 2:8-9 NIV

8 "Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, 9 for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained."

In Acts 2 Peter addresses the crowd that had gathered together on the Day of Pentecost:

Acts 2:29-32 NIV

29 "Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

Then in Acts 10 as Peter is speaking to Cornelius and his household he shares his eyewitness testimony and once again makes the connection to the testimony of the prophets:

Acts 10:39-43 NIV

39 "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, 40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. 41 He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."



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Luke 1:1-4 NIV

1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. 3 With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, 4 so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

Do you have confidence in what you hope for? Do you have assurance about what you do not see? Are you expecting Jesus to return for his church and for all the prophecy of the Bible to be fulfilled?

John 1:12 AMP

But to as many as did receive and welcome Him, He gave the right [the authority, the privilege] to become children of God, that is, to those who believe in (adhere to, trust in, and rely on) His name—

It's not enough to believe with our minds that God exist, and that Jesus is the Messiah who was to come. We must believe in him and follow him with all that we are.

Colossians 2:6-7 NIV

6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.



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