

**"A MEASURE OF FAITH"**

**ROMANS 12:1-8**

**TEXT: VERSE 3**

**INTRO:** Everything we have in the Christian life has been given to us by the GRACE OF GOD! That is taught numerous times throughout scripture. But, one verse that brings it all together is Romans 12:3. In that verse, we see it clearly presented that EVERY ELEMENT OF OUR SALVATION IS A GIFT OF GOD, AND THEREFORE, WE MUST REFUSE TO BE PROUD OVER WHAT WE HAVE IN CHRIST, AND HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE GOD IN A THANKFUL SPIRIT FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US. In short, God, by His grace, has given us a "MEASURE OF FAITH," in order to be saved and serve Him. Let's observe this rich text in the message today.

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**SOME GREAT COMPONENTS FOUND IN ROMANS 12:3**

- 1) God's Grace is given to individuals to do God's Work - "Grace given to me."
- 2) God's Grace is given to all people - "Every man."
- 3) God's Grace motivates humility in us - "Think soberly."
- 4) God's Grace distributes faith to all - "Every man the measure of faith."

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**WHAT DOES THE "FAITH" MENTIONED IN VERSE 3 INVOLVE?**

- 1) Faith that justifies through Christ.
- 2) Faith that empowers Believers.
- 3) Faith that gives Spiritual Insight to Believers.
- 4) Faith that builds Christian Character.
- 5) Faith that grants the Ability to Serve.
- 6) Faith that supports Biblical Standards.
- 7) Faith that gives Spiritual Discernment.
- 8) Faith that introduces Believers to the Kingdom of God.
- 9) Faith that is given to Every Person by God Himself.

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**SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF FAITH TO CONSIDER**

***I. GOD GIVES US FAITH TO BE SAVED - AN ACT OF HIS GRACE***

- A. Faith Given to "Every Man" (Without which no one could be saved)
  1. God Draws All People to Him through the Holy Spirit - John 6:44
  2. Necessary for our Salvation due to our Depravity - Romans 3:9-18
  3. Salvation is entirely of the Lord
    - a. God Planned It - Acts 2:23
    - b. God Performed It - Galatians 1:3,4
    - c. God Presents It - Titus 2:11
- B. Faith Given by God's Measure
  1. "Measure" is "A DETERMINED EXTENT"
  2. God Himself grants all people enough Faith to be saved.

NOTE: Observe Ephesians 2:8,9

NOTE: This does NOT imply that all will be saved. But that EACH PERSON must ACTIVATE his faith in Christ personally to be saved - Romans 10:9-13

ILLUSTRATION:

***II. GOD GIVES US FAITH TO SERVE - AN ACT OF HIS GRACE***

- A. Faith to Trust Him To do Ministry
  1. We Could NOT serve Christ without God giving us Faith to do so.
  2. We have "Supernatural Endowment and Ability to Serve Christ through God giving us Faith.
- B. Faith to Fulfill our role in the Body of Christ - Spiritual Gifts
  1. What is a Spiritual Gift?  
-A GOD GIVEN ABILITY FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE
  2. What is the Process of Spiritual Gifts?
    - a. Jesus Christ is the Source of the Gifts - Ephesians 4:7,8
    - b. The Holy Spirit is the Distributor of the Gifts - 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
  3. What is the Purpose of Spiritual Gifts - Ephesians 4:11-16  
-TO BUILD UP THE BODY OF CHRIST

NOTE: We COULD NOT serve Christ at all without God giving us the Faith and Spiritual Gifts to do so.

ILLUSTRATION:

### **III. GOD GIVES US FAITH TO SUCCEED - AN ACT OF HIS GRACE**

A. To Know and Do God's Will

-Without God's GRACE and MEASURE OF FAITH He has given us, we could not succeed in our Christian life.

B. To Face and Pass Daily Trials

-Without God's GRACE and MEASURE OF FAITH He has given us, we could not pass even the smallest trial of life.

C. To Encounter and Overcome Daily Temptation

-Without God's GRACE and MEASURE OF FAITH He has given us, we could not overcome ANY temptation to sin.

NOTE: We COULD NEVER live victoriously for Christ without God giving us the Faith to do so.

ILLUSTRATION:

QUESTION: IF OUR SALVATION, OUR SERVICE AND OUR SUCCESS IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE DEPENDS UPON THE FAITH THAT GOD GIVES US THROUGH HIS GRACE, AND IT DOES, WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FAITH HE GIVES AND THE FAITH WE ACTIVATE?

1) We must BELIEVE God's Word - 1 Thessalonians 2:13

2) We must RECOGNIZE that God is the true OBJECT of Faith - Mark 11:22

3) We must APPLY the Faith God gives by simply TRUSTING Him - Mark 9:23

4) We must REMEMBER the SERIOUSNESS of Faith - Hebrews 11:6

#### **LESSON/APPLICATION**

GOD HAS GIVEN YOU A MEASURE OF FAITH TO BE SAVED, TO SERVE HIM AND TO SUCCEED IN YOUR CHRISTIAN LIFE, SO GROW IN THAT FAITH. HOW?

1) By Asking God for MORE Faith - Luke 17:5

2) By Obeying God - Hebrews 5:9

3) By Focusing on God's Word - Romans 10:17