Grace Evangelical Free Church Aledo, IL

December 10, 2023 Message: Notes on Faith Scripture reading: Romans 1:16-17

Definition of Faith: *Hebrews 11:1* "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

1. Psalm 53:1a _____

2. Matthew21:32

I. Three Levels of Faith

A. None

3. Pan balance religion-believing your good works outweigh your bad
B. Little
1. Mark 6:5-6
2. Matthew 8:26
C. Great
1. Matthew 15:28
2. Luke 7:9
3.James 1:22-Do not be hearers only-do what it says!
II. Evidence for doubters
A. Prophecies from Old Testament, fulfilled in the New Testament (HOMEWORK-Look these up to verify what the guy said) 1. Isaiah 40:3-5, Luke 3:3-6—A messenger would
2. Genesis 3:15; Matthew 1:20
3. Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:22-23
4. Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1
5. Psalm 78:2-4, Matthew 13:10-15
6. Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:4-5
7. Isaiah 53:12; Matthew 27:38
8. Psalm 109:4; Luke 23:34

- B. The odds are 1 in 100 quadrillion (10^{17}) that one person could fulfill these 8 prophecies from the Old Testament. These, and more, were fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
- C. Miracles and Testimonies

John 14:11- "at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves"

John 20:29-Thomas *sees* and believes; "blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (That *should* be all of us!)

III. Decision Time

A. Warning to all fence-walkers: Revelation. 3:16–Do **NOT** be a "fence- walker"!

B. No "tomorrow guarantee"=decide *today*, before the decision is made *for* you!

~Three Faith-Level Questions~

- 1. Is your faith built on feelings or unwise counsel?
- 2. Is your faith smaller than a mustard seed, lacking spiritual water and nutrients? (Jeremiah 7:23—"But I gave them this command: Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. Walk in obedience to all I command you, that it may go well with you.")
- 3. If you have great faith-a solid foundation-how often do you step out in that faith with the full confidence our God encourages and *requires* us to?

(Joshua 24:15– "...as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.")