



## THE HINDRANCES TO FAITH

KENNETH COPELAND  
SEPTEMBER 10-14, 2018

### DAY 1 – A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING HINDERS FAITH

There are fundamentals of faith and hindrances to faith. The first hindrance to faith is not understanding God's ability to make you a new creation. You *are* a new creation. You have the faith of God in your spirit being right now.

#### STUDY IT

- I. There are fundamentals of faith and hindrances to faith.
  - It is fundamental to believe that God will answer your prayers of faith (Mark 11:22-25).
  - You must understand the order of effective prayers. When you pray, that's when you start believing.
  - Thomas said, "I will not believe (believing is an act of the will), until I see." Jesus said, "Thomas, stop being faith-less" (John 20:25-27).
    - Thomas said he would start believing when he *saw*. That's not faith in God.
    - There's no faith needed, if you are waiting to see something before you believe it.
    - That way of life uses sense knowledge. Babies use sense knowledge. They stick everything in their mouths to determine what those things are.
  - Jesus said, "Whatever you desire, when you pray, start believing."
    - Believe what? Believe that the words you prayed will become reality.
- II. The first hindrance to faith is not understanding God's ability to make you a new creation.
  - We are told that if a person is in Christ, or born again, he is a new creature (meaning a new creation; a new species; someone that did not exist before) (2 Corinthians 5:17-19).
    - Note: The Bible is not gender-specific in that when it says *man*, it is referring to mankind.
  - Just like Adam was created by The WORD of God, you were re-created by The WORD of God.
    - You are not just a forgiven sinner. The real you was re-created, or became a new creature, when you received Jesus as your Savior.



- Even if you were a murderer, when you received Jesus Christ as your LORD and Savior, the *murderer* died.
  - Old things in your life have passed away. At the point of receiving Jesus, all things have been made new.
  - Brother Copeland baptized a serial killer in prison. His last prayer was evidence that he understood he was not only forgiven, but a new creation. At his execution he prayed, "LORD Jesus, I commit my soul to You."
- III. You *are* a new creation. You have the faith of God in your spirit being right now.
- You have the same precious faith as the apostles (2 Peter 1:1).
    - Because God's Spirit dwells in you, His faith dwells in you.
  - God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). Jesus is dwelling inside you by His Spirit right now. He is in you supplying everything He is and everything He has for your use.
    - There is born into you greatness because Christ, the hope of glory, is within you (Colossians 1:27).
  - God has already done the work to make you acceptable. It's up to you to respond and be reconciled to God (Colossians 1:12-13).
    - God has reconciled you through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. He sees you holy, blameless and above reproach (Colossians 1:21-22).
      - The blood of Jesus solved the sin problem.
    - You have been born again and become a new creature (1 Peter 1:23).
    - You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood (a king and a priest), a holy nation and a peculiar people called into God's marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9).
    - Jesus made you in His image—a king and priest (Revelation 1:4-6).

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

When you make Jesus your LORD, you are re-created into a new creature. The Bible says that "all things become new."

Write some of the things in your life that are new and different since you received Jesus as your LORD.

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### DAY 2 – MISUNDERSTANDING RIGHTEOUSNESS HINDERS FAITH

The second hindrance to faith is misunderstanding righteousness. Jesus is the Author and Finisher of our faith. A detailed account of what happened to Jesus during His time in hell and His victory is found in Hebrews 1-2.

#### STUDY IT

- I. The second hindrance to faith is misunderstanding righteousness.
  - We can't earn righteousness—it's a gift!
    - Sadly, we were taught to focus on our sin (Romans 3:23).
    - The truth is we have been made the righteousness of God (Romans 2:22, 24-25).
  - Anything that is not love is a hindrance to faith, because faith works by love (Galatians 5:6).
  - Jesus mentioned the big hindrance—unforgiveness!
    - "When you stand praying, forgive" (Mark 11:25).
    - If you don't forgive, God can't forgive you—not because He doesn't choose to forgive, but because your unforgiveness blocks Him.
- II. Jesus is the Author and Finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2).
  - The word *finisher* is actually *developer*.
  - A cabinet finisher is much more skilled than a carpenter or a framer.
  - Jesus is the skilled Finisher/Developer of our lives.
  - Jesus was very explicit about how to use faith. He introduced the spiritual law by saying, "Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you that whosoever..." (Mark 11:22-24).
  - "Therefore I say..." Jesus used the same spiritual law He had just introduced.
  - There are 19 specific miracles of Jesus. Notice how many times Jesus used His words as a tool.
    - For example, when Jesus spoke to Jairus' daughter, His words of faith raised her up (Luke 8:54).



- III. A detailed account of what happened to Jesus during His time in hell and His victory is found in Hebrews 1-2.
- Upon Jesus' resurrection, God appointed Him heir of all things (Hebrews 1:1-2).
  - Jesus was made a little lower than the angels (Hebrews 2:9) when He went to the cross. He was made to be sin by God. He was made a little lower than satan, who is a fallen angel. Satan had authority over Jesus momentarily.
    - A picture of this is found when the children of Israel were in the wilderness and were being bitten and killed by snakes. God instructed Moses to put a bronze serpent on a pole, and anyone who looked at it was healed (Numbers 21:9).
    - Jesus had to be subject to satan. He had to suffer more than any other human. And He did—He suffered it all! He suffered death, sin and disease all together.
  - Jesus defeated death and has now been crowned with honor, which He shares with every born-again believer who makes Jesus the Captain of their salvation (Hebrews 2:10).
  - Jesus calls us His brethren. "I will declare My name to My brethren" (Hebrews 2:12).
  - Jesus became a man with flesh and blood, and suffered death so that through death He might destroy satan. The devil had the power of death and used that power to keep mankind in bondage (Hebrews 2:14).
  - Jesus defeated death (paralyzed it and brought to nothing). All satan has now is the threat of death.
  - Jesus was tempted with every temptation all at once—that was His suffering.
    - Jesus had to stand against every temptation. It was more difficult than what anyone else has ever suffered.
    - Jesus did it, so you and I could be new creatures, a new species of being that had never existed, and joint heirs with Him (Romans 8:17).
    - We have a promise that if we resist the devil, he will flee (James 4:7).
  - Jesus was manifested in the flesh when He was born in Bethlehem. He was made alive in the Spirit when He defeated death, hell and the grave.

Additional scriptures: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Colossians 1:22; 1 Peter 1:23, 2:9;  
Revelation 1:5-6

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Let's do something together. Lift your hands, concentrate on Jesus and pray:

*LORD Jesus I have received You as my Savior and as my Baptizer in the Holy Spirit. I have received You as my Healer. Right now, I receive You, not only as the Author of my faith, but as the Developer. I place my faith in Your hands. I fully expect You to help me develop it and make me stronger and stronger every day.*



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### DAY 3 – BREAK FREE OF WRONG THINKING

Our faith is hindered because of a lack of understanding righteousness. Wrong thinking about righteousness keeps many people in bondage. Every born-again child of God, whether he or she knows it or not, has received the free gift of righteousness. Jesus tasted death for all men.

### STUDY IT

- I. Our faith is hindered because of a lack of understanding righteousness.
  - Righteousness is not something you have to attain. Don't confuse righteousness with holiness.
  - Righteousness is a gift of God given to you at the moment you are born again.
  - We are to be ambassadors for Christ, telling the world to be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:20-21).
    - A person can't be reconciled to God unless he becomes righteous.
    - So, at the time of our new birth, we were *made* righteous.
  - It's possible to be made something. Jesus knew no sin, but He was *made* to be sin. We knew sin, but we were *made* righteous when we were re-created in the family of God.
- II. Wrong thinking about righteousness keeps many people in bondage.
  - We *are* the righteousness of God—by faith (not by our works) in Jesus Christ. It's for all who believe (Romans 3:21-22).
  - God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). Everyone who receives Jesus is made righteous. Even a serial killer who receives Jesus is no longer a serial killer. He is righteous, just like Jesus.
  - We have been *justified* (same Greek word as *righteous*) by His grace by the Redemption that is through Christ Jesus (Romans 3:24).
  - This free gift is for all who receive Jesus (Romans 5:15).
- III. Message from The LORD:
  - "The human mind cannot conceive of those things that are in the Spirit. It takes revealed knowledge to the serious Spirit-filled seeker and student who is hungry to know Me in the power of My resurrection," saith The LORD Jesus. "For unto



those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, surely they shall be filled, their thirst shall be quenched, and you will begin to know Me in a very intimate way," says the Spirit of grace.

- IV. Every born-again child of God, whether he or she knows it or not, has received the free gift of righteousness.
- Mankind did not commit any righteousness. Jesus did not commit any sin. But God allowed Jesus to be made sin with our sin. We were made righteous with His righteousness.
  - Adam's offense doomed mankind to be separate from God. But, much stronger than Adam's sin, the grace of God and the gift by Jesus Christ is offered to all (Romans 5:18).
  - We can receive the free gift of right-standing with God through Jesus.
  - Death reigned by Adam's sin. Now we, through faith in God's righteousness, reign in life by Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17).
    - We have been made kings and priests with the right to reign (Revelation 1:5-6, *AMPC*).
  - Judgment came on all men by Adam's sin.
    - By the righteousness of One—Jesus—the free gift of righteousness came on all men.
  - When Adam sinned, there was enough sin to go around.
    - Now, Jesus' righteousness has come upon every man. All you have to do is take it.
- V. Jesus tasted death for all men (Hebrews 2:9).
- Don't give in to death. Fight against death. Death is an enemy.
    - However, when we leave the body, we are present with The LORD (2 Corinthians 5:8).
    - Bob DeWeese, a friend of Brother Copeland, died. After he came back to life, he reported that he was at peace walking along a road. He saw up ahead the light of the city of God, and he knew he was in heaven.
  - Follow God's command—sorrow not (1 Thessalonians 4:13).
  - Don't feel sorry for someone who has gone to heaven. Don't grieve for them. You miss them, and it hurts; but they are in your future. We do everything we can to get people to go to heaven, and then we get mad when one goes there. That's because of wrong training.
  - You must renew your mind from life to death. Choose to 'sorrow not,' whether you feel like it or not. Joy is waiting on your obedience.
    - The spirit of grief is a killer. It works with the spirit of death, and opens the door to sickness and disease.
    - Stop grieving! Refuse to grieve. Jesus said we can refuse grief, so we can!



- Gloria's little brother died, and it was hard on the whole family, especially her mother. But, they made up their minds that they were going to refuse to grieve...*to be continued.*

Additional scriptures: 2 Peter 1:1; 1 Peter 1:23, 2:9; Romans 5:1

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Make this declaration every day:

*I am the righteousness of God in Christ. I am in Christ, and He is in me. I overcome in every situation because I am seated in heavenly places in Christ. I call on the wisdom of God for direction, I am obedient, and therefore, I win through Jesus Christ my LORD!*



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### DAY 4 – DON'T LET THE DEVIL TALK YOU OUT OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Renew your mind to the truth that God has made you righteous, and don't let the devil talk you out of it. We have a place of confidence, because we are *in* Jesus, and He is in us.

#### STUDY IT

- I. At a ladies' meeting, Gloria met a woman who had died, gone to heaven and came back. The lady had a message from Gloria's brother, Stanley, who was in heaven.
  - Stanley, Gloria's younger brother, was killed in an accident, and it was hard on the family, especially her mother. They determined to "sorrow not, for we are not a people without hope" (1 Thessalonians 4:13). Stanley was a rock mason and was very strong. He didn't like to wear shirts with sleeves, because his arms were so massive.
  - The woman said the people in heaven were busy preparing for the marriage supper of the Lamb. There was a young man who walked up to her and said, "Tell Gloria I was not in that truck when it burned." He had been asleep in the truck and didn't even know when it crashed. He just went straight into heaven. She said, "By the way, he didn't have any sleeves in the garment he was wearing."
- II. Consider the truth that God has made us righteous.
  - God, not the Law, has made us perfect (Hebrews 10:1-2). The word *perfect* doesn't mean flawless. It means mature, complete and coming to the place where we should be.
  - Jesus, by Himself, purged our sins with His own blood (Hebrews 1:3).
  - People who are cleansed from sin should no longer have a sin consciousness. We should have a righteous consciousness. We are new creatures. We've been made the righteousness of God.
- III. Don't let the devil talk you out of knowing you are righteous.
  - It takes time and determination to renew your mind to this truth.
  - Faith comes by hearing The WORD preached under the anointing, so it's your responsibility to read and to listen to God's WORD, so faith will come.
    - Read God's WORD out loud to yourself, or let someone read it to you.







- Faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17). Continue to listen, continue to study, and let faith come and grow. The goal is to be filled with the faith of God.
- It only takes one drop to spill over a cup. David said, "My cup runs over" (Psalm 23:5). Stay with it until it overflows. That's when faith comes.
- If you stop too soon, repent for your unbelief, and start again.
- You're supposed to be healed, well, prosperous, out of debt and a witness to the righteousness of God. If you know who you are in Christ Jesus, you'll never believe you're anything else.
- Renew your mind from a sin consciousness to a righteousness consciousness.
  - A sin conscious identifies with Adam. A righteous conscious identifies with Jesus, the resurrected LORD.
- There are Christians who are still struggling. They don't know they are righteous.
- Be assured, God is not mad at you. God is Love (1 John 4:8).

IV. The third hindrance to faith is a lack of understanding our place in Jesus and His place in us.

- Take this assignment. In the New Testament, beginning with the book of Romans, search for the phrases "in Christ," "in Him" and "in whom." Those phrases occur over 130 times.
  - It's very important to take the time to write out each of these scriptures.
  - Here are some examples:
    - "Therefore if any man be *in Christ*, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).
    - "*In whom* we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" (Ephesians 1:7).
- This study method will cause your faith to skyrocket. Look up each scripture, read it and write it down. Then read the whole chapter that contains that verse. Even read the whole book.
- Take the time to feed your spirit. You have left the sincere milk of The WORD and are now reaching for the meat of God's WORD to become a full-grown, mature believer (Hebrews 5:14).
- You are moving from being scared of the devil, to becoming the devil's adversary.
- If you can understand who is living inside of you—you'll rejoice for the rest of your life!

Additional scriptures: 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 3:23-24, 5:1; Isaiah 53-54



## MAKE IT PERSONAL

As you obey Brother Copeland's instructions to find scriptures with "in Christ," "in Him" and "in whom," choose two and write them here. Read them out loud every day so they become strong inside your spirit and mind.

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### DAY 5 – BECOMING GOD-INSIDE MINDED

We are changing our spiritual imagery and renewing our minds to become God-inside minded. We are developing a righteousness consciousness and a God-inside consciousness. We need to stay conscious that God is inside us, He is Love, and we will win. Jesus became our substitute, so that we can identify with Him. We have been raised to a high place of sitting together with Christ Jesus. Only the righteous are allowed to sit there—and we have been made righteous!

### STUDY IT

- I. We are changing our spiritual imagery and renewing our minds to become God-inside minded.
  - When we know who is in us, we become fearless warriors.
  - We need to remind ourselves that we belong to God. God has overcome the enemy, therefore the devil cannot win against us because God within us is greater (1 John 4:4).
  - You are actually the dwelling place of God—the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:17, 19). Glorify God in your body and spirit which are God's.
    - Don't share your body or your mind with the devil (2 Corinthians 6:14). There's no place for righteousness and unrighteous to live together. You have been made righteousness, so be cleansed from unrighteousness.
    - God promises to dwell in us and walk in us. God is in our spirits, and He uses our bodies. Be aware that God's hands are in your hands. God's legs are in your legs. If you let Him, He'll fill you completely with His presence.
- II. We are developing a righteousness consciousness and a God-inside consciousness.
  - We are children of light (1 Thessalonians 5:5).
  - We are born of the light (Ephesians 5:8), and we wear the armor of light (Romans 13:12).
  - We are the Body of Christ, the Body of the Anointed One and carriers of His burden-removing power.
- III. Stay conscious that God is inside you, He is Love, and you will win.



- Brother Copeland tells about preaching on the righteousness of God.
  - A lady interrupted the service by speaking loudly with other tongues. Brother Copeland asked her to stop, but she just got louder. Finally, he was told the lady was deaf. A man had brought her for the purpose of stopping the meeting.
  - Brother Copeland didn't get mad. He turned on the love of God. The Holy Spirit told Brother Copeland to call her up to the front and lay hands on her, and He would open her ears. He did!
  - Brother Copeland avoided trouble by staying in love and listening for the instruction of The LORD.
- Brother Copeland told of his Partner who was flying to a Kenneth Copeland Ministries meeting.
  - As she got settled in her airplane seat, a lady behind her stuck her foot on the Partner's armrest. Instead of demanding her rights, Jasmine stayed in love. She made a video of that lady's foot on her armrest, then her face of surprise.
  - That video went viral. A media company bought it from her, and she gets a royalty every time someone looks at it. That video has made Jasmine Mays a millionaire. Google *Inside Edition* and you can continue to make money for her.
- Don't get in a cocoon of doubt. Expect God to keep His WORD. The Greater One is within you, and He is working on your behalf (1 John 4:4).

IV. Jesus became our substitute, so that we can identify with Him.

- Before we were born again, we identified with Adam and had a sin consciousness.
- Now, we identify with Jesus and have a righteousness conscious.
- We accept Jesus' substitutionary sacrifice and identify with Him in glory.
- We have received wonderful things through the "great exchange."
  - Jesus *died* to make us *alive*.
  - Jesus was *made sin with our sins* to make us *the righteousness of God with His righteousness*.
  - Jesus became *weak* to make us *strong*.
  - Jesus *suffered our shame* to give us *His glory*.
  - Jesus *went to hell* to take us *to heaven*.
  - Jesus was *condemned* to set us *free*.
  - Jesus was *made sick with our sicknesses* so we can be *healed and live in divine health*.
  - Jesus was *cast out of the presence of God* in order to *make us welcome* there.
- We have been made righteous. That means we are in right-standing with God. He accepts us into His family. It's up to us to adopt a righteousness conscious, to believe we belong with God.



- Jesus used His power to help us (Ephesians 1:19-23). The power of God raised Jesus from the dead. God enthroned Jesus far above all evil, and put all things under His feet. Jesus is now the Head over all things to the Church, which is His Body.
- V. We have been raised to a high place of sitting together with Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6). Only the righteous are allowed to sit there—and we have been made righteous!
- To be righteousness conscious brings you to a place where you stand before a holy, righteous God with no fear and no sense of condemnation, but a sense of belonging.
  - Now, we who have received Jesus are no longer condemned (Romans 8:1).
    - Don't believe the lie of the devil and get back under condemnation.
  - We judge ourselves to be righteous (1 Corinthians 11:31).

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

The hindrances to faith can be overcome. Review this teaching to find out how you can be an overcomer through Christ! [Click here](#) to share with us your progress, or [contact us on Facebook™](#).

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