"AS YOU HAVE BELIEVED"

Text: Matthew 8:13 - "Go thy way and as thou (or you) have believed, so be it done unto thee."

It's easy to believe in what you see, but what about what you don't see?

1) WHAT IS BELIEVING?

It's having faith in someone or something. (Heb. 12:2 - "Looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith..."

Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith (current, active, alive) is the substance (not tangible, but real) of things (any situation) hoped for (high expectation), the evidence (proof) of things not seen."

In other words, faith starts out in our thoughts and desires, but is 'fed' by the Word of God, so our faith can grow. Even if our thoughts try to combat our faith, the Word will bring our thoughts back to reality of the unfailing, uncompromising, steadfast Word.

2) HOW IS FAITH SUSTAINED?

Faith is sustained by the Word. (See: Romans 10:17)

Faith is guarded by your words.

(See: Psalms 116:10 / II Cor. 4:13)

Your confession should attest to what the Word says.

Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."

Matthew 12:34 - "Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh."

Philemon 1:6 - "That the communication of thy faith..."

Faith protects what you hear.

Mark 4:23 & 24 - "If any man have ears to hear, let him hear"..."Take heed what you hear..."

Jude vs. #20 - "But ye beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost."
3) WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?

Your faith will see you through.

Matthew 9:29 - "According to your faith, be it unto you."

Your testimony (of your breakthrough) will inspire and encourage others to do the same.

Luke 13: 10-17. ("rejoice")

Matthew 14: 35 & 36. ("knowledge")

Matthew 16: 30 & 31. ("glorified")

You will be bolder to believe for future breakthroughs in your life and in the lives of others (that you pray for).

(See: Acts 4: 13 & 14) This is the story of the lame man being healed (by the anointing from God upon Peter & John).

4) WHY THE PERSECUTION?

Jesus had it. You will too!

II Timothy 3:12 - "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Matthew 12: 14 & 15.


Satan hates to see God's kingdom prosper and grow.

John 10:10.

We're not wrestling with people, but demonic spirits and forces from the underworld. Eph. 6:12.

Persecution in the early days of the church helped the gospel spread further and drew the followers of Jesus closer to their Saviour.

(See: Acts 5: 40 & 42)

NOTE: Persecution and sickness is not the same. We can expect persecution, but we should reject sickness. Sickness is not for us. We've been redeemed from the curse! Galatians 3:13.
Isaiah 53:5 / 1 Peter 2:24.

In closing, remember, "as you have believed" so you will receive! (Matt. 8:13)

Let me finish with this verse found in Matthew 21:22 - "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

How plain can God reveal this to us from His Word? Healing is for today. Receive it by faith and don't waver. James 1: 6-8.

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