The Building of the Masterpiece of Grace in Ephesians - 29
Pastor Jesse O'Dorisio – April 19, 2023
Bible Text: Ephesians 6:16

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Alright, let's go ahead and open our bibles back to Ephesians Chapter Six, and thanking God again for this precious time He's spending with us yea and these deep things hallelujah. The high-water mark for those that are fully purposed, and tonight can you imagine this? we go above all. I love how the Lord, He's always building, building, and building, and building, and you know what He's building? He's building in you. That's what the grace of God and the word of His word doe; it builds us up, gives us an inheritance among all them that are sanctified. And we thank God that that's that masterpiece of His wondrous grace that we know. 00:45

But here in the sixteenth verse as we're in this section about the whole armor of God we come tonight to above all as it says there in sixteen. Taking, take, and that taking means to rise up. Rise up my love, my fair one and come away. You've got to rise up now if you're going to rise up then, hallelujah. This is about now brothers and sisters. Rise up the shield of faith, take it wherewith Ye shall be able to quench all, and that wonderful able word means, that a word from dynamite, that's not just we you know get by; we're explosive hallelujah in this wondrous faith in this word. But above all taking the shield of faith wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And I love again the all's of the word of God, but especially I've always been encouraged, Paul's all's. They are just so exceeding, abundantly above all we ask or think, and we thank God again for that provision that He has given us and this time of all truth, and all love. 02:04

But the reason is above all brothers and sisters is even with the backing of this wondrous truth, even with the breastplate of righteousness, the whole armor of God which has been completely given to us. Amen, because we have been blessed; we have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavens in Christ. We have been, that includes the whole armor of God; we have it now. But even though we have been completely given it and it is ours freely, and always know that, without faith it lies dormant; it just lies dormant. And I can never forget how Brother Hill would stand here and he'd point to the switch on the wall and he'd say now look, this is quite a building. It got all the wiring, it's got lights and I'll tell you what Brother Dan and his group have put different lights in here and staying up in technology we're lit just right, but it's all there you know. Then we're hooked to some old power box out there in the alley. Some nut tried to cut it one time. I hope he knew the Lord because I understand there was no way to recover form that cut, but never mind. But then that goes all the way back to Xcel, and all of these big old grids and everything and so it's all hooked up, it's all there. But it's useless to me if I never go over there and flip that switch. 03:35

It's useless, and you think about the word of God, I mean He's given us all grace. Paul was just so thankful he said Lord I just thank You I did not make the grace of God vain in my life. It wasn't something of emptiness. Thank You Jesus, mercy took the top off, fill me up Lord, pour it forth, let this vessel just expand in what You have. But see, that's what this is all about is trusting God. Turn on over to First Thessalonians Chapter Two, and let's read from verse thirteen. Such a precious encouragement here to these Thessalonians. Once again, the Apostle Paul. Paul says here for this cause also we thank God without ceasing, because when ye receive the word of God, now is this us brothers and sisters? When we receive the word of God which ye heard of us, again of Paul, you received this not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, and that word "truth" is very, very unique in the Greek, it's not used very many times this word truth, this means certainty, without doubt, absolute; it's truth, it's right, it's proven, it's God's word. So, this is how these saints received it. It wasn't just words, it wasn't just as the word of men, it was received in certainty. This is the word of God, God said it, and it is so. 05:29

And I always loved that about Herby, he would always say you mean the Lord said that? Well, I need that too. Everything was so simple faith like a child; did God say that? Well, if He did say it, it's going to be right here because this is what God said, this is His word, amen. And in this word, we know that His promises are yea and amen. We know that they're certain praise the Lord. So, we thank the Lord that here we have these ones that receive the word not of as men, but as it was so truth the word of God which effectually worketh also in you that believe; that believe. Amen. So, we thank God once again when you get back to that dynamo; that dynamite, that's exactly the effect that it has when we believe the word of God. We may not see it naturally speaking with our eyes, but brothers and sisters this is a life of faith. This is the stuff that's not seen, this is the stuff that's not felt, this is the stuff praise God that is that I'll you what, no one else sees either. But I thank the Lord, I can see it more than anything that I could see with my natural eye. I know God is able, and I know His word is true, and it impossible for that word my God, our Saviour, your Bridegroom to lie because He does not lie. 07:08

So, we thank the Lord that this truth is certainty, and we thank the Lord in believing the word of God, it has the dynamite energy, and that means something that is active. It's not merely words that are quoted. The Father has given us everything in His Son, and the only way we please the Father is by faith. You want to please God? believe the word of God. You want to please God more? hear more of the word of God and believe more of the word of God. Amen. People try to please Him as they want to please Him. Israel, God came to them, gave them the path to salvation, to atonement; all of those different things. They wanted to seek it a different way. They wanted to earn it, they wanted to merit it. Let me tell you something, it's all coming through His Son. You are not coming to the Father but by the blood of My Son. And I thank God that's it, there is but one way. 08:12

And so, we thank the Lord that that wonderful pleasing of the Father is faith, and here we have certainty. Here we have believing fully that once again we have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavens in Christ. So, think of what the word of

God tells us. The word of God tells us all the spiritual blessings in the heavens in Christ. It reveals all truth to us, amen? Is there truth that is withheld from us? No there's not because the bible has assured us by the wonderful receiving of the Holy Ghost we will be led into all truth. Not some truth, not part truth, but all truth. He said that we would know the love of Christ, not a bit of it, but that we could actually grow up unto Him in how many things? All things. It's beyond is it not, you don't think it's attainable or possible. These are heights that just seem so beyond but that's what grace is; it's so beyond. 09:20

And once again today I was just thinking, in that hyper grace, that perisseuo; that's the exceedingly above, and exceeding above that, and infinitely exceeding above that, and then infinitely, infinitely never-ending exceeding, abundantly above that, and then some more. And He does it with everything of His because that's Who He is, and I thank the Lord that He says you have all of it; you have all of Me, there's nothing withheld. So, everything that we read of, and we hear of in this word of these promises for us to us they're ours, and merely we just walk in them. Praise the Lord, they're yours. You didn't earn it; you're born into it. And you're born into it not to go in to serve it, you're born into it to reign over it, to tule over it, praise the Lord. That's how incredible the love of the Father is to us all because of His Son, and all in His Son. So, again it's so beautiful that we have been given everything. 10:36

Now, why does it say here above all. Well, once again only by faith do we inherit the promises; that's it. If we don't have faith to inherit it you won't inherit it. You don't have faith to enter in, you won't enter in. Amen, that's exactly how it is, as thou hast believed, as thou hast believed, as thou hast believed so be it done unto you. Not as thou hast worked, or thou hast tried, or all of the time you have put in; faith and the benchmark of faith praise be to God for any and everything is the mustard seed. Just a mustard seed, thanks be to God. We were rejoicing this week at that one memorial service; remember Me Jesus. How much did it take? Amen. Don't limit the power of believing in God. We want to sit there, we want to judge it, we want to ridicule it, we want to say oh well I'll tell you, you haven't believed long enough. Huh, let me tell you something, I'm believing now, and you got now to believe, and we better not worry about what you believed back then, what are you believing now. What are you rejoicing in now? are you abounding in hope right now? I pray to God you are, so these are the things that the Lord has given us. See, without faith brothers and sisters we cannot be a full overcomer, and the Lord wants us to be a full overcomer in everything. Doesn't it say in our opening scriptures here, did it say some of the wiles of the devil? Did it say some of the darts of the devil; I think it said all, didn't He? all of them. 12:34

All of them, that's what a full overcomer is. Not bits and pieces, it' all, and that doesn't mean you lived a perfect life, matter of fact it's the very contrary to that, it's just that you trusted in a perfect God, and it was always response praise the Lord that I believing in You Lord. Yeah, I felt misery, but I'm believing You God. I didn't use it as an excuse, yes, I was determined in my own will I was going to go that way, but I'm trusting You God, I still believe in this, You've given me the faith, Your grace will never leave me.

A lot of folks don't like to hear that, I'm glad that's all I'll preach to you. Now, that's just it brothers and sisters, I'll tell you what, I want you to notice something here. When He says all those fiery darts, this is the proving of the champion, that's what this is about. We are tried, we are tested, don't get me wrong in a sense, but He's proving what He knows. He didn't send us out into this life, into this journey for us to be destroyed. We're more than conquerors through Christ Who loved us. These are before ordained good works that we should walk therein. He said that He has predestinated our lives. So, do you think He's predestinated you for crash and burn? No. He's predestinated you for glory, and 'll tell you what, through the natural eye it looked like it was absolute destruction, but to the eyes of God no, that's whom I love. 14:24

That's the one who will receive the grace, this is the one that'll overcome, and see, that's just it. If we cannot, we cannot win the race brothers and sisters without all the darts; all the darts got to come; all of them. I know we don't want them, all of them. And sometimes as the Apostle Paul found out that the Lord will actually send a messenger of Satan with a thorn to buffet you. And then you're going to come back and you're going to say Lord, I need you to remove this thorn because I really can't yield like I should and then He says oh no, no. no. no, no, and He reminds you what do you know? Oh. I know, I know the hope of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, I know the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus; I know the crown glory. Well honey, do you want to forget about that or do you want to stay in it? I want to stay in it, well, that thorn is going to stay in you because I know what I'm doing. I know what I'm doing, and I thank God He knows what He's doing with us. Trust Him brothers and sisters. 15:45

See, we need all the darts, without them we can't grow to full maturity. Without all those predestinated trials, the ups, the downs, the successes, the failures so to exercise and to try us brothers and sisters, that crown; that crown cannot be completely won, and that's the truth. Think about that pearl we talk about often. That pearl, in order for a pearl to grow it must be agitated; it has to be, and constantly. And what happens is that pearl is agitated is these layers continue to come in. Ye, there's a comforting of it, but the layers are the growth of the pearl, they're the beauty of the pearl, the splendor of the pearl. Well, that's our lives with grace as we continue to get agitated, and I just feel like one agitated-er, or whatever it is. 16:41

But you know what? You're tried on every side just like the Apostle Paul. He says in like manner you're going to be tried like me. The Lord knows your makeup, He does, He made you, and those buttons, those are glory buttons and He's going to get them all, and He is. They're going to be tested perfectly, tried perfectly for the proving of what He knows; the proving of what He knows. the question is will we trust Him, will we stay in this gospel, that's the truth, isn't it? I'm staying in first love, You're the faithful one, I'm with You Lord. I have nowhere else to go. I know I got the best thing; I've got it all, and I know at times I'm going to be awful squirrely, but the one thing is a constant I'm in love because He's in love with me, and by the grace of God that ain't changing. 17:52

Brother Hill would say, and I love how he would say this. Many look at the shield of faith to protect from these things that I'm talking about that God divinely sends to you. Think that you're going to be kept in a hothouse he'd say, but somehow this shield is to keep you comfortable; that is absolutely nonsense. We are in a fierce battle of continual bombardment from the enemy, and if you haven't found that out, you're not fighting the good fight of faith, and the enemy knows he don't even have to get at you. So, if you're being tried right now, I mean really tried praise be to God you're in the run. That's the truth. Sometimes I meet Christians, oh just everything's just right, and this, this, that and this, this be, and all that, I know where that's at. I'm just sitting over there in the lowest benchmark of whatever I can take from the Lord, I'll just be satisfied with good. I'm even moved to acceptable, let alone the perfect will of God. But you want that, but you know, I'll tell you what, that fight is on. And it's constant, it's continual. Sometimes you ask the Lord for a little reprieve, but you know brothers and sisters. This is too valuable, He ain't taking you of the furnace. I found that out, we're grateful to God He knows what He's doing. 19:20

Now you ask a soldier, it's not comfortable when you're in complete bombardment. I think about these ones that have seen battle, and have been in the heat of it, and they don't like to talk about it, but I'll tell you one thing, every single one of them that knew the Lord, they were calling out to God like they never could. And I'll tell you what too having to show the faith is everything; it's everything, it is the only thing. And brothers and sisters we need to know this, things are going to happen in life, aren't they? Waves and storms, fiery trials, and those fiery trials brothers and sisters, without the word of God we would think them strange things; things that shouldn't be there, things that couldn't be there, but God tells us, and forewarns us these are going to be the trials that you never imagined; trials brothers and sisters that you never thought you could ever, or would ever partake in. 20:28

I thanked the Lord a long time ago, He took away from my vocabulary, well I never, I wouldn't never. Let me tell you something, it's all in here. You better understand that it's all here. Let's see, there's something about an occupying, and that we haven't got to this, next week we'll get to that helmet of salvation. Oh, the mind that is stayed upon Him. How He truly, His mind can occupy you where you forget the things of this life. They're more seldom than they used to be. Oh yeah praise God, that's the transforming that we want hallelujah. It's in the mind, it's not going to be in this flesh, it's going to be in the heart and in the occupying with the Bridegroom praise the Lord. So, brothers and sisters I love, but the shield does not filter out loss, but it filters out pessimism. You're going to have loss, but what that shield of does, it gives you an abounding hope, and that abounding hope always lets you know God's always got better; He's got better. You never lost; you're only gaining. It is truly the same, the Lord giveth, the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord. 22:03

I thank God that we can trust Him like that; I don't want a life that don't trust Him like that. See, this is the shield of faith. it doesn't filter out disappointment, but it filters out the bitterness that tries to arise from disappointment; that's right. I got my feelings hurt, but here comes the shield of faith and you know what? I'm not going to be bitter. I'm going to trust God, that was from the hand of God. Man, I'll tell you what, that was a sure, sure, sure wound of a friend, but I thank God that show kept me from me from a kiss from an enemy: I need to wake up. 22:42

Now, this is shield that protects from pride, it protects you from guilt, it protects you from regret. This shield of faith is so fully purposed brothers and sisters, it protects from every circumstance of life. I believe it's the shield of faith that I believe we know as Romans 8:28. That's the shield, that's your shield, and it's in everything, and it's always, and we know that all things do work together for good to them that love God. And then we go to them who are the called according to His purpose. And I'll tell you one thing brothers and sisters we would not be in Ephesians fully purposed if we were not called to the purpose of God, and that's the truth. So, I just thank God, you know what He says, I'll have mercy upon whom I'll have mercy, I'll have grace upon the ones I'll have grace upon, praise God. I know you're it, because I know I'm it because this is what we're hearing right here is this, so thanks be to God. 24:04

Now, this shield is beautiful thing. This wasn't a tiny, or a little round shield, this was a big, large shield with its neck. It had; it was a big rectangle; four corners. First of all, and I love that, it kind of almost reminds you of a door. Well, I believe that shield of faith is a door. It's the door that He has already made the way of escape; that's that door in everything. These are fiery trials, these are things that are beyond us, these are things that are pressing, but it says He hath already made the way of escape; that door is always there, and He is the door. He is just that way praise God, and this is what that shield does, it has you escape from it I'm telling you, even while you're in it; you know that. You know, you might be going into that fiery furnace, but by faith are you already out? You understand what I'm saying? Praise God, He's already delivered from this, and I already know that's His furnace anyway. So, why you trying to scare me with that. Goliath, you can't scare me, you're God's giant. You're the stupe that He's put into this precious encouragement for me that you're His. You are made by Him; you are made for Him. 25:26

Without anything, there wasn't anything made without Him; anything. All things are His, you understand that. He appoints; He appoints the wicked for that day of evil. Everything; everything and that's how divine He is, that's how perfect He is, and that's how this faith that we can have can trust Him. It can be that confident in Him, just like we started in reading about those Thessalonians, they received it as truth. They received the word of God as certainty. I may not act like it, I might have my bad days, but I'll tell you one thing, I'm certain the truth is there for me. That's what that is, amen I want you to understand this. That doesn't mean that you hear that, you know that, and then you had this chip on your shoulder basically because this, you think that you're somehow being

cavalier with the truth; that's not it at all. uh-un, this is something that in a way wounds you to a bended knee, that is always bent, it's a bowed head that's always bowed. It's hands that are always lifted up in thanksgiving to God. It's a surrender, it's a praise and a thanksgiving, it's a humbleness, and a humility of Lord, I do, I'm broken before You, I want You to just have Your way with me. That's what this does, that's what this is, that's the proof, that's the response of this faith. 27:15

Now, this precious encouragement that He's already made the way of escape, but here's another maybe even sweeter thing. Thinking about how we began tonight with He is blessed us with all spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ. I mentioned that this shield wasn't the little round shield; they had those you know when there were offensive battles, they'd have a little shield they'd put it around their arm like this, have a sword and go at it; that wasn't the shield. This shield was that big shield. There was that big heavy shield. It was a shield that would be stuck in the ground, it was a shield that would stand in defense. This was a shield praise be to God that would build with other shields and form a line that would be joined together from one end to the other. I think of the Song Of Solomon, and I think of the Shulamite as she rejoices in chapter eight of verse ten? You know what she says? She says I am a wall; I am a wall, and see, that's what those shields would form, they would form a wall. They were in one accord, they had one purpose, they had one desire: that's the bride. And brothers and sisters by the grace of God it's joined together. And I see this precious shield of faith that the Lord has given us, and we set them down, and we stand in defense of what we have, and we occupy; we occupy our promise. God sends the giants, but they're just proving hallelujah, and we believe God who has already given us this. We believe God that the victory's already been won, we believe God that we are more than conquerors through Christ who loved us. And we just stand, withstand, and having done all stand, a pillar in the house of the Lord, praise God our, the Philadelphian saint. 29:20

This is exactly what this is, there's not any motion here, it's confident, it sets the shield down, and it rejoices praise God; I am a wall, and praise be to God she's such a wall she's become a city, hallelujah; a bastion of His glory. She's so highly favored, but see us together going back to Ephesians, we read these verses already. Think about this shield of faith, and as we build that oneness of a wall lined as we put that shield down, and we just stand in thankfulness to God that we occupy the promise hallelujah of the bride for the Lamb of God; we're not moving. Hallelujah, it's ours and we have it, and it's so wonderful. Here we have Ephesians Chapter Four, verses fifteen and sixteen. But speaking the truth in love, and that's exactly what this message is, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head even Christ. We're growing up into Him into that head, even Christ from whom the whole body fitly joined. We got the shields together and compacted, there's no gaps; none, nothing's getting through by the grace of God because we're in oneness, we're locked in with the Spirit. Our feet are straight, we are moving as the cherubim, hallelujah with the Spirit. And we're compacted by that which every joint supplies. And see, you've got to have the next one; you have to. 31:04

That wall has to be complete, that line has to be one, no gap, no folds; it's a glorious church without spot or wrinkle. But we're so thankful according to the effectual working of the measure of every part make it increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. And see, that's the beautiful thing, we're there because of love. We're there because of love, I'm not there because it's my religion, I'm not there because this is what I do, by the grace of God I'm there because I'm in love because of the One who is in love with me. You're there the same way too, that's the only way you show up for this, and not just show up, you gladly; let me get in there. It's the heart like David's, how could you guys sit still? This is ours; the battle is the Lord's, He's already given this to us, let's let Him prove what He's already done. Let's just be an extension praise God of what's already provided. The proving, praise the Lord that He's given us this promise. That giant can't stand; there's nothing that can stand against the promises of the Lord; his head is mine. Praise be to God, I can say the same thing by the grace of God with the exceeding and greater precious promise that we have. That crown is mine, and it's not somewhere afar off, He actually even put it in our hand. 32:56

Isn't that just glorious, a better thing? I didn't have to walk, I didn't, I didn't have to go out of Egypt, I didn't have to walk across that Red Sea. You talk about finding grace, coming upon it, having a meeting with it because it called us, it found us, it chose us, it met us, and it placed a crown hallelujah in our hand. It's just, it's beyond what we have; it's beyond. Go on over to Ephesians One Verse Twenty-three. This is us, which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all. Aren't you thankful it's His faith? He fills us with all of His faith. See, we have the same faith, the same shield of faith all the way along that line; it's the faith of the Son of God. Isn't that gorgeous? So, that's why I'm not confident in you, but I'm confident of Christ in you. I'm confident praise the Lord in the same faith hallelujah that He's given me which He's given to you, which is His faith. Praise the Lord. 34:34

So, to conclude tonight, true faith is how you respond, that's it because you have it. You have it, you have the faith of the Son of God, so how we going to respond, amen? The faith of the Son of God, how does a faith of the Son of God response; we trust the Father. Isn't that awesome? It's the same life, because it's His life that lives in us. Amen. It says to pick up your cross, praise the Lord, so we're going to suffer, we're going to suffer together with Him amen to be reigning together with Him, and to be glorified together with Him. So, He's taken us all the same way; the same way praise God, the same way of suffering, the same way of trusting, but thanks be to God it the same faith that He's given us, the faith of the Son of God. And I thank the Lord, He's gives me the grace to believe in that faith; His faith that lives in my life that it's going to believe everything, that it does believe everything, that it takes every promise that the Father has assured for my life because I have the faith of His Son. Thy will be done Father; Thy will be done Father, I believe that. 36:12

Now, I understand, you're talking about a perfect man in our very God of very God Jesus; He's the perfect one, He's the one that fulfilled it all, but I thank the Lord somehow,

He said to us, greater things than I did ye shall do. I think this failure has a lot to do with it saints, I really do. I really do, He couldn't fail; He couldn't. We can't help but fail, but look what He's given us? I'm thinking right now as He said oh Father, look at what You've given Me, those disciples. He needed a little encouragement huh maybe that night at least. It didn't last long. look at what He's given us. True thanks responds in love; in love because without love faith doesn't work. Faith worketh by love, without love faith doesn't work. You may think you have faith, but without love it doesn't work, it has no power; it's not pleasing to God because it must be by love. 37:50

Faith worketh by love, it's not just words, it's faith in love, it's faith in God's love for you. Is that how you're moving in faith? I want to move in faith that way. That's how you move in faith. I'm moving in faith in God's love for me. He so loves me I'm moving in faith. No matter what it is, no matter what I face, no matter what I've done, a success or a failure I'm moving in faith in God's love. That's that shield of faith. It's having complete faith in all grace, and I'm talking about complete faith in all grace power, all grace ability, all grace provision, all grace fully purposed, all grace that is in you, and for you. And always in all things, and will perform, and will finish the crown for the ages. I just set that share of the faith down and I'm winning. 39:12

Once again, just winning praise the Lord. Don't ever get tired of winning. I hear some people they'll say oh I get tired of winning; don't you ever get tired of winning because it's glory to Him. Keep bouncing back that's winning. A lot of times Christians will just kind of feel they're winning because they're looking at themselves; they're not winning, they're not. Matter of fact they're asleep. Be alive; be alive, be aware, be thankful, allow the Lord to enlarge your steps. Talking about living for Jesus, go live the life that He's called you to, don't try to live anybody else's life. Your identity is in the Lord, don't get entangled in the affairs of this life. I was thankful today again. Ah, I don't know, the Lord did a wonderful work in my life, many different things, but I was thinking there was a time I had a vision in a way with a business, and it's a business that He gave me. I trusted God with it, and it was exciting to see how that business would go, and God touched it in a mighty way. And I don't know if you know much about different things about life, and businesses. 41:15

They say when your largest times are making money, and different things are they begin at forty and for me I hit the mega; I hit the mega jackpot at forty because He called me to pastor when I was forty years old, but I quit making an income when I was forty-two right when it should have turned on to explode, the riches. I cannot tell you except one thing, He made that decision; He made that decision, and all I can tell you is He took my mind away at that moment. So, there you go, a shield of faith above all plants it down, you got it all. plant it down and don't move. Let's stand. 42:40