

WALKING BY FAITH NOT SIGHT

HOW TO LIVE WHEN GOD IS SILENT

“We walk by faith, not by sight”

~ 2 Corinthians 5:7

1. Faith and Pleasing God

- a. God is silent today, and that is not a new thing. God has been silent before.
- b. Does this mean God does not exist, is absent, and has left us with nothing? No.
- c. Operating principles of this dispensation are grace (not works) & faith (not ignorance)
- d. Paul says we walk by faith not by sight – 2 Cor 5:7 → admonition: walk not by sight
- e. Mom told us to “look both ways”, “watch where you are going”, “watch what you eat”
- f. Our eyes are not helpful when it comes to understanding spiritual realities (God)
- g. Saints have always lived by faith - Rom 1:17, Heb 11:6
 - i. Faith is the knowledge of what is true – Rom 10:17, Heb 11:1
 - ii. Faith is not a lack of evidence, ignorance, or blind – it requires knowledge
- h. People want God to manifest himself ... again. (He did already) - John 20:29

2. What We See

- a. Without faith in God’s words, people are left only with what they can see.
- b. Circumstances – thanks to those who tell us to look for God all around us
- c. Good works/bad works – Can you see if this guy is saved? → Rom 4:5
- d. Appearance – clothes, decoration, size – do these determine truth?
- e. What we feel – you can see emotions, but circumstances drive your emotions
- f. What we want – The Sears catalog is now Amazon wish lists, pinterest
- g. Our life now – What we see is around us, we don’t see where there is not Youtube
- h. Visible signs, visions, revelations, miracles, divine intervention, proof
- i. Walking by sight blinds you to spiritual truth.

3. What We Know by Faith

- a. Faith is the knowledge of what is true – faith in God – God’s words are true – 1Th 2:13
- b. This is not the first time people have needed to walk by faith.
- c. The gospel (salvation) – not something you see, but it changes how you respond
- d. We are at peace with God – Rom 5:1 – what you see is not God’s wrath, but sin
- e. The body of Christ – the church – is not a building, but we are building it every day
- f. What we know - spiritual gifts - Eph 1:3, charity, grace, strength, understanding
- g. What God wants – God’s will is discovered from the Bible rightly divided
- h. Our eternal life in Christ - Col 1:27 – The hope of glory means it is not seen right now
- i. A book explaining what God is doing, a book that provides faith – Rom 10:17

4. Walk by Faith

- a. Absent from the body is to be present with the Lord – 2 Cor 5:6, but 1 Cor 3:16...
- b. We only learn to walk by faith when we do NOT see miracles, dreams, God – Ro 8:24
- c. No one has seen the cross Jesus died on, but it is the proof of salvation
- d. There is nothing to see in the empty tomb but it is the evidence of eternal life
- e. We have not seen the Lord for 2000 years, but he dwells in us.
- f. Walk by what you know to be true – Let God be true – walk by faith.