

## Spiritual Slothfulness

*"God's Got It"*

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Where is that in scripture "God's got this"?

Is there a single patriarch who said it? Or perhaps one of Jesus' disciples? What about any of the writers of the entire bible? I think this phrase is used far too often today in Christian circles. It has a very dismissive response that says, we as Christians have no personal responsibility in receiving from the Lord. We are us leaving everything up to God, that we have zero personal responsibility on our side. That is why so many Christians do not receive what they are asking the Lord for.

*"There is a Godward side and manward side to faith."* Kenneth E. Hagin

Meaning that genuine bible faith requires that both God and man must do something.

When I hear someone say, tweet, or post this phrase it frustrates me. They are being lazy, slothful, irresponsible Christians! Our God is good God! He loves to give to His children. When they don't receive from Him- it hurts their faith and confidence in Him. It makes our God look uninterested, uncaring, or simply unwilling to bless His own children. Die a horrible death for us sure, but to help with my electric bill – well "God's got it", and when no funds or help comes, they blame God. They are assuming by saying that, that the Lord is now miraculously working on whatever the "issue" is in their life behind the scenes, without them needing to do anything themselves. *"I need a job". "Oh the Lord's got it".* Did you apply anywhere? Give your resume to anyone, go to any interviews? God can give you favor, but you need to do your part. It requires both the natural and supernatural working together. We only have ONE time where the Lord said, *"stand still and see the salvation of the Lord"*.

He fought their enemies for them. 13. *But Moses said to the people, "Fear not! Stand firm! And see the salvation of the LORD, which He will show you today. For the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you shall never see again. Exodus 14:13*

The next closest verse to saying the same thing is **Psalms 46:10**

*Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.*

But we have many, many numerous occasions when the children of Israel had to fight for themselves! Yes, the Lord blessed them with major one-sided battles. But they still had to fight. Daniel went IN the lions den, the four Hebrew boys went IN the fiery furnace, Moses had to walk through the Red sea, Abraham had to divide the covenant sacrifice, Abraham had to call himself by a new name. He was speaking faith, he was declaring that he was father. He did that for 25 years before he actually became one. Example after example of working together with the Lord.

This basic lack of understanding that we as Christians have a responsibility on our side to activate faith, to ask, to release the authority we have been given. We believe therefore we speak!

**2 Corinthians 4:13** *We have the same spirit of faith. As it is written, "I believed, and therefore I have spoken."* So we also believe and therefore speak, {Jesus **Mark 11:22-25**}

This kind of thinking flies in the face of true, authentic bible faith. **"God's got this..."** that is not faith, it's not being a co-laborer, it's not even practical living! The only scriptural merit to it at all, is that it is "hope". The problem, with that is God is not moved by "hope". God requires faith. Hope is great waiter but a poor receiver. Hope is an foundational ingredient to having faith, but hope is – a favorable expectation of a future event. \*Faith is - a firm conviction based upon hearing! {\*W.E. Vines Expository Dictionary}

**Casting your cares is the only time it's a good idea to say "God's got it". But that's not operating in receiving bible faith.**

It is impossible to have faith without hearing the word of God the logos or the rhema. The requirements for having faith is based upon the greatest force in our universe. The firm foundation of the very Words of God. <sup>17</sup> *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17.* James, was the only pastor to write an epistle in our New Testament. Why is that important? Because Pastor's live with the people, day in and out, weekly living life with people. The pastor is "married" to the church, he is involved with every aspect of people's daily lives, the good and bad. "The receiving and not receiving what we asked the

Lord for” As Pastors we are called to know our sheep better than any of the other four ministry gifts. Pastor James said “*you have not because you ask not.*” <sup>2</sup> *You lust and do not have, so you kill. You desire to have and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have, because you do not ask.* <sup>3</sup> *You ask, and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your passions.*

#### **James 4:2-3**

**Def:** Ask- Greek word **Aiteo** – to ask, request, petition, demand {Strong’s Concordance on Bible Hub} All of these definitions are verbs which means asking requires action on the Christian’s part.

Pastor James starts his epistle out with teaching on correct, working and living faith.

**James 1: 2-8** <sup>2</sup> *My brothers, count it all joy when you fall into diverse temptations, <sup>3</sup> knowing that the trying of your faith develops patience.* <sup>4</sup> *But let patience perfect its work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.* <sup>5</sup> *If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men liberally and without criticism, and it will be given to him.* <sup>6</sup> *But let him ask in faith, without wavering. For he who wavers is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed with the wind.* <sup>7</sup> *Let not that man think that he will receive anything from the Lord.* <sup>8</sup> *A \*double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.*

**Def:** \*double-minded. Greek word **diakrinó:** to distinguish, to judge. separate, distinguish, discern one thing from another; doubt, hesitate, waver.

**Mark 11:23** *For truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be thrown into the sea,’ and does not \*doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, he will have whatever he says.* That’s the exact same word! To doubt God is to be double-minded judging between two options. This causes Christians to be confused. Choosing between two options – “double-mindedness”. Which tells me as a pastor that they have NOT heard from God. If they did they rejected what He said. That’s why they are wrestling with two options rather than standing firm on what God has already told them. Here are three attributes of faith or “signs” that someone has authentic bible faith.

#### **Rest, patience, peace.**

#### **REST: - No Fear!**

**Hebrews 4:3** *For we who have believed have entered this rest, as He has said,*

*“As I have sworn in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’” However, His works have been finished since the creation of the world.*

#### **PATIENCE: - Not in a hurry!**

**Heb 10:36** *For you need patience, so that after you have done the will of God, you will receive the promise.*

#### **PEACE: - No worry!**

**Isaiah 26:3** *You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.*

If you are not resting, not patient, and if you have lost your peace you are not in faith. “*Let not that man think that he shall receive anything from the Lord*” **James 1:7**

Faith brings you rest, because you KNOW you have done your part in receiving from the Lord, that gives you great ability to be patient, and hold on to your peace as you KNOW how much God loves you and only wants the best for you!

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Pastor Timothy Self

Born in Tulsa, OK. Graduated from Rhema Bible Training Center 1992

Timothy has served in ministry for over 28 years.

He and his wife currently pastor River of Life church located in Minnesota.

[www.riveroflifechurch.com](http://www.riveroflifechurch.com)

(218) 681-1469 Office

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