## **Practical Christianity**

Part 1: Growing in Faith
Pastor Cory Reeves

The third angel's message is th	e proclamation of the
commandments of God and the fait	h of Jesus Christ. The
commandments of God have been p	proclaimed, but the faith of Jesus
Christ has not been	by Seventh-day Adventists as
of equal importance, the law and th	e gospel going hand in hand. I
find language to ex	press this subject in its fullness.
"The faith of Jesus." [Revelation	on 14:12.] It is talked of, but
understood. What const	itutes the faith of Jesus that
belongs to the third angel's message	e? Jesus becoming our sin-bearer
that He might become our sin-pardo	oning Saviour. He was treated as we
deserve to be treated. He came to o	our world and our sins
that we might take His righteousnes	ss in the ability of
Christ to save us amply and fully and	d entirely is the faith of Jesus.
5LtMs, Ms 24, 1888, par. 42, 43	

Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name

great; And you shall be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12:1–3

Please say you *are* my sister, that it may be well with me for your sake, and that I may live because of you." Gen 12:13

After the many evidences of the power and protection of God he had witnessed, another dismal failure of \_\_\_\_\_\_ such as this is strange indeed. SDA Bible Commentary, vol. 1 338

"This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

Genesis 15:4-5

He had shown \_\_\_\_\_ of God in concealing the fact that Sarah was his wife, and again in his marriage with Hagar. *Patriarchs and Prophets* 147

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26.

"Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." Genesis 22:2

That he might reach the highest standard, God subjected him to another test, the closest which man was ever called to endure. Patriarchs and Prophets 147

If he had endured the first test and had \_\_\_\_\_ waited for the promise to be fulfilled in Sarah, and had not taken Hagar as his wife, he would not have been subjected to the closest test that was ever required of man. *The Story of Redemption*, 80

**Bonus** - Abraham believed that Isaac was the son of promise. He also believed that God meant just what he said when he bade him to go offer him as a burnt-offering. He staggered not at the promise of God; but believed that God, who had in his providence given Sarah a son in her old age, and who had required him to take that son's life, could also

give life again, and bring up Isaac from the dead. -1 The Spirit of Prophecy 99

Even now he did not murmur against God, but strengthened his soul by \_\_\_\_\_ upon the evidences of the Lord's goodness and faithfulness. This son had been unexpectedly given; and had not He who bestowed the precious gift a right to recall His own? Then faith repeated the promise, "In Isaac shall thy seed be called"—a seed numberless as the grains of sand upon the shore. Isaac was the child of a miracle, and could not the power that gave him life restore it? Looking beyond that which was seen, Abraham grasped the divine word, "accounting that God was \_\_\_\_\_ to raise him up, even from the dead." Hebrews 11:19. Patriarchs and Prophets 151–152

Bonus - With a torn heart filled with anguish he beheld the proud and loving mother gazing with fond affection upon her son of promise. He walked away with that loved son. Abraham suffered; yet he did not let his will rise in rebellion to the will of God. Duty, stern duty, upheld him. He dared not consult or yield to his feelings for one moment.

10 Testimony For the Church 63

As they were about to begin the journey of the third day, the patriarch, looking northward, saw the promised sign, <u>a cloud of glory</u> hovering over Mount Moriah, and <u>he knew that the voice which had spoken to</u> him was from heaven. Patriarchs and Prophets 151

"My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?" Genesis 22:7

And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. Genesis 22:8

<sup>10</sup> And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup> But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." <sup>12</sup> And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only *son*, from Me." Genesis 22:10-12

<sup>15</sup> Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, <sup>16</sup> and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—<sup>17</sup> blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your

descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. Genesis 22:15–17

When duty seems to lead us contrary to our inclinations, we are to have \_\_\_\_\_ in God... 10 Manuscript Releases 118

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. Hebrews 11:1–3

## **Growing Faith in Jesus**

1			
Ι.			

<sup>17</sup> You therefore, beloved, since you know *this* beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; <sup>18</sup> but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:17–18

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

Romans 10:17

This verse is an important statement of the nature and source of true faith. Genuine faith is not a blind confidence to be exercised in the absence of adequate evidence. Faith is our conviction about things that we cannot see (Heb. 11:1), and this conviction must be founded upon knowledge, a knowledge based upon the Word of God, the message about Christ. As a means of developing a transforming and enduring faith, there is no substitute for the regular and earnest study of the Bible. -The SDA Bible Commentary, vol. 6, 600.

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Romans 5:1–5

Growing	Faith in Je	sus		

Growing Faith in Jesus
2 through
a)
b)
c)
Here is the patience of the saints; here <i>are</i> those who keep the
commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.
Revelation 14:12
For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is
dead also. James 2:26
To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of
this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of
glory. Colossians 1:27
By faith Abraham obeyed Hebrews 11:8
Growing Faith in Jesus