

# Do You Have Faith in Our Heavenly Father?

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In today's society, most are experiencing a substantial absence of, and lack of, faith in our everyday lives. People feel that they have been "hoodwinked" by politicians and by federal, state, and local governments.

According to a decades-long study by the Pew Research Center, the faith and trust of American citizens in their federal government have declined steadily during the past many decades. According to its study, over 75% of Americans trusted the federal government to do the right thing always or most of the time in 1958, when the Pew Research Center started its study. By the end of the Carter Administration in 1980, that trust had fallen from 75% down to around 30%. Now, as of April 2024, only 22% of Americans trust the federal government to do the right thing always or most of the time. That's basically only 1 in 5 Americans. That means that 4 out of 5 Americans do not trust and have faith in their own federal government.

This lack of faith and trust in government and its institutions, this lack of faith and trust in the media, this lack of faith and trust in leadership at all levels, this lack of faith in religious institutions and churches, this lack of faith and trust in employers and in the job market all lead to a national feeling of bewilderment, powerlessness, anxiety, indifference, and faithlessness. These are the hallmarks of the average person in today's modern society.

Jesus asked a question concerning faith in the end time when He returns to gather the saints at the Resurrection of the Firstfruits.

**Luke 18:7** *And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? (KJV)*

*8) I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? (KJV)*

Jesus intimated in His question that there would be little faith on the earth when He returns.

The bewilderment, bitterness, powerlessness, anxiety, indifference, and faithlessness in the world today can also bleed over into our spiritual lives as well. These attitudes can significantly affect our spiritual lives and especially our relationship with our Heavenly Father. These attitudes can instill doubt, uncertainty, and faithlessness in the promises that our Heavenly Father has given to us and in His deep love for us all.

In my message this afternoon entitled:

[Do You Have Faith in Our Heavenly Father?](#)

I would like to explore more in depth the subject of having the faith in our Heavenly Father that we should have and that our Heavenly Father expects.

But first, as always, we must define our terms. In this case, we will let the Bible define the term. To begin we will go to a very well-known verse in Hebrews 11, known as the faith chapter. The Bible defines the term “faith” in verse 1.

**Hebrews 11:1** *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (KJV)*

**Hebrews 11:1** *Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. (NLT)*

**Hebrews 11:1** *Now faith is the assurance of what we hope for and the certainty of what we do not see. (BSB)*

The Greek word for *faith* is *pistis*, Strong's #4102, meaning “faith, faithfulness, confidence, trust”.

Before we go further, let's explore some of the examples of great faith in the pages of the Bible.

The first example of great faith in our Heavenly Father is Noah.

- **Noah**

In Genesis 6, we will review the story of Noah and the Flood.

**Genesis 6:11** *The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.*

12) *And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.*

13) *And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.*

14) *Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. (KJV)*

*Continuing in verse 17)*

17) *And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and everything that is in the earth shall die.*

18) *But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.*

19) *And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.*

20) *Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.*

21) *And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.*

22) *Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he. (KJV)*

Many Biblical scholars believe that the ark was constructed by Noah and his family over a period of 55 to 75 years. During that time, when Noah was preaching to the hostile world as well as building the ark, he undoubtedly endured incessant ridicule and mockery by the people for building an ark far away from water. That took years and decades of faithful resolve to complete the task that our Heavenly Father had given him. That took years and decades of faith in our Heavenly Father.

**Genesis 7:7** *And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. (KJV)*

*Continuing in verse 10)*

10) *And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth. (KJV)*

So, after spending decades and decades in building the ark, Noah and his family entered the ark. Then, nothing happened. No rain. No storms. No flood. Not for Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4, Day 5, Day 6, and Day 7. They entered the ark and stayed in the ark without a drop of rain, with no storms, and with no flooding at all for seven full days. Most likely, the people all around were again mocking Noah and his family. It took quite a bit of faith to continue to believe what our Heavenly Father had told to Noah. But then, on the eighth day, it began to rain and the flooding began. Through it all, Noah and his family stayed steadfastly resolute in their faith in our Heavenly Father, no matter the mocking and the abuse that they received for years and even decades. Do we trust our Heavenly Father even when it appears that nothing is happening, nothing is being done, and nothing is changing?

Another example of great faith in our Heavenly Father is Abraham.

- **Abraham**

In Genesis 15, we read a short description of the main characteristic of Abraham.

**Genesis 15:6** *And he [Abraham] believed in the LORD; and he [Yehovah] counted it to him for righteousness. (KJV)*

The Hebrew verb for *believe* in verse 6 is *aman*, Strong's #539, meaning "to confirm or to support". This verb is translated throughout the Old Testament as *to believe, to be faithful, to have faith, to have assurance, to trust*. This Hebrew verb is the closest word to the Greek noun *pistis* meaning "faith".

In Genesis 22, we will read about the trial of faith that Abraham endured and persevered.

**Genesis 22:1** *And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.  
2) And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.  
3) And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.  
4) Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.  
(KJV)*

*Continuing in verse 9)*

*9) And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.  
10) And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.  
11) And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.  
12) And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. (KJV)*

Our Heavenly Father tested Abraham in the one thing that Abraham treasured the most – his son of promise, Isaac. Abraham obeyed our Heavenly Father's command and was willing to sacrifice his son. He was willing to obey, but he also had great faith in our Heavenly Father. This deep faith and reasoning of Abraham is explained in Hebrews 11.

**Hebrews 11:17** *By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,  
18) Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:  
19) Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure. (KJV)*

So, Abraham had complete faith in our Heavenly Father to the extent that, even when he would slit Isaac's throat as commanded by God Our Father, then God Our Father was able to resurrect Isaac back to life, because God Our Father had told Abraham that Isaac would have children. So, Abraham was convinced that he could kill Isaac, and that God Our Father would immediately bring Isaac back to life so that the promises of our Heavenly Father would not be broken. That, Brethren, is great faith in our Heavenly Father. Do we trust our Heavenly Father implicitly and completely, even when we do not understand the reasons why certain things are happening in our lives?

Another example of great faith in our Heavenly Father is Elisha.

- **Elisha**

In 2 Kings 6, we read a well-known event in the life of Elisha. The King of Syria was upset that the secrets of his military campaigns against Israel kept getting leaked out. Actually, Yehovah was revealing the king's plans to Elisha, who then passed them on to the Israelites. Upon learning this, the King of Syria sent a huge army to capture Elisha and his servant.

***2 Kings 6:13** And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.*

*14) Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.*

*15) And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?*

*16) And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.*

*17) And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.*  
(KJV)

The incredible faith that Elisha had in our Heavenly Father was shown in his prayer. He did not pray that Yehovah would let him see the angelic hosts and armies. Elisha knew that they were there. He did not need to see them. He prayed that his servant would be able to see the angelic armies so that his servant would be comforted. Elisha showed great faith in our Heavenly Father, Yehovah. Elisha said a phrase which should resonate with all of us and all of the called-out ones of our Heavenly Father. In verse 16, Elisha proclaims:

*“Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.”*

Do we truly believe this simple statement of fact when we are facing trials, when we are facing physical enemies, and when we are facing spiritual enemies?

Another example of great faith in our Heavenly Father is Gideon.

- **Gideon**

Gideon was instructed by our Heavenly Father to fight the Midianites who had a huge army. Gideon started with an army of 32,000 men. But let's read what then happened.

***Judges 7:1** Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the people that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod: so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.*

2) *And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.*

3) *Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.*

4) *And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.*

5) *So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, Everyone that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.*

6) *And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.*

7) *And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the other people go every man unto his place. (KJV)*

So, here in Judges 7, we have an example of Yehovah starting with over 32,000 men, and then through a sifting process, Yehovah narrowed the army from 32,000 men to 10,000 men, and then to 300 men. Then, at the end of the sifting process, Yehovah used 300 men to accomplish His plan for defeating the Midianites. Gideon and his very small army defeated the Midianites through the power and strength of our Heavenly Father.

Do we have faith to trust our Heavenly Father even when it doesn't make sense to do so? Are we facing overwhelming odds concerning an aspect in our lives, and we know that there is no way out unless our Heavenly Father provides the victory through His power and strength?

Another example of great faith in our Heavenly Father is Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

- **Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego**

In Daniel 3, we read the story about King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon and Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. King Nebuchadnezzar had erected a giant statue of himself and had issued a decree that all were to worship and bow down to the statue at a specific time in the day.

**Daniel 3:14** *Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up?"*

15) Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?

16) Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter.

17) If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand.

18) But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.

19) Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual

20) and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace.

(NIV)

So, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego trusted that our Heavenly Father could save them and deliver them from the fiery furnace, but they were resolute that, no matter what happened, they would not bow down and worship idols and disobey our Heavenly Father. Let's read on and read about what happened next.

**Daniel 3:26** Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here! So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire,

27) and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.

28) Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.

29) Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way.

30) Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon. end, even Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and stunned by the faith and trust of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and by the power and might of our Heavenly Father. (KJV)

Do we have the trust and faith in our Heavenly Father when all seems lost? Do we implicitly trust Him when we are facing tremendous trials which even could have life-threatening implications and results?

Another example of great faith in our Heavenly Father is the Roman Centurion.

- **The Roman Centurion**

We read here about a centurion who knew how authority worked, and we read about his deep faith in Christ's authority under our Heavenly Father.

**Luke 7:1** *Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum.*

2) *And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.*

3) *And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.*

4) *And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:*

5) *For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.*

6) *Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof:*

7) *Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.*

8) *For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.*

9) *When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*

10) *And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick. (KJV)*

What is interesting in Luke's account that I had never noticed before is that the centurion never talked to Jesus. He sent friends to tell Jesus that Jesus didn't need to come to the house. The centurion knew and understood that all Jesus had to do was to say the words and his servant would be healed. Brethren, that is faith. It actually seemed to stun even Jesus because He marveled at the centurion's faith.

Does God Our Father and Jesus Christ marvel at our faith? Do we show deep faith in them even when we cannot see the light at the end of the tunnel? Do we have faith and trust in our Heavenly Father that He has control over every single atom in the entire universe?

However, the best and perfect example of great faith in our Heavenly Father is Jesus the Anointed One.



- **Jesus the Anointed One**

Jesus was committed to follow His Father's will, no matter what, even when it meant His own death. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus knew that He would be ridiculed, beaten, scourged and killed in the next few hours. He did not want to die, but He knew that was why He had been born. What was His attitude at that moment? What was His desire? (KJV)

**Matthew 26:39** *And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt. (KJV)*

*Continuing in verse 42).*

*42) He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. (KJV)*

Jesus showed great faith and trust in His Father, that His Father's will would be the best for Him and for all humanity. Jesus' faith and trust in our Heavenly Father must have been very well known in the Jewish community, which is shown by what the Jewish leadership said about Jesus when He was dying on the cross.

**Matthew 27:41** *Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,*  
*42) He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.*  
*43) He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, "I am the Son of God". (KJV)*

*As He was breathing His last breath before dying, Jesus continued to show unwavering faith in our Heavenly Father.*

**Luke 23:46** *And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. (KJV)*

Jesus had complete faith and trust in our Heavenly Father that He would be resurrected to spiritual life once again and would sit again at His Father's right hand in Heaven. The Apostle Paul stated something very important to the Galatian congregation.

**Galatians 2:16** *Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. (KJV)*

So, Paul wrote that we are justified by the faith of Jesus. Many people attempt to change this verbiage to being justified by the faith "in" Jesus. However, there is no word "in" in the Greek in this verse. Conversely, the Greek verbiage in this verse clearly

states that we are justified by the faith “of” Jesus. We are justified by His faith that He had in our Heavenly Father. The faith of Jesus is important in our spiritual salvation.

In Revelation 14 we are told that there are two characteristics of the saints. Again, the Greek verbiage clearly shows “the faith of Jesus” and not “the faith in Jesus.” Do we have the complete faith and trust that Jesus had in our Heavenly Father? Do we exemplify this faith and trust in our lives every day just like Jesus exemplified His faith and trust throughout His life?

For the remainder of the sermon, I would like to explore three short points on having *faith* and trust in our Heavenly Father.

The first point in having faith in our Heavenly Father is:

**1) We must have patience and wait upon our Heavenly Father**

In Isaiah 40 is a very well-known verse that has been used in songs and in artwork.

**Isaiah 40:31** *But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.* (KJV)

There are two main verbs in Hebrew used in the phrase “*wait upon the LORD*” or “*wait upon Yehovah*.” The first Hebrew verb is *qavah*, Strong’s #6960, which appears in the Piel form of the verb. The Piel form is the emphatic form in Hebrew which shows intensity. According to Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew Lexicon and Strong’s Concordance, the verb *qavah* in the Piel form means “to wait or to look eagerly but patiently for. The phrase “wait upon the LORD” using this verb *qavah* occurs 23 times in the Old Testament. Let’s reread Isaiah 40:31.

**Isaiah 40:31** *But they that wait upon the LORD [They who look eagerly and patiently for Yehovah – our Heavenly Father] shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.* (KJV)

Solomon as well as David had much to say on waiting on Yehovah.

**Proverbs 20:22** *Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.* [Look eagerly and patiently for Yehovah and He will save you.] (KJV)

David wrote much about waiting on our Heavenly Father.

**Psalm 25:1** *A Psalm of David. Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.  
2) O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.*

3) *Yea, let none that wait on [look eagerly and patiently for] thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.*

4) *Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.*

5) *Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait [look eagerly and patiently for] all the day. (KJV)*

David continues on this topic in verse 16).

**Psalm 25:16** *Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted.*

17) *The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring thou me out of my distresses.*

18) *Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins.*

19) *Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.*

20) *O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee.*

21) *Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee. (KJV)*

Waiting for something and eagerly anticipating something takes patience and confidence that what we're waiting for will happen. Waiting takes trust. Waiting takes faith. If our Heavenly Father answered every one of our prayers immediately, then we would not learn the lesson of patience and trust and faith in Him. As humans, with human reasoning, we would soon take it all for granted. With the passage of time, His answering of our prayers would become common and would become less in value in our minds. Waiting on our Heavenly Father develops the faith, the trust, the steadfastness, the assurance, the endurance, the commitment, and the humility that we need to grow spiritually. Waiting on our Heavenly Father deepens our relationship with Him.

The second point in having faith in our Heavenly Father is:

**2) We must have trust in our Heavenly Father's deliverance and refuge**

God Our Father is to be our refuge and strength in a difficult and evil world that produces so much suffering and unhappiness.

**Psalm 46:1** *To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

2) *Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;*

3) *Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. (KJV)*

King David trusted in Yehovah and praised Him continually for Yehovah's steadfastness, deliverance, and refuge.

**2 Samuel 22:1** *And David spake unto the LORD [Yehovah – God Our Father] the words of this song in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul:*

2) *And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;*

3) *The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.*

4) *I will call on the LORD who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. (KJV)*

Do we view God Our Father as our high tower of strength, as our rock and fortress, as our deliverer, and as our refuge? David continues this theme throughout the Psalms.

**Psalm 34:17** *The righteous cry, and the LORD [Yehovah – God Our Father] heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.*

18) *The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.*

19) *Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the delivereth him out of them all. (KJV)*

Two other scriptures that we won't turn to but you can read later which are along these same lines are Psalm 37:39-40 and Psalm 97:10.

In Psalm 91 we read about the faith, trust, confidence, and surety that we should have with respect to the deliverance and refuge of our Heavenly Father.

**Psalm 91:1** *He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*

2) *I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.*

3) *Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.*

4) *He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.*

5) *Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;*

6) *Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.*

7) *A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.*

8) *Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.*

9) *Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;*

10) *There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.*

11) *For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.*

12) *They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.*

13) *Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.*

14) *Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.*

15) *He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.*

16) *With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation. (KJV)*

Do we have faith that our Heavenly Father will protect us and keep us safe even in a very violent and dangerous world?

The third point in having faith in our Heavenly Father is:

### 3) **Faith comes from an humble childlike attitude toward our Heavenly Father**

In Mark 10 we read about Jesus the Anointed One's interaction with children.

**Mark 10:13** *And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.*

14) *But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.*

15) *Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. (KJV)*

Verse 15 has been misunderstood and misapplied by many churches. It is used as a reason for infant baptism. However, the Greek adverb for *as* in verse 15 is *hos*, Strong's #5613 – meaning “like, like as, in the manner of”. Jesus is saying that if we do not receive the Kingdom of our Heavenly Father in the humble attitude of a little child, we cannot enter therein. It is not stating that we are to receive the Kingdom of God at the age of a small child. Small children are trusting. If a father tells his 3-year old son to jump from a higher ledge into his arms, the son immediately jumps into his father's arms. He is fully confident that his father will catch him. There is no doubt or hesitation. That is the faith of a child that our Heavenly Father wants us to have with Him. A child will follow the dictates of his father or mother without trying to find a better way or a different way. He follows the request of his parents and that is because there is a humility with small children that becomes lost as the child grows older.

That humility is one of the three things that our Heavenly Father requires of us.

**Micah 6:8** *He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (KJV)*

We cannot walk humbly with our Heavenly Father if we do not trust Him and have complete faith in Him. That humility is inexorably linked with faith and trust.

In today's sermon, we have explored the subject of having the faith in our Heavenly Father that we should have and that our Heavenly Father expects.

Just like **Noah**, do we trust and have faith in our Heavenly Father even when there are no visible signs of the fulfillment of His promises?

Just like **Abraham**, do we trust and have faith in our Heavenly Father even when doing so would take away something dear to us in our lives?

Just like **Elisha**, do we trust and have faith in our Heavenly Father even when we cannot see His protection in the spiritual realm?

Just like **Gideon**, do we trust and have faith in our Heavenly Father even when the numbers don't add up and when we have to rely completely on His power and strength and might?

Just like **Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego**, do we trust and have faith in our Heavenly Father even when we are threatened with our very lives and when we are enduring vicious attacks?

Just like the **Roman Centurion**, do we trust and have faith in our Heavenly Father even when our deliverance is not within our sight?

And just like Jesus **the Anointed One**, do we trust and have faith in our Heavenly Father even when the path that He has chosen for us is one that we would rather not follow? Do we have the faith to still obey and follow His will and not our own?

Do we have the patience and endurance to wait on our Heavenly Father?

Do we trust in our Heavenly Father's deliverance and refuge?

Do we have a humble childlike attitude toward our Heavenly Father?

We are being tested every day by our Heavenly Father. He needs to know that He can trust us with eternal life for all eternity.

To conclude, Matthew 16.

**Matthew 16:24** *Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*

*25) For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.*

*26) For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (KJV)*

To deny ourselves and follow Jesus as He followed His Father takes great faith and trust in our Heavenly Father. Brethren, do you have faith in our Heavenly Father?