

## Faith Comes from the Rhema Word

The evangelical institutional churches have placed great faith and reverence on the written word of God – the bible. This is, “The infallible word of God,” they say, “It is inspired by the Holy Spirit and must be revered above everything because God’s word is holy and he has put his word above his name<sup>1</sup>.”

From this starting point the bible becomes a religious item, to the point where some call it ‘Jesus in print’ and treat the physical book so holy that they won’t put anything on top of it. Some even teach that God can only speak to you through the bible, denying the role of the prophetic in the church.

We are all capable of taking things too far in our religious zeal as we operate in the natural rather than the Spirit. The above illustrations are extreme examples of this, but its occurrence is very widespread in the church today. Rightly using the written word<sup>2</sup> is essential for all Spirit-led sons of God, so our attitude to the logos and rhema of God must align with heaven’s understanding of these.

If we look at the scriptures, they are a collection of prophetic words from God; eyewitness accounts of historic events; Spirit generated poetry; and letters containing teaching inspired by Holy Spirit. The purpose of this collection is for instruction, correction<sup>3</sup> and edification, and to reveal the character of God and his plans and purposes for life and the universe.

So, how does what comes from the Spirit in writing and in speech, as recorded in scripture, differ from what Holy Spirit is saying and writing today? The answer is, “nothing”. This may sound like heresy, but let’s look at it.

When the Lord appeared to Abraham and to Moses, as examples, the bible records what he said and this has become the recorded word of God for us. So, if the Lord appeared to you and spoke to you, is what he said of greater, or equal or lesser value than what the bible records that he spoke to others in the past? The answer is: equal. Whatever God says is, “His holy word”, he can’t say anything more or less than this.

When the Lord speaks to you personally you must begin to grab hold of it and act on it. You must step out in faith and activate/implement what you were told because that’s what faith does. Romans 10 contains the essence of this, but the church has limited its use to the written word, not the spoken word. Or, it has limited it to the word that the Lord speaks to a person from the bible.

**Romans 10:17** (ESV) – So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ<sup>4</sup>.

**Romans 10:17** (AMP) – So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself).

We must begin to discern the Lord speaking to us personally or in prophecy – the rhema word to us. Part of maturing as Sons of the Living God is to hear intimately from him and operate in faith when it happens.

Clay Sikes shares his revelation on Romans 10 as the Lord spoke to him about growing up spiritually<sup>5</sup>:

---

1 - Psalm 138:2

2 - 2 Timothy 2:15

3 - 2 Timothy 3:16

4 - or ‘God’ in NKJV and others

5 - Clay Sikes “Barometers Of Sonship” 16 February 2005

“As I contemplated this scripture and its relationship to my fears, the Holy Spirit began to shed enormous light on His Word to me. He began to tell me that I could not have faith for what I had not heard Him say. He then reminded me that on September 28th of 2004 that He had spoken specific words to me relative to this project. He informed me that His spoken word to me on that day was far bigger than the circumstances I faced.

“He then said the following to me. ***“Have faith in what you have heard me say, not in the circumstances you face. You can have just as much faith in My spoken word to you as you can in My written word. Your Sonship includes privileges and benefits to include the inherited right to clearly hear My spoken word, in which you can place the ultimate confidence. The true measure of you Sonship can be measured by the level of confidence you place in My spoken word (to you) of specific instruction in specific situations.”***

“With this new understanding, I began to see Romans 10:17 in a new light.

***“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message (God’s spoken word to me), and the message (God’s spoken word to me) is heard through the word of Christ (God speaking to me).”***

“Though I have walked in this revelation for years, I am just now coming to a level of maturity in which God’s spoken word to me IS INDEED a word in which my ultimate confidence can be placed. I realize today, more than ever, that I can only have faith for what I have heard God say. The level of maturity in which I walk can be measured by my confidence in what I have heard God say specifically to me.”<sup>6</sup>

Laurence  
2-2-2014

COPYRIGHT

*Free to copy, republish and distribute.*

*All Canberra Forerunner documents are licensed under*

[Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/)