

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

Text **John 6**

September 14, 2016

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ As long as the miracles continue?

☞ “After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is *the sea* of Tiberias. And a great multitude followed him, **because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased.**” **John 6:1-2**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ As long as the miracles continue?

☞ “They said therefore unto him, **What sign showest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee?** what dost thou work? Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”
John 6:30-31

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ As long as the food keeps coming?

☞ “Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.**” **John 6:26**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ But when the going got tough...

☞ “I am the living bread which came down from heaven: **if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.** The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, **How can this man give us *his* flesh to eat?** Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.” **John 6:51-53**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ But when the going got tough...

☞ “Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard *this*, said, **This is an hard saying; who can hear it?**” **John 6:60**

☞ “From that *time* many of his disciples went back, **and walked no more with him.**” **John 6:66**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ Peter's faith got him out of the boat

☞ "And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. **And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.**" **Matthew 14:28-29**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ Peter's faith got him out of the boat, but then...

☞ "And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. **But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.** And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" **Matthew 14:28-31**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ Peter's faith took him outside by the fire, but when the going got tough...

Matthew 26:69-74

☞ "**Now Peter sat without in the palace:** and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. **But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest.** And when he was gone out into the porch, another *maid* saw him, and said unto them that were there, This *fellow* was also with Jesus of Nazareth. **And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man.**"

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ Peter's faith took him outside by the fire, but when the going got tough...

Matthew 26:69-74

☞ "And after a while came unto *him* they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art *one* of them; for thy speech betrayeth thee. **Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man.**"

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ Young man's faith brought him running to Jesus

☞ "And when he was gone forth into the way, **there came one running**, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" **Mark 10:17**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

□ Young man's faith motivated him to keep the Law of Moses

☞ "And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? *there is* none good but one, *that is*, God. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, **Master, all these have I observed from my youth.**" **Mark 10:18-20**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- Young man's faith served him well until the command of Jesus become difficult

☞ "Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: **go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor**, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. **And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.**"
Mark 10:21-22

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- Will my faith enable me to deny myself and take up my cross?

☞ "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.** For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 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?"
Matthew 16:24-26

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- Faith of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego took them all the way into the furnace **Daniel 3:19-21**

☞ "Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: *therefore* he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated." (continued)

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- Faith of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego took them all the way into the furnace **Daniel 3:19-21**

☞ "And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, *and* to cast *them* into the burning fiery furnace. **Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.**"

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- Faith of Daniel took him all the way into the lion's den **Daniel 6:16**

☞ "Then the king commanded, **and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions.** Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee."

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- Faith of Antipas took him all the way to his death for his Lord **Revelation 2:13**

☞ "I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, *even* where Satan's seat *is*: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein **Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you**, where Satan dwelleth."

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- ❑ Faith of Antipas took him all the way to his death for his Lord **Revelation 2:13**

↳ “Pliny, governor of Roman province of Bithynia, stated in letter to Trajan, “he gave those who were accused an abundant opportunity of recanting; those who persisted in this faith were executed.”

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- ❑ Now, how about me? How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

↳ Persuaded that God is good?
↳ Persuaded that Jesus is real?
↳ Persuaded he died for my sins?

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- ❑ Now, how about me? How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

↳ Will it bring me to repentance? **Luke 13:3**
↳ Will it bring me to confess my faith in Jesus as the Son of God? **Acts 8:37**
↳ Will it bring me to submission in baptism? **Acts 8:37**
↳ Will it bring me to the confession of sin and renewed faithful service? **James 5:16**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- ❑ Now, how about me? How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

↳ Will it lead me to victory over life's challenges? **Philippians 4:13**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- ❑ Now, how about me? How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

↳ Will it finally lead me home to heaven?
❖ “But my righteous one shall live by faith: And if he shrink back, my soul hath no pleasure in him. **But we are not of them that shrink back unto perdition; but of them that have faith unto the saving of the soul.**” **Hebrews 10:38-39**

How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

- ❑ Now, how about me? How Far Will My Faith Take Me?

↳ Will it finally lead me home to heaven?
❖ “Be thou faithful until death and I will give unto a crown of life” **Revelation 2:10**
