

Old Landmarks - Proverbs 22:28



**"Ask for the old paths, where the good way (road) is,
and walk in it, and you shall find rest for your souls."**

- Jeremiah 6:16

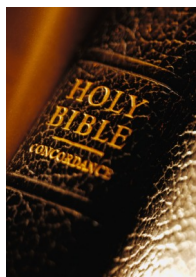
Faith, Mighty Faith!

- * "The sea is His, He made it:
and His hands formed the
dry land." - Psalm 95:5
- * "The heavens declare the
glory of God; and the sky
shows His handiwork."
- Psalm 19:1
- * "He made Arcturus, Orion,
and Pleiades, and the
chambers of the south."
- Job 9:9

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Why Do We Believe? - "I believed, therefore, I have spoken" - 2 Corinthians 4:13



How is it, you ask, we can believe in God and the Bible as indisputable truth?

If it weren't for the marvelous design of creation, proving an intelligence far beyond human capacity, we might not believe.

If it weren't for the fact there really are fossils on the highest mountain peaks and that every culture in the world has an account of a world-wide flood, we might not believe.

If it weren't for the fact there really are chariot wheels in the Red Sea, and that archeology has silenced critics again and again to the accurate history of

the Bible, we might not believe.

If it weren't for the fact that our history books carry the fulfilled accounts of the ruling kingdoms of the world, foretold by God, dated and recorded, hundreds of years before they happened - even naming the kings - we might not believe.

If it wasn't for a triumphant little nation called Israel, whose very life and history alone ought to make any skeptic a believer in the God of the Bible, we might not believe.

If it wasn't for a man named Jesus of Nazareth, of whom even the Caesar's recorded, *"That this man does notable miracles, cannot be disputed,"* we might not believe.

If it wasn't for the fact Jesus' life, death and resurrection are the most undeniable, recorded historical events, with even our modern day courts attesting, *"No courtroom in the world would deny over 500 reputable eye-witnesses,"* we might not believe.

Most of all, if it wasn't for the fact that when we put our faith in Jesus Christ, He changed our lives, answers our prayers and intervenes in each day, we might not believe.

No difficulties in life can shake these facts. The believer in Christ is promised certain victory when the dust settles - even if that dust is our bodies. So add us to the list of those who are glad to stand and say, *"I believe, therefore, I have spoken."*

Unshakeable Faith - "I have set the LORD always before me... I shall not be shaken" - Psalm 16:8; and 46:10

Faith is intelligent. Don't mistake it for being something that is only emotional.

Faith is built on rock-solid facts, and if you don't know them, in times of hardship, your "faith" will crumble.

Make no mistake, God will put your faith to the test. For faith is not faith until tested and proven to be so. A faith that only endures in prosperity, is no faith at all, but disguised self-seeking (John 6:26).

Faith survives the storms of life because it looks at God's track-record of faithfulness and power, and is convinced His promises will triumph. Faith hears Him say, *"Be still and know that I am God."*

I Choose You - "Choose you this day whom you will serve" - Joshua 24:15

The daylight through the
blinds announce,
The dawn of a brand new day,
I look forward to these early
hours with You,
While the world yet sleeps,
and all is still,
I come to hear Your voice
and pray,
I'm reminded Lord,
How greatly I love You!

Lord, I choose You,
Fresh again in this new day,
Yes, I choose You,
Over every worldly way,
Let the foolish choose earth's
sinking ship,
And the things that
pass away,
Lord, I choose You,
Here's my heart again today.

Again today in Hollywood,
They are playing
"let's pretend,"
While the hungry and the
homeless numbers grow,
And our nations fight -
without, within,
Of crimes and sadness
there's no end,
Oh Lord, I can hardly wait
from all this mess to go!

Lord, I choose You,
Fresh again in this new day,
Lord I choose You,
Thank you for a better way!
I have staked my claim
in Your Great Land,
By Your side I'm going
to stay,
Lord, I choose You,
Here's my heart again today.



"For I know Whom I have
believed, and am per-
suaded that He is able to
keep that which I have
committed to Him until that
day."

2 Timothy 1:12

"And this is
the victory
that
overcomes
the world,
even our
faith!"

- 1 John 5:4 -

The Energy of Faith - "Love the LORD, your God, with all your heart..." - Matthew 22:37

Saul of Tarsus, was a young man with an amazing future. He was on his way to becoming a respected leader of his day. That is, until he came to face to face with Jesus of Nazareth.

Saul's introduction to Jesus Christ was so transforming that he later wrote, *"the things that were gain to me, those I considered loss for Christ."*

Yes, without a doubt, I consider all things to be loss for the superiority of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things ..." (Phil. 3:7,8)

Saul lost his political and religious prestige, his home, his health, his former friends, and eventually his life for choosing Christ. Was he bitter? No!

He boasted of his great privilege to preach *"the unsearchable riches of Christ."* (Eph 3:9)

Saul (whose name was changed to Paul) had found a love so rich and inexpressible, that he set his eyes, not on his earthly losses, but on eternal gains in knowing Jesus Christ. It was Paul who wrote, *"faith is energized by love."* (Gal. 5:6)

The Endurance of Faith - "Endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." - 2 Timothy 2:3

Have you noticed that the soldiers who have gone to war in Iraq and Afghanistan, have not come home crying, *"Prime Minister Harper doesn't love me, or I wouldn't have been treated so badly while on duty."*

That would be stupid! But that is what we tend to do to the Lord every time the going

gets tough. So here are some souls, but seeking personal interests, I am AWOL.

1. When I enlisted to be a Christian, I enlisted in spiritual warfare! (Eph. 6)

2. My objective as a soldier is to enter enemy territory and rescue those taken captive by the Devil.

3. If I am not actively saving

4. If arrows are flying at me, I'm doing something right and the enemy is alarmed!

5. My temporary suffering can't be compared to saving a precious life for eternity.

6. Glory follows suffering! And it is certain and forever!

Heroes of Faith - Francis Jane Crosby - 1820-1915

Francis was born in 1820 to poor parents in New York.

When she was only 6 weeks old she developed a bad cold that inflamed her eyes. A doctor suggested mustard plasters, which blinded her for life.

When she was only one, her father died. She was raised by her mother and grandmother who grounded her in God's Word.

As a child, Francis (known as Fanny) memorized large portions of Scripture. At only 8 years of age she wrote this poem about her blindness:

*"Oh what a happy soul I am,
Although I cannot see,
I am resolved that in this world
Contented I will be.*

*How many blessings I enjoy,
That other people don't;
To weep and sigh because I'm blind
I cannot, and I won't!"*

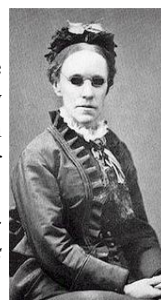
Fanny even felt privileged by her blindness. She said, *'If earthly sight were offered me tomorrow, I would not accept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the interesting and beautiful things around me.'*

In her lifetime she wrote over

8000 songs that are still sung today. She became a sought after public speaker, and often met with generals, presidents and other dignitaries.

Fanny rejoiced in the fact that *"when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior."* This came true for her in 1915.

Her tombstone tells the story of her life with the title of her own song: *Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!*



**"Who is he
that
overcomes the
world?
The one who
believes that
Jesus is the
Son of God?"**

~ 1 John 5:5 ~

Explorations of Faith - *"...and whatsoever passes through the paths of the seas." - Psalm 8:8*

American Naval Officer Matthew Maury was a Christian who loved reading his Bible.

As superintendant for the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, Maury devoted himself to studying the wind, clouds, weather and the ocean.

Reading Psalm 8 about "paths in the sea," Maury set out to find them. Studying old ships

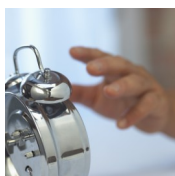
logs which recorded currents, he placed weighted bottles in these currents with messages in them instructing those who found them to return them.

Through this work, the first textbook on oceanography was published in 1855. Maury's maps and charts became foundational in marine science. Maury is listed in the U.S. Hall of Fame. His epi-

taph reads: *Matthew Fontaine Maury, Pathfinder of the Seas, the genius who first snatched from the oceans and atmosphere the secret of their laws. His inspiration, the Holy Writ.*

The Bible holds more secrets than you know. But the Lord only reveals them to those who believe. Just check the history books and see how many great scientists were believers!

What time is it? - *"be patient, establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord is drawing near." - James 5:8*



The story is told of a ship that that was away at sea for a long time. When the time for their return came, longing wives flocked the docks, their eyes searching the horizon.

One day their long wait came to end. They could see the

ship and not long after were embracing the dear men they loved so much.

But one seaman found himself alone. He walked home to find his wife bent over the sewing machine doing her usual daily chores. He gently put his hand on her shoulder and said, 'Honey, I'm home. Aren't you glad to see me?

She said "Of course I am. I knew you'd come home." "Yes," said the man softly, "but the other women were on the docks waiting."

The wait might seem long, but won't you be glad to see Jesus? Establish your affections! It's the right season, and we want Him to find us on the dock!



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Grandma's Pen:

I found these in a 1944 newspaper -

*Do more than exist: Live
Do more than touch: Feel
Do more than look: Observe
Do more than read: Absorb
Do more than hear: Listen
Do more than listen: Understand
Do more than think: Ponder
Do more than plan: Act
Do more than talk: Say something!*

*"... the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD,
and He ponders all his goings." Prov. 5:21*

Faith Knows - *"that what God has promised, He is able also to perform. - Romans 4:21*

**And all things,
whatever you
shall ask in
prayer,
believing, you
shall receive.
Matthew 21:22**

I know that my Redeemer is living, and that He shall stand at the last day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh I shall see God!
- Job 19:25,26

I know, O LORD, that Your judgments (decisions) are right,
- Psalm 119:75

I know that, whatever God is doing, it shall be for ever (have eternal worth). - Eccles. 3:14.

Though a sinner does evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely ***I know*** that it shall be well with those who *fear God, who fear before His presence. But it shall not be well with the wicked ...
- Eccl 8:12

(***Fear**: a healthy avoidance of displeasing God because we know He is so good that He will ultimately punish all else that is not.)

We know that to those who love God, all things work together for good ... - Romans 8:28

We know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.
- 1 John 2:3

...As you have heard that anti-christ shall come, even now there are many antichrists; whereby ***we know*** that it is the last time (hour). - 1 John 2:18

Loved ones, right now we are the children of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be; but ***we know*** that,

when He shall appear we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is. - 1 John 3:2

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren (family of God). - 1 John 3:14

We know that whoever is born of God does not continue to sin... 1 John 5:18

We know that we belong to God, and the whole world lies in wickedness. - 1 John 5:19

We know that the Son of God has come, and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true ... even in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. - 1 John 5:18-21