

Let Us Draw Near With a True Heart in Full Assurance of Faith

by Octavius Winslow

We can draw near to God in full assurance of faith because of Christ's faithfulness and the gift of faith from God.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:8, Hebrews 10:22

Topics: "Faith", "Access to God"

Description

Octavius Winslow emphasizes the divine nature of faith as a gift from God, highlighting that it is not earned or created by human effort. He reassures believers of Christ's unwavering faithfulness and truth, encouraging them to trust in His promises without doubt. Winslow explains that through Christ, believers have direct access to God, with Jesus interceding for their prayers, thus inviting them to approach the throne of grace with confidence. He urges the faithful to draw near to God with a true heart and full assurance of faith, reminding them of the privilege of communion with the Most High. The sermon calls for a bold and trusting approach to God, free from hesitation and fear.

Transcript

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith. Hebrews 10:22.

THE principle of faith is altogether divine--created by no human power, commanded by no human authority, and sustained by no human resources. "Faith is the gift of God." Jesus is its author and its finisher. It is a free, unmerited, unpurchased bestowment. It is given to the poor because of their poverty, to the vile because they are unworthy, to the bankrupt because they have "nothing to pay." Such is the faith which the Bible enforces.

There can be no perfection of the Lord Jesus of more exalted glory in His eye than His faithfulness. If the truthfulness of Christ can be impeached, then no reliable confidence can be placed in anything that He is, that He does, or that He says. But because He is not only truthful, but truth, His word eternally fixed and unalterable--"righteousness the girdle of His loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reins," veracity an essential perfection of His nature--He condescendingly appeals to our confidence, and says, "Only believe." And have we in any single instance ever had reason to doubt His word? Has He ever given us cause to distrust Him? No, never! He has often done more than He promised--never less. His word is truth. All the promises of God are yes and amen in Him. Has He promised to be a Father, a Husband, a Mother, and a Friend to those who put their trust in Him? Has He pledged to guide their steps, to supply

their needs, to shield their souls, to do them good and not evil, to be with them down to old age, and even unto death? Then hear Him say, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

As the Mediator and High Priest of His Church, it is one of Christ's especial prerogatives that He has to do with the prayers of His saints. Standing midway between God and the suppliant, He intercepts the petition, purifies it from all taint, divests it of all imperfections, supplies its deficiencies, and then blending it with His own merits, perfuming it with the much incense of His atoning sacrifice, He presents it to the Father endorsed with His name, and urged by His own suit. Thus the believer has an "Advocate with the Father," who ever "lives to make intercession." Oh, costly and precious privilege, that of prayer! Access to God--fellowship with the Most High--communion with the Invisible One--filial communion with our Heavenly Father--mighty privilege this, and yet, vast as it is, it is ours. Then, beloved, with the throne of grace accessible moment by moment--with the Holy Spirit disclosing each want, inditing each petition, and framing each request--with Christ at the right hand of God presenting the petition--and with a Father in heaven bowing down His ear, and hearkening but to answer, surely we may "trust and not be afraid." Why should we stand afar off? why doubt, and linger, and hesitate? "Having therefore, brethren, boldness (or liberty) to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus . . . let us draw near . . . in full assurance of faith."

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