

July 2008 Newsletter – Part Two

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SALVATION

If you are not a believer in Jesus Christ, or aren't sure and would like to become one, then you need to believe that Jesus Christ was and is the Son of God, that he was God who became a man, that he lived a sinless and perfect life, keeping the Law of God perfect in every way, that he kept faith perfectly, and that he was crucified on that cruel cross for your sins, mine and the entire world- he died for our sins! His death on the cross paid the penalty fully, one time for all sins that we have ever committed and that we will ever commit. He died; he went down into the bowels of the earth, even into Hell, and was raised from the dead on the third day in a resurrected, eternal body. He ascended back into heaven, was seated at the right hand of God, and is now Lord over heaven and earth. He is coming again to judge the world, to raise the dead, where he will give an eternal, resurrected, glorified body to everyone that has believed on him as their Lord and Savior, and to establish his kingdom one earth.

You come become a Christian right now as you read this, by personally placing your faith and trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior; believing that he is God's only begotten Son, that he died on the cross for you and that he was raised from the dead and is now seated in heaven at the right hand of God the Father. *“Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..”* [Acts 16:31a](#) And when you do trust Christ, and Christ alone, as your Lord and Savior, then go to God the Father in heaven in prayer and tell him so. Tell him that you have believed on his Son, thank him for his Son, and thank him for forgiving your sins and saving you! *“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord”, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”* [Romans 10:9,10](#) *“For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”* [Romans 10:13](#) *“Therefore, being justified by faith (declared righteous), we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* [Romans 5:1](#)

23. “For I will not **trust** in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.” Psalm 44:6

Today David would be saying that he would not put his trust in his rifle, nor his handgun. We are not to put our trust in our leaders, nor our nation, nor that nation's military, nor the police force, nor **our own ability to deliver ourselves**. Instead, we are to trust only in the Lord. And when we do trust the Lord, then we will have that inner peace and sense of well being.

24. “Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child.” Psalm 131:2

This passage doesn't have the word for faith in it, *batach*, but it does give us some insight into the dynamic going on that we have been discussing; and it deals with the mother-child relationship that every human has had at least for a certain period of time in their life. This relationship that the child has toward its mother is one of faith, *batach*.

The child is taken from the security of its mother's womb and then placed upon its mother's breast, where now it enters into a trusting secure relationship with its mother. In fact, it is the child's first experience of trusting that it will have in this life and it is a very strong one. With one exception in humanity; the Lord trusted in his heavenly Father when he was on Mary's breast.

David tells us that he had weaned his inner child from its natural instinct of trusting in his mother and placed that faith in the Lord instead. He describes this process of weaning his inner child as a very intense process that he had to go through.

Yes it's true that all a person has to do to be saved is just believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and call upon his name. “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Romans 10:13 But there's a process of growth that Christians go through that takes us from just calling upon the name of the Lord, all the way through to the place that your trust is in him, and only in him, from the heart!

It becomes quite traumatic for the child in the process of weaning it from its mother, for you are taking it from its object of trust that provides its safety, security and provision. And so it is in the soul for the believer as one is “weaned” from whomever or whatever they have their *batach* trust in and to place that *batach* trust in the Lord and his Word. It is imperative that the believer has a consistent faith walk with the Lord each day in his Word as they go through this process of growth.

25. “Lo, this is the man that made not God his strength; but **trusted** in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his wickedness.” Psalm 52:7

David is warning us in this passage not to put our trust in our wealth, to not feel secure in life because we have accumulated money in our bank accounts and retirement packages. This concept is the driving force behind the unsaved, but sad to say, it has also become the driving force for so many Christians today. God is to be our strength and our shield.

26. “What time I am afraid, I will **trust** in thee.” Psalm 56:3

A passage that we're all familiar with instructing us that, regardless of the situation that we're in that poses a threat to our well being, to our security, at any time in our lives here on earth; God wants us to put our entire trust and faith in him.

The sense of security is very important to all human life, Christians included. If we feel insecure, if we feel vulnerable in any way, our souls will start to feel troubled, (stress), and the emotion of fear will be activated in our souls, (we obviously are not in the spiritual life dynamic), and then that fear will create mental torment in our souls.

In understanding this better we need to see that there are two concepts connected with the idea of security. There is the subjective side of it, where **you feel secure**; and then there is the objective side of it where **you are secure**. The feeling aspect of it doesn't always follow the objective reality. One can feel totally insecure, vulnerable and at risk, with all the fears, etc., connected to it, but be totally secure! And on the other hand one can feel totally secure and confident about life because of your money, retirement, health, etc., but objectively be insecure.

How many people out there *feel* totally secure about their life because they have their homes paid for, money in the bank, fantastic retirements and a great health insurance policy that covers everything? Yet their days may be numbered and close to an end, or a health problem is right around the corner? They *feel* secure, but in truth they aren't!

Or how many Christians are out there who are afraid of everything. What shall we eat? What shall we wear? How are we going to pay the bills? What's going to happen to us when we get older? So many fears; so many phobias, so much apprehension about what might happen! Yet they are totally secure in the Father's hands and his grace provisions! They just need to believe it.

You see, you can feel secure because of what you've done in your own works. And you can feel insecure because you were never able to do anything about your lot in life. The key is getting to the place where you feel secure and safe in your soul because you trust in what the Father has done and is doing and **this kind of faith is what *batach* is all about!**

27. *"I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I **trust**."* Psalm 91:2

Once again the Psalmist tells us that God, (not man), is his refuge, the one he runs to in times of trouble. He says that *Yahweh* is the one who will protect him, therefore *Yahweh* is the one in whom he trusts. And the same should be said of all God's children.

28. *"And they that know thy name will put their **trust** in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee."* Psalm 9:10

David said that all we needed to know is the name of God, *Yahweh*, and to call upon him in faith in time of trouble. And he also said, (under the divine inspiration of the Holy Spirit), that God will never forsake us! And because God will never forsake us, we can trust him completely!

It may sound repetitious to keep going over the various passages in the OT that use the word *batach*. But repetition is exactly what we need because this idea of exercising the *batach* type of faith is exactly what we all need and it needs to be emphasized over and over!

Remember, when we were children we, to one degree or another, had a sense of being carefree and happy. This was because we felt safe and secure, and that was because we trusted our parents would take care of us. In other words, it was by the exercise of *batach* in our parents we felt secure! Now what God wants us to do is exercise *batach* trust in him!

29. *“But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will **trust** in thee.” Psalm 55:23*

David is talking about the attacks that were directed against him by wicked men who hated him. In their wrath they attacked him seeking to harm him and it got so bad that he came to the place that he just wanted to run away, literally, fly away and go some place into the desert. (I wonder how many of us have felt like that at times). *“And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest.” Psalm 55:6*

He was totally stressed out emotionally, chest pains in his heart; death seemed near and he was overcome with fear and trembling. Which is a pretty accurate picture of what happens when God's people are in a trial and trying to handle it in their own strength, instead of relying upon the strength of Christ! This was made even worse by apparently a close friend who was involved in the matter.

But David recovered the spiritual life dynamic when he said that he would call upon the Lord. *“As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.” Psalm 55:16* The longer David waited to avail himself of the Lord's help the worse it became for his soul, until he finally decided to turn to the Lord in faith, batach, and when he did the Lord delivered him. And we notice that God delivered him from the battle raging against him in **peace!** *“He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me.” Psalm 55:18*

30. *“Behold, God is my salvation; I will **trust**, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.” Isaiah 12:2*

The prophet Isaiah states that faith is the cure for fear in our lives as well when he says that God is the one who delivers us in this life and that he will trust him, and that this faith in God is the key to overcoming and being delivered from fear.

31. *“**Trust** ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these.” Jeremiah 7:4*

The prophet Jeremiah had ministered to Israel for years about the coming judgment of God on their land. They had rejected the concepts of grace, faith and the doctrines of God's Word and over the years they had deteriorated into both moral and immoral degeneracy covering every category of human good and human sin.

The prophet Jeremiah had warned them for years, but they refused to listen to him. Instead they listened to the false prophets who had been giving them a false comfort and a false hope because of the temple of the Lord. To paraphrase their false teaching they would say something like, *'God isn't going to destroy the land! Why his temple is here!'*

But God's answer to them is that these were lying words. And the problem was they were believing them! Their exercise of *batach* gave them a sense of peace and safety, but because their faith was not in sound doctrine, but in false doctrine, it resulted in a false sense of security because it was based on lies! Which brings out the point that as believers in Christ our faith is to be based upon the truth of Bible Doctrine. If it isn't, then we have our faith in the wrong thing. Today there are many false teachers teaching a false prosperity gospel to Christians who are believing it. Why? Because they did not receive a love for the truth. They may feel cozy and secure, but they have put their faith in false teachings.

32. "Take ye heed every one of his neighbour, and **trust** ye not in any brother: for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbour will walk with slanders." Jeremiah 9:4

At one time or another, most believers will find out that a brother in Christ is not as stable or loyal as you thought or hoped they were. It's a painful thing to experience it, but it drives home the point once more that our trust is to be in the Lord and only in the Lord. We are to love our brothers in Christ, but not to have that trust in them. That trust element belongs to God.

33. "This is thy lot, the portion of thy measures from me, saith the LORD; because thou hast forgotten me, and **trusted** in falsehood." Jeremiah 13:25

One can put their trust in something that is false, just like they can put their trust in something that is true. So how does one tell the difference so that they don't err? The difference lies in learning what the Bible teaches and placing our faith in it, versus trusting in the words and opinions of men.

34. "Thus saith the LORD; **Cursed** be the man that **trusteth** in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. **Blessed** is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is." Jer. 17:5-7

Most believers are familiar with this passage about not trusting in man, but what it's referring to is a blessing and cursing formula. If you do this, then you will be cursed. But if you do this other thing, then you will be blessed! If you put your *batach* trust in man, then you will be cursed. But if you put your *batach* trust in God, then you will be blessed!

Another point that needs to be brought out is that there are two types of man in view here. The first one refers to the believer and the word used here is *geber*, a strong man, a doctrinal man, a man strong in his faith and the Word. The second word used for man is *adam*, which denotes any and all descendants of Adam's race.

There is a third word used for man, although not used here, and that is *enosh*. *Enosh* refers to sinful man, evil men, wicked men, etc.. The significance is that one can understand not putting their trust in wicked people, because... they're wicked! But by using the word *adam*, it's telling us not to put our trust in any man regardless of their moral character whether good or bad!

35. "**Trust** ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom." Micah 7:5

There is a certain level of confidence that we have in our friends, but a nation can become so evil, and the people so apostate, that no one can be trusted. The judges are looking for bribes and people are turning each other in for a reward. And when a nation gets to that place, it's better to keep your mouth shut and trust no one. The only one to safely trust is the Lord.

36. "For the king **trusteth** in the LORD, and through the mercy of the most High he shall not be moved." Psalms 21:7

Once again we see the thing that made David stand out from all the rulers that have lived on the earth and that was his trust in the Lord. The participial form tells us that trusting in *Yahweh* was a daily way of life for him.

37. “*Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.*” Psalm 27:3

The word confident here is the poel participle of batach, which not only is an intensive use, but something practiced as a way of life. It not only tells us that David's way of life was one of trusting in God, but **by trusting in God it delivered him from inner fears and gave him a sense of confidence.** And this even in the face of an enemy army!

38. “*Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.*” Psalm 32:10

The wicked are put as those who don't trust the Lord in their life, and to them many sorrows are their lot in life. But to those who do trust the Lord as a way of life, they will be **surrounded by the grace of God**, or as some translations have it, the lovingkindness of God.

38. “*O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.*” Psalm 84:12

Once again batach is found in the poel participle, which not only denotes an action that is ongoing in one's life, but also that there is an intensive aspect to it as well. Which gives us some more insight into this matter of living by faith.

The word blessed here is not referring to being under the blessing of God, although as we have seen that is true for the believer living by faith, but it's the word for happiness, *asher*. **Happinesses to the believer who lives by faith in life.** As we have seen the spiritual blessings of love, joy and peace come to us in the sphere of faith, that is, when we exercise faith in the Lord and his Word.

39. “*Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.*” Psalm 86:12

Chapter eighty six reveals that David is in a bad way; he's under some intense trial in his life. But we also see the use of the poel participle used once again which tells us that David is not only trusting the Lord, which summarizes his life, but there is the intensive use of his faith, which motivates him to call out to God in prayer for deliverance.

All of us at times can be thrown into a very difficult time in our lives, even those who walk close to the Lord each day of their lives. But we need to remember that God is always there with his grace, so we need to take that faith and have it motivate us to pray to God for relief. The principle is: the greater the trial, the greater the faith; the more intense the trial, the more intense the faith.

40. “*<A Song of degrees.> They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.*” Psalm 125:1

The exercising of batach faith in the Lord provides the believer with a mental stability of soul that cannot be moved by anyone or anything. Whenever a believer steps outside the faith dynamic, he will be soon swept up by the maelstrom of the angelic conflict going on around him and he will be unstable. But as soon as he recovers spiritually and gets his faith eyes back on the Lord and his Word, then **his soul will settle down and be as unmovable as God's holy mountain in heaven!**

41. “He that **trusteth** in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.” Proverbs 11:28

The participial form tells us that they are trusting in some thing, (in this case their money), to take care of them in life and as they get older in life. Or as we would say, they are depending on their bank account, retirement program, equity in their homes, the money they've saved for a rainy day.

The word *batach* refers to the idea of trusting in something and the feeling of security that one has in their soul as the result of it. But as always, there is the **subjective** concept of the exercising of faith and then there is the **objective** side of it of what you are putting your faith in. It can be explained by the **dynamic of leaning against a wall**, or resting upon a bed.

These people, then and now, have put their trust in their money and that has made them feel secure, but they will fall. And they can fall two ways, spiritually and financially. Spiritually because we only derive the spiritual phenomenon of peace and joy as we our trust in the Lord. And financially, (as well as emotionally), we will fall because money goes up and it goes down.

Many Christians in the last twenty or thirty years have followed the unsaved of the world, went after money and have invested themselves in the stock market and in real estate. And for a long time they saw their bank accounts, home equity and retirement programs grow like crazy. Many of them were able to retire at a younger age than originally planned, buy a house in a nice area, along with their good retirement income and benefits. Life was good to them and getting better all the time.

At least until the dot com crash, the shrinking value of the dollar, health care costs spiraling out of control, escalating food costs and the cost of gasoline going through the roof. Now many of them have had to go back to work just to supplement their retirement income, if they can find a job. All those years they went after money to put it into their purses, only to find that their purses had holes in them! **But the believer who lives by faith will continue to flourish!**

42. “He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso **trusteth** in the LORD, happy is he.” Proverbs 16:20

Once again we see that if you want to be truly happy in life, then it only comes through the exercise of trust in the Lord. And happy is not the best choice of words, because happiness is a dynamic of the flesh that comes from pleasant external circumstances. Our “happiness” is actually **the spiritual phenomenon of joy that comes from a consistent exercising of faith in the Lord!**

43. “He that is of a proud heart stirred up strife: but he that putteth his **trust** in the LORD shall be made fat.” Proverbs 28:25

No, this is not saying that the faith rest life will make us fat. We don't need any help in that department. Being fat is a figure of speech for prosperity and that is not to be defined in financial terms. If you want to define prosperity in financial terms, because that's the way so many people think, then prosperity means being out of debt and having a dollar to your name. How's that!

Prosperity covers areas such as, having good doctrinal friends, being in good health, having mental stability, having a soul full of Bible Doctrine, being used by the Lord in your life, being spiritually productive in your life, eating healthy food and so many other blessings from the Lord.

44. “He that **trusteth** in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.”
Proverbs 28:26

There are those who will say, “well, you gotta trust your heart”, but that's not what God says. He says that **if we do, we're a fool!** The heart is desperately wicked and deceitful. Why would anyone want to trust it? Nor are we to lean on our own understanding. What we are to go by is what the Bible teaches and to put our trust in the Lord!

45. “Lo, thou **trustest** in the staff of this broken reed, on Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all that **trust** in him.” Isaiah 36:6

God commands us not to depend upon our government and what it can do for us, nor our leaders and what they promise to do for us, nor any alliance that we might have with another nation that has committed itself to be there for us. We are to lean upon, depend upon, him and him alone.

A staff, then and now, was used for support as one walked through the countryside. It was even more important when the terrain was rough, (trials of life). It provided a “third leg” for support; something that one could lean upon, (there's that idea of *batach* faith once again), to steady oneself, or for rest. But here, Egypt was put as a broken reed, something that when you did lean on it for the promised support, it would fail to come through for you and pierce you, that is, end up tragically for you.

46. “And they shall eat up thine harvest, and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat: they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds: they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees: they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou **trustedst**, with the sword.” Jeremiah 5:17

In those days cities erected massive stone walls around them to give them a line of defense, not only from invading armies, but also from predators that could come in at night. The taller and thicker the walls the better they were. The problem is that people put their trust, *batach*, in those walls; their walls gave them a feeling of security. Their *batach* trust was in their lines of defense, or their money, or their armies, when it should have been in the Lord!

And in time, because the people felt secure, they became lifted up in their pride and became cocky. Their hearts turned away from God and the spiritual life, and they soon started to go down into moral and immoral degeneracy. And when that happened, God's judgment came down on them and those stone walls, that they had their trust in and made them feel secure, weren't going to protect them.

47. “**Trust** ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these. Behold, ye **trust** in lying words, that cannot profit.” Jeremiah 7:4,8

Ancient Israel did not walk by faith, nor were they willing to even be persuaded to believe the doctrines of God, nor did they obey God. Instead, they went the other route and became immersed in the mother-goddess religion, burning incense to Baal and adoring the queen of heaven and observing its rituals.

The prophets of Baal and the false prophets of Israel had plenty things to say, all untrue, and the Israelites listened to them. They would not listen to the doctrinal truths of God's Word, believe them and apply them to their lives, but they would sure listen to any untruth that came down the road. And, as the result of believing and trusting in false doctrine, they would come under judgment. Ancient Israel had gone into apostasy, just as the church in America today has gone into apostasy.