

BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS INC.

www.bibleradio.org.au

BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT: A1535 ~ The Drought Ended.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

During a night raid in the 1940 World War II blitz on London, a father and his small son ran from a building just struck by a bomb. The father found and jumped down into a backyard shelter for protection. He held up his arms to his son to get to it too. Terrified, yet hearing his father's voice, the boy called out "I can't see you!"

With the night sky bright with burning buildings, the father called back, "But I can see you. Jump!" The boy jumped in straight away because he trusted his father.

The Christian faith enables us to face all things in life or even death, not because we can see things ahead, but because we are certain we are seen by God; not that we know all things, but because we are known by our Heavenly Father. To live as a Christian, we must walk by faith and not by what we see or don't see.

What is faith? The eleventh chapter of Hebrews, a New Testament book, is known as the Faith chapter. It says: "To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see. It was by their faith that people of ancient times won God's approval." As Christians, we have a firm expectation that God will perform all that He has promised to us through the Lord Jesus Christ.

In today's *Bible Adventure*, we see an example of faith in God's words. After the people of Israel had seen their Creator God send fire from heaven to consume a waterlogged offering on top of Mount Carmel, they now believed in Him again. The 450 prophets of the Canaanite storm-god Baal, saw the fire too.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

When the prophets of Baal saw that their god was defeated and rejected by Israel, they realized they as Baal prophets were now finished too.

Some people teach things they don't really believe themselves. This can be true still today. Christians must be careful what information they accept about God. There are many warnings in the Scriptures not to let ourselves be deceived. People may say they have faith in God but not live it out in practice. It is very important then that we read the Bible for ourselves and know what it says.

Elijah knew God wanted to restore the land with green vegetation after the terrible drought. But Elijah had to pray 7 times before there was any sign of a cloud in the sky. Why? God wants us to persevere in prayer. In the New Testament book of James, Chapter 5, it says:

"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it didn't rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit."

Because Elijah was the most important of Israel's prophets, we tend to think of him as a super spiritual person and that his example of praying to control the weather is too hard for us to do. But the Apostle James says this is not so. When we pray, do we really want the things we pray for? Sometimes we ask God only once for something and then forget all about it.

There is another type of prayer that some people say where people babble on with many words but they don't really know what they're saying. The Lord Jesus spoke about them in Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 6. He said: "When you pray, do not use a lot of meaningless words, as the pagans do, who think their gods will hear them because their prayers are long. Do not be like them. Your (Heavenly) Father already knows what you need before you ask Him."

Some prayers need not be prayed at all. Take for an example a young Christian looking for a future marriage relationship with a person who's a non-believer. The Scriptures clearly say that a Christian should not do such a thing. Although in prayer, pray for salvation for that other person, but avoid a close and intimate friendship until that person consistently shows a changed life as a growing Christian.

Maybe you've been offered a certain job which you have always dreamed of having. Ask yourself first if it will take you back to worldly ways instead of bringing you closer to God. There is a big price to be paid for continually asking for something God doesn't want to give you. God will eventually allow it but you become worse off for it. It is far better to end all our prayers with: "Not my will, Lord, but Yours be done." God knows best. He wants the very best for each one of us long-term and for all eternity.

There is no point in praying about something that the Bible says is wrong. God is not going to contradict His Word. Just respect this and continue to trust and obey the Scriptures.

In 1859, a gifted French tightrope walker went to the Niagara Falls and stretched out his rope across the thunderous currents from Canada to the United States. While the crowds watched, he walked, and then he ran, across the falls. Wearing a blindfold he even pushed a wheelbarrow the whole 370 metres across the raging waters.

When he asked the crowd if they believed he could push the wheelbarrow to the other side with a person in it, of course they shouted, "Yes." He went up to the nearest admirer and asked him to get in. Although the admirer had faith in his mind that the tightrope walker could capably do the job, he himself was not willing to trust his life to him and get in the barrow.

There are different levels of faith in God. The Apostles realized this and asked the Lord Jesus to increase their faith. In Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 17, the Lord Jesus spoke of the power of faith as small as a tiny grain of mustard seed. A missionary to China once said we don't need great faith but faith in a great God. Another said: "Faith is like muscle which grows stronger and stronger with use. If we cut off our faith in Jesus, we are powerless against the devil's attacks."

Just like the little boy in the WWII London blitz, who jumped towards his father even though he couldn't see him, are you prepared to reach out to God? You can't see Him but He is watching you and waiting for you to call out to Him. Faith in God will bring you safe into a loving eternal relationship with Him.

Coming to God can happen through His one and only way, the Lord Jesus Christ, His own appointed mediator between Himself and people. Trusting Jesus with your life is not for today only, but for the rest of your life too. It means letting Jesus run your life and making all the decisions. Will you go beyond admiration for the Lord Jesus to putting your personal trust in Him?

MUSIC - <u>Integrity Music</u>.

That was Susie Stevens-Logan singing "You are Worthy O Lord"

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

< END OF SCRIPT >