

FAITH EXPECTS GOD TO HONOR HIS WORD

*Teaching the Word so that you can grow in Jesus



By Pastor Larry Folson Faith In Jesus Christ Center www.fijcc.org

Contents

Faith Expects God to Honor His Word

Introduction: What Is Expectant Faith?

Simple meaning of faith and expectation, foundation in Jesus Christ.

Section 1: If He Said It, He Will Do It

God's Word is certain, He cannot lie, His promises always come to pass.

Section 2: God Is Willing To Do It For You

Moving from "God can" to "God will," His love proves His willingness.

- Section 3: Our Job Is To Expect God To Honor His Word Faith must carry expectation; waiting with confidence brings manifestation.
- Closing Exhortation: Living in Expectant Faith

Remind God of His Word, persist in faith, and expect His promises to be fulfilled

Introduction: What Is Expectant Faith?

I want to start with giving the simple definitions of the words *expectant* and *faith*, because it is in the simple working definitions of things that produce understanding. The Word of God says, *"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."* (Proverbs 4:7)

The simple definition of faith is to believe in someone or something. Yet this simplicity is often where people miss it. Faith in God is not just general belief — it means trusting Him, believing that He will do what He said He will do according to His Word.

Under the New Covenant, faith is centered in Jesus Christ. It is about knowing **who Jesus is**, understanding **who we are in Him**, and receiving **what He has provided for us**. True expectant faith rests on this foundation.

If a person does not grasp the simplicity of this truth, their faith will struggle to work. Faith is not complicated — it is confidence in God's character, His promises, and His finished work in Christ. When we understand this, our faith becomes expectant, alive, and effective.

Now let's look at the word **Expectant**: expectant means having or showing an excited feeling that something is about to happen, especially something good. It means looking forward to something that is going to happen.

When you are expectant, you are filled with joy because you are looking forward to experiencing something that is coming your way. It is the anticipation of a blessing, an answer, or a promise that is about to unfold for you or in you.

Section 1: If He Said It, He Will Do It

According to **Numbers 23:19**, "God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?"

He also said in **Isaiah 55:10–11**: "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and does not return there, but waters the earth, and makes it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater; so shall My word be that goes forth out of My mouth: it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

God's Word is living, powerful, and unfailing. If He has spoken it, it will surely come to pass. Expectant faith rests on this truth — that every promise of God is certain, and His Word will accomplish exactly what He Said.

In **Jeremiah 1:12 (AMP)** it says, "He actively watches over His Word to perform it." Do you see that? God is actively watching over His Word to bring it to pass. It makes me think of law enforcement watching to enforce the law. In heaven, God's Word is law. And when we expect the blessings of God based on the law of faith in Jesus, God Himself will make sure they become a reality in our lives.

Faith in Jesus — and in who we are and what we have in Him — is spiritually backed by our Father in heaven. He ensures that the blessing becomes a reality in our lives, just as rain falls from heaven and causes a seed to produce and bring forth fruit.

Practical Application

- Find the Word Anchor your prayer in a specific Scripture. Search the Word of God connected with what the covenant blood of Jesus has done for you in regard to your situation. When you pray, let that verse be your foundation, because faith begins where the will of God is known. And let it be known that what Jesus has done for you is God's will for you. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16) This truth will always get it done
- Speak and Rest in the Word Declare that it is So! According
 to God's Word with confidence, reminding Him of His promises in
 prayer. Speaking the Word builds your faith and aligns your heart
 with His truth. Then rest in that Word sleep peacefully and
 live free from worry, knowing that God is arranging events
 to fulfill His Word just for you. <u>Because He said it</u>, <u>He will do</u>
 <u>it</u>.

Section 2: God Is Willing To Do It For You

Many Christians believe that God is able. The problem they struggle with is whether He is willing. I must first admit that this can be a real challenge.

The key is to dig into the Word, plant it in your heart, and begin to believe what the Word says — expecting Him to perform it. You must find out from Scripture if He is truly willing to do it for you.

In this section, I am going to share some scriptures that have helped me believe, and that currently cause me to expect God to perform His Word for me. My prayer is that these same scriptures will bless you and strengthen your faith to believe that He will do it for you.

I would like to start with **Romans 4:21**, where it is written that Abraham was "fully convinced that what God had promised, He was also able to perform." This makes me think of the old saying you hear church folk say all the time: "God can do anything but fail." We all nod our heads, begin to praise God, and say "Yes, Amen." And I know deep in my heart that everyone believes what they are saying, because we do believe that God can do anything but fail. The problem is, we have not always believed that God will do it for us.

I would also like to point out **Matthew 8:2–3**, where Jesus says, "I am willing." A leper came up to Him and said, "Master, I know that if You are willing, You can heal me." That particular statement reflects the way many of us approach God: "Lord, I know You can, if You are willing." But what did Jesus say to the leper? He said, "I am willing. Be healed."

God's will is revealed in Jesus for us. Jesus came to heal the brokenhearted. Jesus came to fix the problems in our lives. That was

the whole purpose of His coming. Go back to the simplicity of the Scripture that almost everyone knows from childhood: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

The key is in what the Scripture says — and Jesus Himself was speaking. It says, "God so loved the world." The key truth is this: we serve a God of love. Love is the reason why He is willing.

One day I asked the Lord, "How does faith work?" And He revealed to me that faith works by my knowledge of His love for me. He began to point out particular scriptures to help me gain understanding.

It started with **Galatians 5:6**, where it says, "Faith worketh by love." As I read that scripture, the Holy Spirit interjected: "Faith works by your knowledge of God's love for you."

In **1 John 4:9** it says, "In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him." Notice what it says: the love of God was manifested. He began to show me that Jesus is the manifested love of God.

Verse 10 continues in **1 John 4:10**: "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." Did you see that? He loved us and sent His Son.

Then He showed me the scripture that really grabbed my heart's attention — 1 John 4:16: "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love." That was absolutely powerful. He emphasized to me: "We have known and believed the love God has for us."

We must know and believe — the key is both to know it and to believe it (What is it?) — that God loves YOU!

Now back to Galatians 5:6, where it says, "For faith worketh by love." As we come to know that God loves us, we abide in that love. And now we can have faith in Him to bless us. Why? It's very simple: because that's what love does.

God is love, and loves - loves us, therefore He performs His Word for us. **So yes, He will do it; because He loves us**, He will heal you because He loves you. What parent wants to see their child suffering? And God reckons Himself as a Father.

This is a very simple truth: when we grab hold of it in our hearts, it will give us the expectation of the faith we need to be blessed by God.

Practical Application

- Reject religious cliches that say, "Sometimes God says yes, sometimes God says no." We serve a God who performs His Word for us because He loves us. Feed on scriptures that express God's love for you and for all humanity. (Romans 8:38–39)
- Stand on 2 Corinthians 1:20 "For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." This means that through the covenant blood of Jesus and the provisions of His cross, every promise is affirmed and guaranteed.
- Expect delay as spiritual resistance, not denial. Believe what the Word says concerning God's love, but also understand that we have an enemy who tries to separate us from that love. Yet the Word declares that "nothing shall separate us from the love

of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:39) Feed on this truth, giving Him praise and thanks for performing His Word for you, because of the love He has provided for you in Jesus.

Section 3: Our Job Is To Expect God To Honor His Word

Faith believes what God has said, but **expectation positions the heart to receive** it. Without expectation, faith becomes passive — it
acknowledges God's ability but does not anticipate it with action. **Expectation is a corresponding action of the active stance of faith**. It is the joyful readiness that looks forward to the manifestation
of God's promises. **It is like a catch behind home plate position to catch the pitch that he has signaled to the pitcher.**

The Word confirms this:

- Romans 10:11 (AMP) "For the Scripture says, 'Whoever believes in Him [whoever adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Him] will not be disappointed [in his expectations]."
- Psalm 62:5 (NKJV) "My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from Him."

Expectation is like open hands waiting to receive a gift. It is the posture that says, "I know my Father loves me, I know His Word is true, and I am ready to see it fulfilled in my life." This is why the Word declares: "According to your faith let it be to you." (Matthew 9:29) Faith must carry expectation, because expectation is the evidence that you are prepared to receive what you believe.

When faith and expectation work together, they produce confidence, joy, and peace. You no longer wonder if God will move — you anticipate His move. You no longer question if His Word will come to

pass — you expect it to manifest. That is the posture of reception, and it is the completeness of faith.

To believe without expecting is like ordering a package but never checking for its arrival. We all, for the most part, have ordered something from Amazon. We know it is coming, we receive our confirmation of the ordered package, and then we check its status. It even tells us when it is "10 stops away." Right? The same is true with expecting God's Word and promises to come to pass. The Scripture says: "Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." (Isaiah 55:1) That means to buy it with your faith, trusting that God will do it. Faith is like currency — the more you have, the more you can receive.

(Pardon me a moment while I take a praise break! My spirit is jumping for joy. Glory to God, thank You Jesus, for this truth You just dropped in my spirit to share at this very moment.)

In John 3:33 it says, "He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true." And in Revelation 12:11 it says, "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony." When we believe the testimony of what Jesus has done for us and declare that it is true, we are certifying it — like stamping a letter or completing a transaction. It is as if the purchase has gone through: cha-ching! You have cashed in on what you saw in the Word of God, and now it belongs to you because the transaction took place. All you have to do is expectantly wait for it — wait for the Word you believed to manifest in your life.

Just as you can see the progress of a delivery from Amazon, so it is with God. We sense in our spirit when things are getting closer. Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how." (Mark

4:26–27) We begin to see the progress of it, sense it in our spirit, and then suddenly harvest time comes — manifestation time. That is expectant faith.

Expectant faith is like a farmer who plants a seed expecting a harvest. He waters it, waits, and looks forward to the crop coming forth. Faith is planting; expectation is waiting for the harvest. So back to our illustration of purchasing a package from Amazon: we know we purchased it, we log on to the site, and we can see the progress of it being shipped. It is in transit. It is that simple. That is what it means to have expectant faith — we expect God to do it, and that is our job: to expect to happen.

Closing Exhortation: Living in Expectant Faith

So I close with this: Are you truly expecting God to perform His Word for you? That is the question each of us must face.

Expectant faith does not sit passively. It reminds God of what His Word says and asks Him, "Lord, where is it at?" This is not irreverence — it is obedience. God Himself said, "Concerning the work of My hands, command ye Me." (Isaiah 45:11) He also said, "Put Me in remembrance." (Isaiah 43:26)

If you are not putting God in remembrance, you are not really expecting Him to honor His Word. Think about it: when people in this world fail to keep their promises, we hold them accountable. We may even take them to court for not honoring their word. Yet with God, many simply assume He is not doing it and hide behind religious excuses.

But true faith is persistent. It asks, "Father, why is this taking so long? What is holding it back?" Not in doubt, but in expectation. Because when you remind Him of His Word, you are showing that you believe it, and you are positioning yourself to receive it and your heart of expectation is on the line of being disappointed.

So remember, **Expectant Faith** diligently seeks Him, reminds Him of His promises, and waits with confidence for manifestation. It is the posture of reception. And when you live in expectant faith, you will see His Word performed in your life — because He said he loves you and has already promised it for you in Jesus and you really want it.