

“For unto us was the Gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the Word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.” Hebrews 4:2 KJV



The ingredients of most cakes; flour, salt, sugar, baking powder, eggs, cocoa powder, oil; if eaten uncooked and separately, would be most unpalatable. It is not until they are “mixed” and proofed in the oven that they become a delectable delicacy. If God’s Word is not mixed with His gift of faith in its hearers, it becomes an abomination to them! Do you wonder why men scoff and ignore the Holy Scriptures? It is because they have not added nor proved the gift of faith given to them by God! If you left the sugar out of a cake it would taste terrible! If you leave faith out of obedience it becomes bondage! It is no small wonder that most professing believers mope around with long faces and fretful dispositions. Faith is not “mixed with” their lives! We cannot expect to live joyfully in Christ if we do not walk with Him in the Light. Sugar is readily available to all and we would think someone foolish to bake a cake without it. Obedience without faith is self-inflicted bondage! That’s what religion is; self-inflicted bondage! The Light is the manifest Word of God written down and readily available to all. *“If we walk in the Light (obey through faith) as He is in the Light (God, like you, does as He thinks, but His thoughts are perfect), we have fellowship.”* Fellowship with God through His Word in our thoughts brings HIS JOY to every rendezvous and if we “meditate day and night,” that rendezvous is endless! *“The JOY of the LORD is your strength!”* Not your joy of being with Him, but His own joy becomes so infectious that we become supremely intoxicated by it as we walk by His side. Just how do we do that? Loving, trusting, and obeying His commands, for it is these that lead us in and down the path of His divine presence and provision! *“We love Him because He first loved us.”* Remember in grade school when you discovered someone liked you, how it totally changed your opinion of them? *“God so Loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life!”* Jesus said, *“If ye love Me, keep my commandments. Happy are ye if ye do them.”* God does not command us to clean septic tanks or eat dirt, but His commands are the blessings which steer us into “joy unspeakable and full of glory!” We can only be truly liberated and free through loving compliance with God’s Word. A lover’s joy comes from the giver, not the gifts! Moms keep doodle drawings their children made them, but they would have no value to anyone else! Things only have meaning, because of who gave them to us. When we settle into the foolish philosophy that possessions are of our own ability, we lose the Joy of Him who has granted us the health and strength to acquire them; not to mention the air we breathe and the sun that grows our food. *“Be ye thankful!”* is not a suggestion, but a reminder! Men are nothing and possess nothing outside of God’s benevolent presence and provision. *“The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof. By Him ALL THINGS consist.”* Thankfulness is the earmark of faithfulness, because God’s Word “mixed” with true faith knows all THINGS are of God! *“There shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming?’ For this they willingly are ignorant of, that BY THE WORD OF GOD the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water...But the heavens and the earth, which are now, BY THE SAME WORD are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the Day of Judgment and perdition of ungodly men.”* If God withheld His Word, you, nor your possessions would even exist!

Faith delivered by Holy Writ,
Must be mixed with the whole of it,
Not neglected or laid aside,
That we may in Christ’s Joy abide. ~CGP

When you read God's Word and think on it, do you do so believing it or do you think to preserve its veracity with your own opinion? *"Thy Word, O Lord, is forever settled in Heaven."* Truth needs no affirmation from you. Only faithful loving obedience will bring its sublime liberty into your life! *"The Truth will MAKE you free."*

*"Now to Him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the Revelation of the Mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest (revealed), and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the Commandment of the everlasting God (the Written Word of God), made known to all nations (Why?) for the obedience of faith."
Romans 16:25-26 KJV*

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