

Become a FOLLOWER OF CHRIST WHO IS FULL OF FAITH

“However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

(Luke 18:8b NIV)

We have just passed the year 2025. My family and I wish you a HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026. After we reflect on how we can become a church that is increasingly purified and filled with God's glory throughout the new year 2025, then in 2026 we invite all of God's servants & congregations to continue to move forward to become a church that is more faithful and more steadfast in following the Lord Jesus. The biggest problem in the lives of God's followers in the period leading up to the second coming of the Lord Jesus is the question of faith (Luke 18:8 b - „*However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?*“). Sometimes we still hear that many Christians complain that their faith is so easily shaken, weak and not strong, especially when they are facing serious problems. If we desire to have a strong and firm faith, then we must be increasingly sanctified in the truth of His word (John 17:17). Why? Because faith comes by hearing through the Word of Christ (Romans 10:17). There are still many Christians who do not meditate on God's word, or perhaps read the Bible only at certain times. But in their daily lives, they rarely make time to meditate on His Word. If we truly love God, then we will actually read and meditate on His Word every day and in every situation. The more we understand His Word, the stronger our faith will be. David, throughout his life's journey, was never free from problems, pressures, even threats, but all of that did not make him weak and desperate. Instead, David put his faith in God even stronger. What is the key? David loved God and His word very much. David said, *“Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.”* (Psalm 119:97 NKJV). David was also able to address the problems he faced with the eyes of faith. He said, *“It is good for me that I was troubled, so that I might learn Your Law.”* (Psalm 119:71 NLV). David also said in Psalm 34:20 (ESV), *“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.”* This is proof that the closer we are to God, the more we will be able to walk in the strength of God's power. If we make Jesus the focal point of our faith journey, He will also mature and perfect our faith. God desires and desires that we walk in a stronger faith, and such faith will be obtained only by reading, meditating on, and practicing His word. If we desire a stronger faith in going through this challenging journey, then let us discipline ourselves and make time to hear His word every day. No matter how busy we are, let us make time for something very important in our lives, namely studying His word. If we as disciples who love Him are willing to unite in doing this, then we will also become His church with more faith. This is what we long for as His living church in the end times. May we be able to answer the question from Luke 18:8 b by saying, *“[looking away from all that will distract us and focusing our eyes on Jesus, who is the Author and Perfecter of faith [the first incentive for our belief and the One who brings our faith to maturity], who for the joy [of accomplishing the goal] set before Him endured the cross, disregarding the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God [revealing His deity, His authority, and the completion of His work].”* (Hebrews 12:2 AMP). Amen, Lord Jesus bless us all!

By Ps. Silwanus Obadja