WORD of FAITH MOVEMENT – Part One

We are going to cover some of the most popular Scriptures that are used in the Word of Faith Movement and see what they really say and mean.

Word of Faith (also known as **Word-Faith** or simply **Faith**) is a worldwide Evangelical Christian **movement** which teaches that Christians can access the power of **faith** or fear through speech. Its teachings are found on radio, the internet, television, and in many Charismatic denominations and communities.

Theology: Neo-charismatic movement, Prospe... **Founder:** E.W. Kenyon, Kenneth Hagin

Word of Faith - Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org > wiki > Word_of_Faith

The doctrine renounces poverty, physical suffering, and defeat as necessary to a godly life and glorifying Jesus Christ. It teaches that the salvation won by Jesus on the cross included health and prosperity for believers; this is derived from its definition of the word *sozo* (salvation). Kenneth E. Hagin is recognized as the "father" of this movement. Hagin (1917–2003) believed that it is God's will that believers enjoy good health, financial success, and a blessed life.

Kenneth E. Hagin is the one I revealed some years back that was supposedly ministering at a conference of some sort. He was laughing the whole time with an evil laugh and hissing like a snake. He was waving his hands as if he was throwing the power of God onto the people there and they were falling out, laughing hysterically, and rolling on the floor. A bunch of nonsense and mockery blaspheming God. This is similar to the Lakeland Revival meetings which were bringing strange fire into the church – the kundalini spirit – a false anointing. The link is in the sermon notes and info. box on Youtube.

TEACHINGS

Distinctive Word of Faith teachings include physical, emotional, financial, relational, and spiritual healing or <u>prosperity</u> for those who skillfully manage their

covenant with God. The movement urges believers to speak what they desire, in agreement with the promises and provisions of the Bible, as an affirmation of God's plans and purposes. They believe this is what <u>Jesus</u> meant when he said in Mark 11:22–23 that believers shall have whatsoever they say and pray with faith.

Mark 11:22-23 - And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

I used to think this was talking about an actual mountain. But as I grew in Christ I understood that "the mountain" is the things in our lives that seem impossible to us. But nothing is impossible for God.

The term *word of faith* itself is derived from Romans 10:8 which speaks of *the word of faith that we preach*.

Romans 10:8 - But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

This word of faith spoken of by Paul is faith in Jesus Christ. It is the Word of God, the gospel that was being preached. Salvation was preached.

PROSPERITY

Kenneth Copeland's ministry has said that God does not use suffering for our benefit, and this idea is "a deception of satan" and "absolutely against the Word of God." If someone is not experiencing prosperity, it is because they have given satan authority over their lives, and God will not do anything except when a believer invites him to.

Romans 8:18 - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

1 Peter 1:6-7 - Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations (sorrow in many trials / suffer grief): That the trial of your faith (proof of your faith), being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

James 1:2-3 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience (endurance). But let patience (endurance) have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing (complete lacking nothing).

So we clearly see the Bible tells us we will suffer. Jesus suffered and we are not greater than the Master. . (John 15:20) Paul and the apostles certainly suffered

It is argued that Jesus and the apostles had worldly wealth, owning homes and businesses. The following arguments have been offered for this claim:

1. Jesus' ability to travel without apparently working to earn a living for three years

Luke 8:1-3 - And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God (proclaiming the good news): and the twelve *were* with him, And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance (their own goods or possessions).

2. References by Jesus and the apostles to owning homes

Luke 9:58 - And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air *have* nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay *his* head.

- 3. Jesus had a treasurer (Judas Iscariot)
- 4. Jesus consorting with the upper echelons of society
- 5. Jesus' miraculous ability to command abundance feeding the 5 thousand, finding tax money in a fish, telling Peter where the fish would overflow his net, etc.

This stuff is laughable.

6. The businesses that each of the apostles apparently owned/worked in.

Almost half of the apostles were fisherman. Matthew was a tax collector. Judas was shady. They stayed on the move from place to place, how would they have worked at a business. They left their jobs and went to follow Jesus.

They are able to teach this non-sense because people aren't reading their Bibles.

This prosperity teaching is contrary to the traditional view of Jesus as a poor, wandering teacher. Based on their belief that Jesus and his apostles were wealthy, the historical examples of wealthy Christians, and the promises of prosperity throughout the Old and New Testaments, Word of Faith proponents teach that modern believers also have access to the blessing of financial wealth. Teachers like Kenneth Copeland assert that total prosperity is validated by the teachings of the Apostle John: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (3 John 1:2).

Even the NIV gives a proper interpretation of that verse:

NIV

3 John 1:2 - Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.

Copeland posits that "as the seeds of prosperity are planted in your heart, in your will and in your emotions...they eventually produce a great financial harvest.

Matt.19:24 - And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

If God meant for us to be filthy rich with all of this prospering then why did Jesus say it was hard for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God?

FAITH and CONFESSION

In Word of Faith teaching, a central element of receiving from God is "confession", often called "positive confession" or "faith confession" by practitioners. Noted Word of Faith teachers, such as <u>Kenneth E. Hagin</u> and <u>Charles</u> <u>Capps</u>, have argued that <u>God</u> created the universe by speaking it into existence (Genesis 1), and that God has endowed believers with this power. Thus, making a "positive confession" of God's promise and believing God's word stirs the power of resurrection which raised Christ from the dead (Ephesians 1:19-20 Ephesians 3:20), and brings that promise to fulfillment. This teaching is interpreted from Mark 11:22-23. (That is the speak to the mountain Scripture we already went over.) A more recent variant of positive confession is "decree and declare". Word of Faith preachers have called <u>faith</u> a "force".

Conversely, "negative confession" can harm, so believers should be conscious of their words. This is argued on the interpretation of Proverbs 18:21, "Life and death are in the power of the tongue, and they that love them will eat the fruit thereof", also Numbers 14:28, "...saith the Lord, as you have spoken in my ears, so will I do", among other scriptures.

This movement has been traced back to E.W.Kenyon and ultimately to a teaching called "New Thought."

'LITTLE GODS' CONTROVERSY

Many Word of Faith teachers have sought to emphasize the full meaning of the believer's status as a child of God (through Christ) by using phrases such as "little gods" to describe them, a practice that has garnered some criticism from some other segments of the Christian community. <u>Kenneth Hagin</u> wrote that God "made us in the same class of being that he is himself," and that the believer is "called Christ" because "that's who we are, we're Christ!"

Now where does Scripture ever call us Christ.

Heb.2:6-7 - But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man (mankind), that thou art mindful of him (them)? or the Son of man, that Thou visitest Him (care for Him)? Thou madest Him a little lower than the angels; Thou crownedst Him with glory and honour, and didst set Him over the works of Thy hands:

NIV has completely taken Jesus out of this Scripture passage. NIV is such a blasphemous translation. I praise God for the Mandela Effect because it has me looking at the different translations and discovering all of these things.

If Jesus Christ was considered to be a little lower than the angels because He had to come here and be in a flesh body and suffer for us and then be exalted up and He was and is and has been always fully God. Then what do you think we are who were always human. We certainly are lower than the angels. We are not Gods capital or small g.

According to Hagin, by being "born again", the believer becomes "as much an incarnation as Jesus of Nazareth". Hagin like Kenyon reasons that humans are made in God's image. Since God is spirit, then humans must essentially be spirit as well and 'in God's class', and thereby 'gods'.

Angels are spirit also but they are not gods.

Kenneth Copeland says <u>Adam</u> was "not a little like God... not almost like God...", and has told believers that "You don't have a God in you. You are one." Based primarily on the Psalms 82:6, which says "I have said, Ye are <u>gods</u> and all of you, children of the Most High," this was also corroborated by Jesus making reference to this scripture in John 10:34.

Psalm 82:6 - I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

When you study this passage you find that this was speaking of those that God have given authority to judge His people. In doing that, there were considered like gods because they were allowed to hear cases and pass judgment. This was to all be done through righteous men and women who obey God and passed Godly judgment on His children. You see that that has gone by the wayside today.

A common theme in Word of Faith preaching is that God created man as "an exact duplication of God's kind." (Hebrews 1:3, John 14:12, etc.) It does not argue that man can work independently of God, but rather that the believer can live **in** God.

Hebrews 1:3 – Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power (by His powerful Word), when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on High;

This is speaking of Jesus Christ not us.

John 14:12 – Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me (in Me), the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto My Father.

I don't believe we are going to do things that Jesus did not do but we have the opportunity to do more because we are here on the earth for a longer time than Jesus was. There are corporately more of us in the body of Christ spread out over the world with His Spirit working in us for His glory accomplishing a great number of works. Theologians are all over the road on this passage and what "greater works" means.

CLOSING

Please play this video Creflo talking about giving so that you can get blessed. Giving the blessing something to multiply. He beats up his congregation for money. He is mocking God. Then Leroy Thompson dances on the money the people give claiming to put anointing on it. Then Creflo joins him and begins to dance on the money too. (about 2.5 min's)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaxISzIey7g

Please play from 33 to 1:17 This is at Creflo Dollar's church and they are dancing on money that the people have given claiming to be anointing it. (about 1 min.)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYxeTjrckl0

PLEASE SPLICE THE TWO VIDEOS TOGETHER

Disclaimer: I do not stand in agreement with "Wretched Radio" they just happened to have the piece of info. that I wanted to show.

Suffer the Children, a documentary highlighting some of the teachings of the Word of Faith movement, shows <u>Creflo Dollar</u> teaching the "little gods" doctrine to his congregation based on the notion that "everything reproduces after its own kind":

Dollar: "If horses get together, they produce what?"

Congregation: "Horses!" Dollar: "If dogs get together, they produce what?" Congregation: "Dogs!" Dollar: "If cats get together, they produce what?" Congregation: "Cats!" Dollar: "So if the Godhead says 'Let us make **man** in **our** image', and everything produces after its own kind, then they produce what?" Congregation: "gods!" Dollar: "gods. Little "g" gods. You're not human. Only human part of you is this flesh you're wearing."

I hope you can see what ridiculous nonsense this all is. We are going to continue to break this down over the next few weeks.

PRAYER

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Word of Faith

Kenneth E. Hagin spreading strange fire – false anointing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITbT2dcr23o

Leroy Thompson anointing money Creflo Dollar money rant

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaxISzley7g

You Call This the Gospel - Wretched TV

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYxeTjrckl0