

A photograph of a stone archway set into a wall. The arch is constructed from large, light-colored stone blocks. Inside the arch is a wooden door made of vertical planks, secured with several horizontal black metal bands. The text is overlaid on the door.

**FACE
FAILURES,
GATES,
GIANTS, &
STRONGHOLDS
TODAY IS YOUR
BREAKTHROUGH!**

Face Failures, Gates, Giants and Strongholds

TODAY IS YOUR BREAKTHROUGH!

Text: 2 Corinthians 4:13 *We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; ¹⁴ Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. ¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. ¹⁶ For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

Introduction: The Battle Between Sight and Faith

We all face a daily tug-of-war between what we see and what God has promised. Like a child told to “use your words,” we must learn to speak what we believe—not what we see. The real battle is in the unseen: in our minds, emotions, and relationships.

1. FAITH IS NOT SEEN! – BUT IT SPEAKS!

Hebrews 11:1 *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.*

Hebrews 4:12 NKJV *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. ¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

2. YOUR GREATEST ENEMIES ARE INVISIBLE!

A. FEAR: False, Evidence, Appearing, Real

2 Timothy 1:7 *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

Romans 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. ¹⁵ For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶ The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*

B. Conquering Your Unseen Enemies

1 John 3:8b *...For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested to destroy the works of the devil.*

Luke 11:20 *But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: ²² But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. ²³ He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth. ²⁴ When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out. ²⁵ And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished. ²⁶ Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.*

3. GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU!

A. Greater is He that is within you!

1 John 4:3 *And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. ⁴ Ye are of God, little*

children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. ⁵ *They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.*

B. Strength has nothing to do with how I feel!

2 Corinthians 12:9 *And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: **for my strength is made perfect in weakness.** Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that **the power of Christ may rest upon me.*** ¹⁰ *Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for **when I am weak, then am I strong.***

4. DON'T GIVE THE ENEMY AN INCH.

Ephesians 4:26 *Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:* ²⁷ *Neither give place to the devil.*

5. THE REAL BATTLE IS NOT AGAINST PEOPLE!

2 Corinthians 10:3 *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴(for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) ⁵casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; ⁶ and having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.*

6. CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST IN YOU IS YOUR KEY TO VICTORY!

Ephesians 3:20 *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, **according to the power that worketh in us,***

Ephesians 1:16 *Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; ¹⁷ That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: ¹⁸ **The eyes of your understanding being enlightened;** that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ And **what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,** ²⁰ **Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,** ²¹ **Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:** ²² **And hath put all things under his feet,** gave him to be the head over all things to the church, ²³ Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*

Hebrews 10:12 *But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; ¹³ **From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.***

ACT ON LUKE 11:20-26!

Worship God with your First-Fruits, Tithes, and Sacrifices: The first hero of faith was Able!

Hebrews 11:4 *By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.*

Genesis 4:1 *And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. ²And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. ³And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. ⁴And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: ⁵But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. ⁶And the LORD said unto Cain, **Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?** ⁷**If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.** ⁸And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.*