**The Distractions of Faith**

**July 5, 2020**

The word Distraction(s) something that distracts, an object that directs one’s attention away from something else. The act of distracting or the state of being distracted. Mental confusion, bewilderment, perplexity, discombobulation.

{Matthew 14:25-31, Peter walks on the water and sinks.}

Isaiah 30:18-21, AMP (18) “Therefore the Lord waits [expectantly] and longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; Blessed [happy, fortunate] are all those who long for Him [since He will never fail them] (19) O people in Zion, inhabitant in Jerusalem, you will weep no longer. He will most certainly be gracious to you at the sound of your cry for help; when He hears it, he will answer you. (20) Though the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of oppression, yet your TEACHER will no longer hide Himself, but your eyes will [constantly] see your TEACHER. (21) Your ears will hear a word behind you, “This is the way, walk in it” whenever you turn to the right or the left.

II Corinthians 5:7, AMP, “For we walk by faith, not by sight [living our lives in a manner consistent with our confident belief in God’s promises] TPT “For we live by faith, not by what we see with our eyes.” CJB “For we live by trust, not by what we see.”

Hebrews 12:2, AMP “(2) [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]

Distractions can inhibit the power and flow of our faith to release grace. [the enabling power of the Holy Spirit]