

such a monumental job indicated a measure of the faith they felt in the Lord and the assurance they had in His power and word. Perhaps it is not fair to make faith comparisons and say that one item takes greater faith than another but this does seem to be the case. There was no possible source of food when the disciples arranged the multitude in the hope of food. But they believed the Lord and their accomplishment demonstrated the quantity of their faith. Our willingness to undertake Biblical goals for the Lord is a powerful indicator of what our faith-proportion really is and how much it means to us.

c. Faith is Tested by Contentment with our Lot.

Luke 17:3-10

As the Lord instructed the disciples in the matter of forgiveness, it probably became obvious to them that they could not, in themselves at least, conduct the quality of life the Lord was teaching. So they honestly asked for what seemed the most needed thing: an increase of faith (v. 5). The Lord instructs them that the quantity of faith is not the impressive aspect of its being...the use of it is what counts. "Faith as a mustard seed" will accomplish miracles for it is alive and growing. So to ask for a greater quantity of faith, something for which we may all feel a genuine need, is not so important as it is to use the faith we possess. To emphasize this the Lord tells of the servant who is not thanked for doing what he ought to do...but is an appreciative servant and proves it in his service. So we, as servants of the Lord, must see that when we have done everything right (!) we have only done what was our appointment. We need not halo or heavenly trumpet sound. We have done our duty and that fact alone is enough for us. When we are willing to trust the Lord with our lot, even to the point of an unending forgiveness of others, we are demonstrating faith in