

FROM FATALISM TO FAITH

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

According to Webster's dictionary the word fatalism means, "The belief that all events are determined by fate and are hence inevitable."

I'm not going to ask for a show of hands of how many believe that, but there are many in our world today who do believe that to be true.

They say things like, "It really doesn't matter what you do, what will be, will be."

That kind of thinking leads to resentment, bitterness, hopelessness and despair.

When Jesus found the man by the pool of Bethesda, he asked him if he wanted to be healed. The man said that he didn't have anybody to help him into the pool. Jesus didn't ask him if he had help. He didn't ask for excuses or why he was the way he was. Jesus simply asked him, "Wilt thou be made whole?"

The man had a fatalist attitude but faith personified was standing right in front of him.

Faith believes in what it does not see. Faith is hope alive. Faith is a deep confidence that God is good and that God's goodness somehow triumphs over evil.

Faith and hope does not come from positive predictions about the way things are going to be. Faith and hope has to do with God. We have hope and joy in our faith because we believe that while the world we live in is shrouded in darkness, God has overcome the world.

The basis of our hope has to do with the One who is greater than life and stronger than our suffering. A person in difficulty can trust because of a belief that something else is possible.

Don't allow the negative voices of this world to cause you to doubt the promises of God. Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Think like the Word of God teaches us to think. Don't be controlled by fear, rather live your life by faith in a never changing God.

The world we live in changes. Circumstances and situations change but Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever! He is still God and He is still on the throne and He is still in control!