The Supreme Law of Faith

If anyone says to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore, I tell you, all the things you pray and ask for—believe that you have received them, and you will have them.  
Mark 11: 23-24  Holman Christian Standard Bible

Introduction:

Our world, physical and spiritual, operates by laws. These laws are variously called: laws of nature, natural laws, and physical laws. These are all actually divine laws set forth in this world by God from creation.

Characteristics of “natural law”:

- Observable.
- Consistent. There have never been repeatable contradicting observations.
- Universal. They appear to apply everywhere in the universe.
- Simple. They are typically expressed in terms of a single mathematical equation.
- Absolute. Nothing in the natural universe appears to affect or change them.
- Stable. Unchanged since first discovered.
- Dominant. Everything in the universe apparently must comply with them.

Some Laws:

- Laws of motion
  - Law of Gravitation—Newton's law of universal gravitation states that every massive particle in the universe attracts every other massive particle with a force which is directly proportional to the product of their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them.
  - Law of Aerodynamics—Simplistically, if you combine the right shape with the right speed with the right weight, the law of aerodynamics will counteract the law of gravity and you will overcome the force of gravity and will not fall to the ground.
  - Law of Friction—When two bodies, which are in contact attempt to move relative to each other, a force known as the force of friction tends to prevent their motion.
  - Law of Air resistance (physics) Drag. Forces that oppose the relative motion of an object through a fluid (a liquid or gas).
  - Law of Inertia—Newton’s first law of motion: an object's desire to resist a change in motion.
• Laws of electricity
  o Ohms law - Relationship between voltage, amperage and resistance.
  o Coulomb's law - Law of electrical charges. Like charges repel and opposite charges attract.
  o Gauss's law - Law of capacitance. The ability to store energy.
  o Kirchhoff’s laws of electric circuits. The sum of currents entering a junction equals the sum of currents leaving that junction.

• A LAW WORKS FOR EVERYONE, EVERYTIME, THE SAME WAY. IT IS CONSISTENT, UNIVERSAL, ABSOLUTE, STABLE AND DOMINANT.

The Universe Operates by Law.
• God’s laws are for good but we must cooperate with them.
  o Gravity is for our good, but if you violate it and fall off a building you will probably die.
  o Electricity is for our good, but if you let enough current pass through you, your heart will stop.

• God does not universally suspend His laws.
  o If God suspended the universal law of gravity to save one life, think of the universal disorder and millions of others would die just so He could save the life of one.

THERE ARE ALSO SPIRITUAL LAWS
• There are spiritual laws which also works for everyone, the same way, all the time, every time and are consistent, universal, absolute, stable and dominant.
  o For instance,
    ▪ The law of the Spirit of life (Romans 8:2-4)—Christ took our sins—makes us free from the law of sin and death (Ezek 18:4, 20)—the soul that sins shall die.
    ▪ And the law of faith (Romans 3:27)—believe you have received it, doubt not and you have it.
  o These are God made laws, they are constant, unvarying, and work the same way every time for every one.
  o But, if we violate or do not cooperate with these spiritual laws (example: do not believe) we will suffer loss.
  o God’s Word is His manual that tells us what His laws are and how His spiritual kingdom operates.

• People who operate in the spiritual laws and who operate by the rules of these laws are able to walk in the power of God and others aren’t.
Faith Operates by Law – It is a Law

- In Rom. 3:21 we are made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. In verse 24 we are being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

- Then in verse 27 this whole process of being saved is called the law of faith.

  Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.

- Notice the terminology: the law of faith. The superior law of faith overruled and superseded the law of sin and death (The soul that sinneth, it shall die.).

- There are laws that govern how faith works whether it’s faith for salvation, faith for healing, faith for prosperity, or faith for other needs.
  - Faith works the same way every time, all the time, everywhere! It is a LAW.
  - It’s not a matter of just asking God and then if He wants to, He’ll give you what you ask.
  - God is consistent and His laws are consistent (remember electricity, gravity?)
  - Ignorance of how faith works will keep you from having what God has for you.

The Law of Faith Exemplified and Explained

Mark 11:12-14 The next day, when they left Bethany, Jesus became hungry. In the distance he saw a fig tree with leaves. He went to see if he could find any figs on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves because it wasn’t the season for figs. Then he said to the tree, “No one will ever eat fruit from you again!” His disciples heard this.

The next morning:

 20-22 While Jesus and his disciples were walking early in the morning, they saw that the fig tree had dried up. Peter remembered what Jesus had said, so he said to Jesus, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has dried up.” Jesus said to them, “Have faith in God! GWT

The Reason Jesus Cursed the Fig Tree

- He was not angry because it had no figs.
  - He knew it wasn’t time for fruit—the tree was not at fault!
  - Jesus never foolishly lost His temper and destroyed things because of anger.

- He did it to show His disciples how faith operates and what faith can do.
  - He set this up as an example.
  - The point is made, His disciples heard this, and the next day Peter remembered.
  - In response Jesus said, “Have faith”. In other words, He said, I did this to teach you about faith, to show you what faith is like, how it operates and what it can do.”
o He set this up to teach the law of faith to them first by example (verses 12-14 & 20-22) and then by instruction (verses 23-24)!

o God also had it recorded and preserved for us to learn.

The Law of Faith Exemplified

• Look at the simplicity of the faith of Jesus.
  o He looked at the fig tree.
  o Like a child, He talked to the tree just as if He were talking to a person. (Our words are powerful creative words)
  o In so many words He told the fig tree “You will dry up and never produce fruit.”
• Jesus stated the desired end result, “No one will ever-- eat fruit from you again!”
  o We have outgrown childlikeness and become sophisticated. We don’t talk to trees or objects!
  o We too, will begin to see the power of God working in our lives when we return to the same simple, childlike faith that Jesus exemplified.
  o Jesus simply spoke the word in faith, “No one will ever eat fruit from you again!”
• And the next day the tree was dried up and forever incapable of producing fruit.

The Law of Faith Explained

Here is Jesus explanation,

_I assure you: If anyone says to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore, I tell you, all the things you pray and ask for—believe that you have received them, and you will have them._ Mark 11: 23-24

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• It’s an absolute truth: _I assure you; I can guarantee this truth; I tell you the truth._
  o Jesus emphasizes to us that He is revealing something to us that is absolutely true.
    ▪ This is something that works every time! It’s a LAW. The LAW OF FAITH.
    ▪ If you can understand it, and can do it the way He says, it will work for you!
• It is universally applicable: _If anyone_
  o _If anyone; whoever; whosoever; If you_
  o This means _YOU_ — Not just the apostles, not just first century Christians.
    ▪ No matter how sick you are.
    ▪ No matter how big or difficult your problem is.
    ▪ Jesus said, “If You”
The Details of the Law of Faith

- **If anyone says to this mountain,**
  - Jesus chose the biggest obstacle he could think of.
  - The literal rock and dirt mountain, the Mount of Olives that He was standing on outside Jerusalem.
  - You will never have a larger, more impossible obstacle or problem!

- **If anyone says to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.**
  - If Jesus told you, “It is possible for you to command a mountain to rise up, float over and disappear into the ocean” everything in you would probably cry out, “Oh no, not me! That just can’t happen!”
  - Jesus took the biggest thing He could think of, a mountain, and said “This is an absolute truth, this is an immutable law, your faith can move this, IF YOU FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE LAW OF FAITH.”

The Law of Faith Illustrated

- **If anyone says to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.**
  - If you believe that what you say will happen.
  - You have no doubt in your heart that it will happen and the time it takes for it to happen does not weaken your expectation nor cause any doubt.
  - No matter how long it takes you keep on believing that what you said will happen.
  - *It will happen. It will be done for you. It will be yours. God will give it to you. It will be granted him.*

- We have to believe and know that there is such a power that emanates forth from God that operates this way when we believe. IT’S A LAW
  - We do not have to do anything. We don’t have to deserve it in our own worth.
  - All we have to do is believe, doubt not in our heart, and keep on believing until…..
  - When we do, the power of God that made the mountain in the first place, and put it where it is, will move that mountain to somewhere else.

- You may not have the faith right now to move a mountain—how about a mole hill???
  - There is no value in moving mountains anyway, for the sake of moving mountains.
  - Jesus gave us this great lesson about a mountain so we could believe and experience the small stuff—moving our mole hills, our rocks, our lumps and our bumps first.
  - Jesus didn’t go around moving mountains, but He did get a lot of sick folks healed, blind folks seeing and the deaf hearing. And on occasions He put life back into the dead.
• Jesus taught this to show us what faith can do and that the law of faith works every time.
  o With whatever faith you have you can move a few small hills out of your way on the way to moving a mountain.
  o There is no bill, no sickness, no obstacle so great or so small that the same power which Jesus used on the fig tree, by speaking the word of faith, cannot move out of the way for you.

Further Teaching on the Law of Faith

*Therefore, I tell you, all the things you pray and ask for—believe that you have received them, and you will have them.* Mark 11:24

• The faith is up to you. The power is of God. The timing is up to God. The result of this kind of faith is not always immediate but is sure.
  o The fig tree did not die as soon as Jesus spoke to it.
    ▪ When Jesus cursed the fig tree, and walked away, the leaves were still green.
    ▪ Nevertheless, it was already a dead fig tree because Jesus had spoken and believed that it was done.
    ▪ Jesus never doubted for a minute the results of His word.
    ▪ The manifestation of its death developed over time—overnight, but it started dying the instant Jesus spoke to it.
    ▪ The next morning, as they passed by, Peter saw that the fig tree had died and dried up. He was surprised, but not Jesus!
    ▪ Even with Jesus, the result of faith is not always immediate! (Remember the blind man? Mark 8:22-25)
  o **Delayed manifestation of what you believed for is fertile ground for doubting and an open invitation to Satan.**
    ▪ How long do you keep on believing that you have received? Until you have them.

• **Believe that you have received them**
  o Not believe that you WILL receive them.
  o Not think that you MIGHT receive them.
  o Not HOPE that you will receive them.
  o Jesus said that when you finish speaking believe that it is done, even though it does not appear to be done and keep on believing that it is done, until it is done.
    ▪ God’s definition of faith is believing you’ve got something when you haven’t yet got it and never start doubting that you won’t get it until you do get it.
    ▪ Another way of saying it: God’s definition of faith is to believe you have it before you have it; to believe you have received it when you get done praying, and keep on believing until you have it.
    ▪ That’s what Jesus did with the fig tree. He spoke the word and the thing was done. Even though the leaves were still green, He knew it was “door knob dead”.

ALL of God’s Laws Work Every Time, All the Time, When We Use Them Right

- Doctors have no power of their own, but have discovered divine laws God set in the earth.
  - Law of the kidneys: If one stops functioning, the doctor can remove it and the other kidney will do the work of two.
  - Law of the liver: Half of the liver can be removed and it will grow back.
  - Law of medicines: If you inject a certain drug into the blood stream, your nervous system will react in a certain way and pain will stop.
  - Doctors do not make these laws, but when they work in accord with God’s law it works for them.

* See Supplement Faith vs. Doctors

- The Wright brothers had no power to make their first airplane stay in the air, they only worked with God’s laws of aerodynamics.
  - When they flew their airplane about 100 years ago on their third try they were only able to fly it a distance of 852 feet for 59 seconds.
  - As men’s knowledge and understanding of God’s laws of aerodynamics increased, their confidence in those laws increased and they flew bigger planes higher in the air for longer periods of time until they are now sending space ships into outer space.

- Even when Peter walked on the water long ago, he did so because he met the condition of God’s highest law, the law of faith.
  - As Jesus stood on the water, He inspired Peter to meet the condition of God’s highest law, the law of faith.
    - Peter saw Jesus standing on the water. He knew it could be done! He asked “Lord let me do that too.” Jesus said, “Come on Peter, you can do it too.” Peter stepped out on the water, and he began to walk on it.
    - There were lesser laws of God that said Peter was supposed to sink when he stepped on that water—the law of gravity, the law of density, all scientific laws which are also laws of God.
    - Peter appealed to God’s supreme law of faith which overruled and superseded the law of gravity and all the other lesser laws involved and enabled Peter to walk upon that water.
    - Only as long as he was meeting the condition of the law of faith (believed and did not doubt) did he stay on top of the water and overruled the lesser scientific laws of God.
    - When doubt moved in, the condition of God’s law of faith was no longer met, therefore, the lesser laws took over and Peter began to sink.
  - Jesus came to reveal the superior law of faith which overrules and supersedes the lesser laws of God’s world such as germs, infection and disease.
Miracles Are Based on God’s Laws, Not on God’s Decision.

- The reason we see so few miracles in the church today is that the knowledge of the people of God concerning God’s great law of faith and their confidence in that law is either very small or non existent.
  - You will see and experience greater, bigger and more powerful miracles as these truths of God are understood, believed and acted upon and experienced.
  - You will then see people not begging God to answer their prayer, not pleading with God, but doing what Jesus said, “Speaking the word of faith and believing they have received it, doubting not in their heart that it is done and they shall have it.”

God’s Law of Faith is Sufficient to Meet Any Need.

- God’s power and law applies equally to a toe ache or a headache, to a canker or a cancer, to a lesion or to leukemia.
  - It is only in our minds that one of these is more serious and bigger than the other; possible or impossible.
  - It is not so in the mind of God. A tiny portion of the power of God can heal one the same as another and this power resides in you – the same power that raised Jesus!
- May God help each of you to take the measure of faith that God has given you (see Romans 12:3), and through the operation of God’s great law of faith speak out against whatever particular sickness or whatever burden you have, command that mountain, or mole hill, to be moved, and then, begin your day by day battle of blocking out doubt.
- You see, the fight begins AFTER you have spoken the word of faith. Jesus said to command the mountain to be moved and THEN doubt not in your heart UNTIL IT COMES TO PASS. After you speak the word is when you REALLY begin to believe. Then is when you begin to do battle. The powers of the enemy will daily show up, but doubt not in your heart that it is done until it comes to pass.

1 John 5:4b *And this is the victory that has OVERCOME* (superceded) *the* (laws of the) *world—our faith.*

Matthew 17:20 *Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. NOTHING WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.* NLT

THE LAW OF FAITH IS SUPREME OVER ALL OTHER LAWS AND ALL OTHER LAWS MUST BE SUBORDINATE TO IT.

HAVE FAITH!
Faith vs. Doctors.

Has the devil ever tried to put you under condemnation by telling you that it's contrary to the principles of faith to use doctors and medicine when you need healing? If so, here are some encouraging words that I believe will help you put your heart at rest.

It is God's will to heal you. That's the first and most important thing for you to understand. If your faith is strong and you can believe the Word without wavering (regardless of what circumstances or symptoms come against you), then you'll be able to receive that healing by faith alone.

But that kind of faith takes more than just hearing a few sermons about healing. It takes a deep personal revelation of God's healing power. So, if you haven't yet developed that kind of faith, the doctor is your best friend.

If you're not certain whether your faith is strong enough or whether you need a doctor's help, follow the instructions of the Apostle Paul (Col. 3:15) and let peace be your umpire.

If fear rises up within you when you think about doing without medical help, then go to a doctor. And go in faith! On the other hand, if you have a sure confidence within you that healing is yours strictly by faith, let your faith do its work and receive your healing directly. Whether or not you go to the doctor is not the issue. It is what you do with your faith.

Either way, you can rejoice knowing God is working with you, meeting you at the level of your faith. Thank God for your healing--however it comes!--and do not let Satan put you under condemnation. It is none of his business!