

# Crowned with Goodness

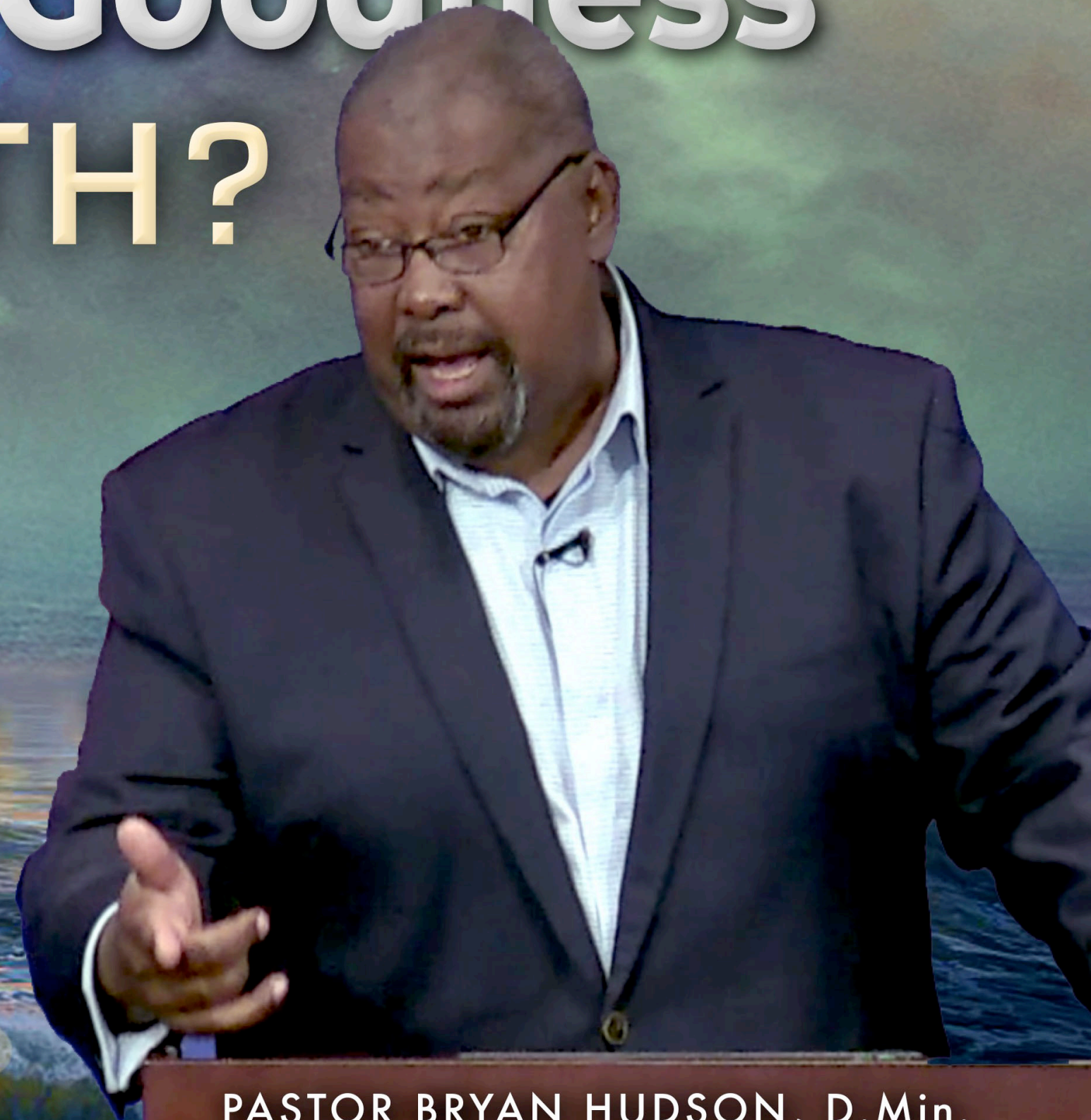
## WHAT IS FAITH?

*"You crown the year with Your goodness,  
and Your paths drip with abundance."*

Psalm 65:11

*"Lord, if it is You," Peter replied,  
"command me to come to You on the water."  
"Come," said Jesus*

Matthew 14:28



PASTOR BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min.



# Psalm 65:11

*You crown the year with Your goodness,  
and Your paths drip with abundance.*





NEW COVENANT CHURCH

2023

*"You crown the year with Your goodness,  
And Your paths drip with abundance."*

Psalm 65:11



These are great promises. **But every promise of God requires us to have faith.** Not only to believe, but to have active faith



# What is Faith?

**Belief** and **Faith** are two sides of the same coin.



We tend to think that believing is the same as Faith.

Jesus said, ***“Have faith in God.”***

James wrote, ***“You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!” (James 2:19)***



## Hebrews 11:6

***Without faith it is impossible to please God,** because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*



No one can tell you that people cannot be successful without God, giving and tithing, the Word of God and God's church, because many people are.

**But Jesus said,** Luke 12:15, *“Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”*



We are talking about “**good success.**”

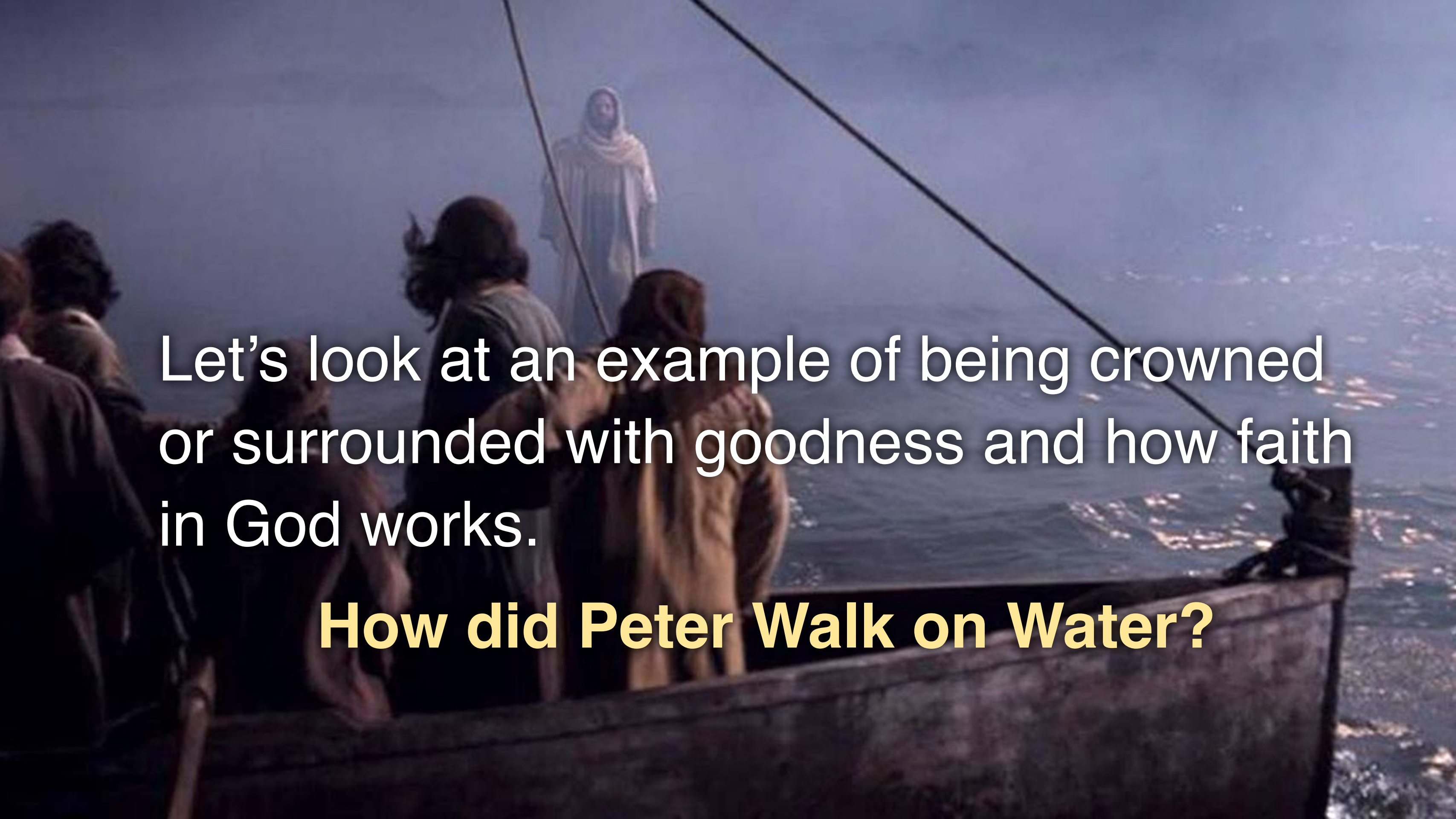
Joshua 1:8, *This Book of the Law [God's word] shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, **and then you will have good success.***



# **The primary characteristics of faith in God:**

1. It is belief that consistently takes action based on God's word (obedience)
2. it is energized by our relationship with God.





Let's look at an example of being crowned  
or surrounded with goodness and how faith  
in God works.

**How did Peter Walk on Water?**



## Matthew 22:14

*Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. 23 And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on a mountain by Himself to pray. And when evening had come, He was alone there. 24 But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.*



## Matthew 22:25

*Now in the fourth watch of the night [3:00am]  
Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. 26 And  
when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea,  
they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they  
cried out for fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke  
to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not  
be afraid." 28 And Peter answered Him and said,  
**"Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You  
on the water."***



## Matthew 22:29

*So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, **he walked on the water** to go to Jesus.*



## Matthew 22:30

*But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" 31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "**O you of little faith, why did you doubt [Me]?**" 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "**Truly You are the Son of God.**"*



## How Faith Grows

**The Lecture:** Surrounded by the Example

**The Lab:** Surrounded by a Test of Faith

**The Learning:** Surrounded by a demonstration of faith over belief

**The Lesson Learned:** Surrounded by acting on our faith and relationship with God



## How Faith Grows

### **The Lecture: Surrounded by the Example**

1. Responding to need stretches our faith.
2. Compassion taps the miracle working power of God.



# How Faith Grows

**The Lab:** Surrounded by a Test of Faith.

1. Jesus made them get into a boat and prepare to cross the lake.
2. He sent them to a “lab” to allow them to apply what they learned



# How Faith Grows

**The Learning:** Surrounded by a demonstration of faith over belief

1. What Peter experienced would not have happened without the miracle of provision earlier that day.
2. Peter **believed** that Jesus was not bound by physical laws. **His belief required required action** through relationship with God.



# How Faith Grows

**The Lesson Learned:** Surrounded by acting on our faith and relationship with God.

We too can “**walk on water**” in the circumstances of life!



## How Faith Grows

1. You will learn and gain confidence from the blessings and miracles that God has worked in your life
2. You will take the challenge to do the seemingly impossible (like feeding 15,000 people)
3. You will give to God everything He requires and receive everything you need in return



## How Faith Grows

4. You will rise above the storms of life, and your fear of storms
5. You will get out of your little boat of comfort and complacency to do something extraordinary for God through your faith and relationship with Christ
6. You will overcome the doubts of others
7. You will take Jesus at His word when He says “Come”; suspend your fear, activate your faith, and trust your relationship with God