

Book Review: Man of Faith by Lim Kou

I had the privilege of translating this book, *Man of Faith* into the Filipino language. Although the editors opted to use the title “*Taong May Pananampalataya*” in the Filipino version (instead of the direct translation “*Tao Ng Pananampalataya*” due to the concern that readers unfamiliar with the Christian faith might find it an awkward-sounding title and be turned-off from reading the book)—the content effectively explained the difference.

A man of faith is distinguished from simply a man with faith. Everybody can claim that he has faith but not everybody can truthfully be considered a man of faith. Bro. Kou carefully outlined what he has to say about faith and the man of faith in a profound and insightful manner that theologians can appreciate, yet simple enough that even unbelievers can profit from it.

In the first message he defines faith by two aspects: belief in the truth of the Scriptures and the believing response to it—that is, trust in God according to Scriptures and obedience to His Word. He then presented reasons for the importance and meaningfulness of living by faith and directed us, readers, to dwell on what really matter: the unseen realities of God’s kingdom.

Indeed, in our present circumstances, it is very important that we focus our minds on the invisible things of the kingdom and found our faith on them so as not to be waylaid by our natural attraction to the visible things of this age.

In messages 2 to 8, Bro. Kou proceeds to discuss the dynamics of the life of faith. Faith must be Christ-centered. It begins with Christ—knowing who He is and what He has done and continues on with Christ. It grows as it is lived out by Christians in obedience to the Word of God. The life of faith of Mary, Moses, Paul and Joseph, that Bro. Kou used, are powerful illustrations of such obedience. They were people defined and consumed by faith in God and zeal for His kingdom.

On the whole, this book helps us better understand the nature and outworkings of genuine biblical faith and with a deeper appreciation of such faith, by God’s grace, we can strive to be the men and women of faith that we ought to be as the Lord’s disciples.

I have been blessed translating this book.

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