

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (1-3)**
- 1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
- 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation.
- 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (1-3)**

- Chapter 10 closed with the mention of faith, and said “the just shall live by faith”
- Much of the book of Hebrews is written to encourage Christians to remain faithful and not drift into apostasy.
- All of Chapter 11 is devoted to faith.
  - Faith defined
  - Faith that God created the world
  - Faith of people in Hebrew history is commended

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (1-3)**

- The essentiality of faith is shown throughout the N. T.
  - Mark 16:16 - Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.
  - Acts 8:36b-37 - “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he replied, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”
  - Heb. 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By Faith (1-3)

### – “Faith is”

- Throughout N. T., necessity of faith is stated, and actions of faith are given.
- Only in Hebrews 11 is faith defined

### – The assurance, substance, confidence

- Greek ὑπόστασις hupostasis – literally “that which lies beneath”; ground, base, foundation, support.
- Hebrews 1:3 – the exact imprint of his (God’s) nature
- 1 Cor. 3:11 - For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By Faith (1-3)

– “the *foundation* of things hoped for”

- A reward in heaven
- Not a hope in the sense of an uncertain outcome
- But a hope made real to you because of your faith

– “the *evidence* of things not seen”

- John 20:25 - So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (1-3)**

- “the *evidence* of things not seen”

- 1 Peter 3:8-9 - Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By Faith (4-7)

- [4](#) By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.
- [5](#) By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.
- [6](#) And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (4-7)**

- 7 By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By faith Abel ... (4)** (Genesis 4)
  - By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain
    - Was it because of the nature of the sacrifice?
    - Was it because of the nature of the one offering the sacrifice?
    - Did Caan have faith?
  - Romans 10:17
    - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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- **By faith Abel ... (4)** (Genesis 4)
  - 1 John 3:12
    - We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.
  - By his example, Abel still speaks, even though he died.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • **By faith Enoch ... (5)**

- By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death
  - Three recorded that have ascended to heaven
    - Enoch (Genesis 5:21-14)
    - Elijah (2 Kings 2:1-15)
    - Jesus (Acts 1:6-11)
- Enoch walked with God (pleased God)
  - God took him
- Adam & Eve once walked with God (Genesis 3:8-11)

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By faith Enoch ... (5)

- 365 Years
- Father of Methuselah
  - 969 Years
  - Probably died in the flood
  - Evidently not like Enoch at all
- 1 John 2:4-6
  - 4 Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, 5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: **6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.**

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • Without faith ... (6)

- We trust (some) people
  - To tell the truth
  - To do what they say
- How could it be said that we have faith without trusting God?
- Two ingredients necessary to please God
  - Believe that God exists – fundamental
  - Believe that God rewards those who seek Him

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • **By faith Noah ... (7)**

- Found favor with God (Genesis 6:8)
- Walked with God (Genesis 6:9)
- Believed God's warning
  - Even though he had never seen anything like what God was telling him
  - Even though he may have never seen rain (Genesis 2:5-6)
  - He had no weather forecasts
  - The flood was still 120 years in the future
- 2 Peter 2:5 – a herald, preacher of righteousness

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By faith Noah ... (7)**

- Did all that God commanded (Genesis 6:22; 7:5)
- Modern cargo ships and battleships use the same proportions as Noah's ark (6:1; 300 x 50 cubits)

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By Faith (8-12)

- 8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.
- 9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.
- 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.
- 11 By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.
- 12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By faith Abraham ... (8-10)**
  - Obeyed
  - Not knowing where he was going
  - Lived as a foreigner, in tents
  - Looked for a permanent dwelling

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By faith Sarah ... (11-12)

### – Genesis 18

- Received power to conceive, at age 90
- Laughed to herself: Doubt? Delight?
- Learned that the Lord knew she laughed (to herself)
- Had faith in the Lord who is able to discern thoughts

### – Genesis 21

- Laughed again – God has given cause to laugh
- The Hebrew word for laughed is *yishaq*, which is also the Hebrew form of the name “Isaac”

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By Faith (13-16)

- [13](#) These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.
- [14](#) For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.
- [15](#) If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return.
- [16](#) But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • **By Faith (13-16)**

– These all died in faith ...

- Not all received the things promised in this life
- Knew by faith in God that they would receive them (saw them from a distance)
- Enoch went to be with God
- Looking for something even better - a permanent, heavenly country
- No thought given to returning
- The idea is to encourage, Hebrews of the 1<sup>st</sup> century, and us, to remain faithful in order to be welcomed into that permanent, heavenly, country.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By faith Abraham (17-19)

- [17](#) By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son,
- [18](#) of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”
- [19](#) He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By faith Isaac, Jacob, Joseph (1-40)**
  - [20](#) By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.
  - [21](#) By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.
  - [22](#) By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By faith Moses (23-28)

- [23](#) By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.
- [24](#) By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,
- [25](#) choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By faith Moses (23-28)

- [26](#) He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.
- [27](#) By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.
- [28](#) By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By faith the people (29-31)

- [29](#) By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned.
- [30](#) By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days.
- [31](#) By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.
  - Matthew 1:5-6 [5](#) and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, [6](#) and Jesse the father of David the king.
  - ***Royal lineage!***

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By Faith (32-34)

- [32](#) And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—
- [33](#) who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
- [34](#) quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (32-34)**

- conquered kingdoms

- Joshua (nations of Canaan), Gideon (Midianites) ,  
Jephtha (Ammonites), David (Philistines, Amalekites,  
Jebusites, Edomites, etc.)

- stopped the mouths of lions

- Samson, David, Daniel

- quenched the power of fire

- Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • By Faith (35-38)

- [35](#) Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life.
- [36](#) Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.
- [37](#) They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated—
- [38](#) of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

## • **By Faith (35-38)**

- received back their dead by resurrection
  - Woman of Zarephath, Elijah (1 Kings 17:19-21)
- stoned
  - Zechariah, the son of Jehoiada the priest, was stoned (2 Chronicles 24:21)
- sawn in two
  - Some think Isaiah was so killed
- the world was not worthy
  - Because of wickedness

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (39-40)**

- [39](#) And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised,
- [40](#) since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (39-40)**

- *Cannot find where any of these ever regretted having faith, no matter the consequences!*
- Some may have departed from faith and later regretted having done so, but has anyone who lived faithfully until death ever regretted it!

# Hebrews Chapter 11

- **By Faith (39-40)**

- apart from us they should not be made perfect.

- Hebrews 5:9

- And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him

- Salvation has been revealed in these last days, which makes possible the eternal salvation of those who died in faith.