

By Faith

Heb 11

1. Intro

1. The great chapter on Faith.
2. "Faith demonstrates to the eye of the mind the reality of those things that cannot be discerned by the eye of the body" Matthew Henry.
3. They looked and saw a future that was more than the material.
 1. Abraham looked over the centuries and saw what John saw the New Jerusalem coming out of heaven.

2. Qualities of Faith

1. Faith is willing to wait for justice.
 1. Abel (Gen 4:3-5)
 1. Attitude of the heart. Contrast with that of Cain. Life cut short.
2. Faith can overcome any adversity.
 1. Enoch (Gen 5:21-24)
 1. Faith deepened, after his son is born.
 1. Methuselah
 2. Escaped death
3. Faith can strengthen
 1. Noah (Gen 6:9-10)
 1. grandson of Methuselah
 2. when accusations are thrown our way.
 3. A change of the human spirit by the presence of God.
 4. Escaped death (flood)

3. Activities of Faith

1. Faith without actions is useless (James 2:20)
 1. The actions of faith sometimes do not seem logical or practical
 2. Abraham
 1. Shows us how to walk and see
 1. Go to a place you haven't seen (8)
 1. Believe that when I say you will be great I keep my word
 2. He looked over the centuries and saw the promise, the New Jerusalem. (10)
 3. He never waivered in following God's command (Gen 22:5, we will come back) (17-19)
3. Moses
 1. Shows us how to refuse what may be so attractive to us. (24)
 1. He was seen as special (Ex 2:2)
 2. God brought him back to be raised by his own mother (2:9)
 3. Raised in the court of Pharaoh. New wealth and prestige.
 4. Chose suffering for he could see the reward (26)

4. Joshua

1. Faith sometimes throws logic out the window (30; Josh 6:1-5)

5. Rahab

1. Sometimes people from the lowest of society know the truth (31)
2. She is in the lineage of Jesus (Matt 1:5)

6. The Others

1. Too many to mention (32)
2. Not all had heroic endings (36-37)

4. Did Not Receive The Promise

1. Looked for more than personal satisfaction. (13)
2. Somehow knew that there was much more than this. (16)
3. Centred around His Son
 1. They have to wait for us before they receive the promise (40)
 2. Kingdom taught to Abraham, Moses and us.
 1. Reward is resurrection into His Kingdom.

5. Our Faith

1. Do we compile all the things these people did and wonder how do we measure up?
 1. But maybe there is only one major event in your life where God is going to use you.
 1. Develop faith in small steps for the big event
 2. I believe Samson was such a one. Not the sharpest knife in the tool box.
2. The message was the Good News.
 1. Look to God.
 2. There was reward within the message.
 1. Your difficult times are not for nothing.
3. God is seeking out those that are faithful.

6. Conclusion

1. We can see some of the qualities of Faith
2. Faith must also be put into action.