

# Faith

Heb 11:1-3; 6: 13-16

## 1. Intro

1. We are going to take a journey through Hebrews 11. We will look at the character of several of these people mentioned as faithful.
2. First we will look at how faith connects to us.
3. Through faith we:
  1. Can see spiritual reality
  2. Earn God's approval
  3. We know our origin.
  4. Look to our future

## 2. Faith Connected To Relationship

1. Trust - essential for close personal relationship
2. Truth - basis for trust
3. Truth - expressed in love
  1. To build up not tear down
  2. Highest good for each person is to be conformed to the image of Jesus. (Eph 4:15)
4. Our relationship with God is based on faith (trust) (6)
  1. If you doubt God or His Word you will not trust Him. You call Him a liar.
  2. When faced with difficulties and trial, do we have faith in God?

## 3. Faith: Perceiving Spiritual Reality (1)

1. We need an object for our faith. That object is Jesus.
  1. What He has done for us. (We believe)
  2. What He will do for us. (Faith, looking to the future)
2. Faith gives substance to what is promised.
3. Faith shows us things that we cannot presently see.
  1. God, angels, demons, heaven, hell.
  2. Two men are standing on the deck of a ship, looking in the same direction. One sees nothing, but the other man sees a distant ship. The difference is, the first man is looking with his unaided eye, whereas the second man is looking through a telescope. (A. W. Pink An Exposition of Hebrews p. 652)
  3. This is illustrated by Daniels friends (34a; Daniel 3:16-18)

## 4. Faith: Earning God's Approval (2)

1. Our approval comes from God.
  1. Look at the list here and see where their approval came from.
2. First we must believe that Jesus is the Son of God.
  1. Through faith, God removes our spiritual blindness.
3. We have God's approval by putting our trust in Christ as our only hope.
4. We should live in such a way as to meet God's approval.
  1. We should seek to please Him not men. (I Thes 2:4)

## 5. Faith: Knowing The Origin of What Is (3)

1. By His spoken word, God created (Psalm 33:6, 9)
  1. "Then God said" (Gen 1)
2. It is by faith that we believe in Gen 1:1
  1. Faith gives us an understanding of how the universe came into being.
  2. Science uses blind faith.
    1. No object
    2. No evidence to support their understanding. (Rom 1:18-22)
  3. None of us were there to observe what happened.
3. This verse is the first example in the list of faith. It is foundational in knowing God.
  1. We cannot begin to know God or ourselves if we reject the beginnings of Genesis

## 6. Faith: Looks To The Future

1. None of these people received what was fully promised. (13b)
2. Through faith they saw something more.
3. They were foreigners; looking for their homeland.
4. We fit right in with these examples of faith.
  1. We are waiting for our Promise.
  2. We see the heavenly homeland.
  3. We know that we are pilgrims and strangers in a strange land (13c; I Peter 2:11)

## 7. Conclusion

1. Faith shows us the spiritual reality.
2. By our faith we are approved by God.
3. By faith we not only know our origins, but we know what our future holds.