



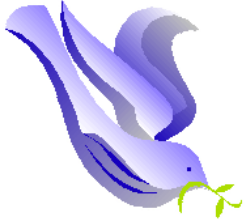
Having Faith for Today!

Hebrews Chapter 11 Verse 1

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”



Faith is explained as the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. Faith starts with believing in God's character, that he is who he says he is. Faith culminates with believing in God's promises, that he will do what he says he will do. We often think of the word hope in terms of uncertain desire —“I hope it doesn't rain on Saturday.” For believers, however, “hope” is a desire based on assurance, and the assurance is based on God's character.



Where does your faith come from?

Romans 12:3

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.

How does your faith grow?

Romans 10:17

“So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”



Hebrews Chapter 11 Verse 2

“For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony”

1. Abraham became our father in the faith by obeying God!

Genesis 26:4-5

And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; 5 because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.”

2. Moses obeyed God and by faith he parted the Red Sea!

Exodus 14:16

But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry *ground* through the midst of the sea.



3. Joshua obeyed God by faith and the walls of Jericho tumbled down!

Joshua 6:20

So the people shouted when *the priests* blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

4. Elijah raises a child from the dead by faith!



1 Kings 17:22-23

22 Then the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived. 23 And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives!"

5. David conquered Goliath by faith!

1 Samuel 17:50

"So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him"



Hebrews Chapter 11 Verse 3

“By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible”

Which God Created The Worlds?



Colossians 1:12-18

12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.



Here is an illustration of faith. Faith allows us to understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command. God (Jesus) created the world from nothing by his creative word alone. Believing this fact requires spiritual perception—that we receive only by faith. This passage reminds us that all of creation was new, not made from preexistent materials. The visible world did not come from anything that can be seen. God called the universe into existence out of nothing; he declared that it was to be, and it was. We understand this by faith, not because we saw it happen but because we understand from what we read in Scripture and from our relationship with the loving Father that the world was created with a purpose and that we are part of that purpose.



Hebrews Chapter 11 Verse 4

“By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks”

Cain and Abel were Adam and Eve’s first two sons. Cain, a farmer, brought an offering to God from the ground. Abel, a shepherd, brought firstborn sheep. Abel’s sacrifice (an animal substitute) was a more acceptable offering and God accepted it. Therefore, Abel was commended as a righteous man. Because of Abel’s faith, he still speaks by his example.



Genesis 3:21

“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them”

Hebrews 9:22

Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Abel’s offering was an act of obedience by faith!

It was a shadow and type to come.



Hebrews Chapter 11 Verse 5

“By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, *“and was not found, because God had taken him”*; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God”

Genesis 5:21-24

21When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. **22**Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. **23**Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. **24**Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

What was the Key for Enoch to be taken by God?



Hebrews 5:8-9

8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

1 Samuel 15:22

22 But Samuel replied, “What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.



Hebrews Chapter 11 Verse 6

“But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him”

To come to God has two presuppositions here: (1) The person must believe that there is a God and then (2) believe that God rewards those who sincerely seek him. Believing that God exists is only the beginning; even the demons believe in God’s existence. God will not settle for mere acknowledgment of his existence. He wants a personal, dynamic relationship with you that will transform your life.



James 2:19

19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!

Matthew 6:33

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Matthew 7:7-8

7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.



Hebrews Chapter 11 Verse 7

“By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith”



Genesis 6:9-13

9 This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. 11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13 And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.



2 Peter 3:10-14

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11

Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 14

Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;



Matthew 24:37-44

37 But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two *women will be* grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.