

INTRODUCTION

- * In Hebrews 10 we are told that the "New and Living Way" that Christ established was that "The just shall live by faith."
- * In Hebrews 11 we are told what that statement looks like. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Faith is where what we consider abstract meets "reality." It is our faith which God uses to reprove people of heavenly practical matters (reality!) that are not visible to them. What we believe will be evidenced in what we do!
- * After defining "Faith," the author of Hebrews then gives us many examples of those who "evidenced" their confidence in receiving a reward in the afterlife by what their works during their lives on the earth. By faith, Abel offered a better offering than Cain. By faith, Noah spent 120 years obediently building an ark which would ultimately be the tool of his family's deliverance from the judgment of the earth. By faith, Abraham and Sarah trusted that the promises of YHWH would ultimately come to fruition even if they were not fully fulfilled in their lifetimes!
- * Today, we have the pleasure of glancing at a few more of these demonstrations of faith in "everyday people" ... like you and me!

INSTRUCTION

I. THE EXPLANATION OF FAITH

- A. The Context: Faith IS The New and Living Way!** (cf. Hebrews 10:4, 12-14, 19-20, 35-38)
1. FAITH IS COMING TO GOD THROUGH THE BLOOD OF JESUS AND NOT WORKS OF THE LAW (cf. Gal 3:3-7, 11-12)
 2. FAITH IS THE RIGHTEOUS PLAN OF GOD AND AN ACT OF HIS GRACE (cf. Romans 3:21-28)
- B. The Concept: Faith IS Where Abstract meets Reality!** ... the Bible clearly teaches that "Faith" is the ultimately reality! ... it is not "abstract"
1. FAITH IS THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPE FOR ... *It is THE THING that you are entrusting your very eternal being on!*
 2. FAITH IS THE EVIDENCE OF THINGS NOT SEEN ... evidence (ελεγχος - reproof); things not seen ... "things" (πραγμα - practical matters/affairs)

II. THE EVIDENCE OF FAITH

- A. By Faith The Elders Obtained A Good Testimony (v. 2; cf. Proverbs 27:21)** ... Literally, "Were witnessed of ..."
- B. By Faith We Understand Creation!** (v. 3; cf. Genesis 1) ... God Created The World Through His Word & Out of That Which Was Not Visible
- C. By Faith Abel Offered A Better Gift** (v. 4; cf. Genesis 4:1-10)
- D. By Faith Enoch Was Translated** (v. 5; μετατιθημι - change places - also used in LXX; cf. Gen 5:21-24; 1 Cor 15:50-53)
- E. By Faith We Diligently Seek God** (v. 6) 1. IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE GOD W/O FAITH 2. GOD REWARDS THOSE WHO SEEK HIM
- F. By Faith Noah Prepared An Ark** (v. 7; cf. Genesis 6-9)
- G. By Faith Abraham and Sarah** (v. 8-19; cf. Genesis 12-22) ... THE PROOF, FOCUS, AND RESULTS OF THEIR FAITH
- H. By Faith Isaac** (v. 20; cf. Genesis 27:27-40) ... blessed Jacob and Esau
- I. By Faith Jacob** (v. 21; cf. Genesis 48) ... blessed Ephraim and Manasseh (sons of Joseph) ... and worshiped!!!

J. By Faith Joseph (v. 22; cf. Genesis 50:22-26)

K. By Faith A _____ (v. 23; cf. Exodus 2:1-10)

1. SAW THAT MOSES WAS ROBUST (cf. Exodus 2:2; Numbers 22:32 -Balaam; Judges 3:17 -Eglon)
2. WERE NOT AFRAID OF THE KING'S COMMAND (cf. Acts 5:29)

L. By Faith M _____ (v. 24-28; cf. Exodus 2:11ff)

1. HIS C _____ (v. 24-26; cf. Matthew 16:24-28)
2. HIS C _____ (v. 27; cf. Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:15-16; 1 Timothy 1:17)
3. HIS C _____

M. By Faith I _____ (v. 28-30; cf. Exodus 14; Joshua 6)

1. S _____ THE BLOOD
2. P _____ THE RED SEA
3. C _____ JERICHO

N. By Faith R_____ (v. 31; cf. Joshua 2)

1. SHE R_____

2. SHE W_____

INTROSPECTION

- * In what ways does your faith in YHWH cause you to live in a manner that is contrary to the culture in which you live?
- * Are you willing to put your life on the line to serve the living God?
- * Are you looking toward the future reward, or are you living for the temporal treasures of this world?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * What are some current cultural scenarios that would be comparable to the situations that Amram & Jochebed, and Rahab, went through? How can we, and should we, be preparing ourselves to stand firm in our faith in these situations?

