

Biblical Faith
2021-03-21

Hebrews 11:1-6

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

For by it the people of old received their commendation.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Capacity for faith is created in us.....chair, doc.

- Faith has 2 components: object of faith (person/product) and content of the faith....what person/product promises to do.
 - Faith without promise is primarily hope....I come over.

Hebrews about object and content of Christian faith. "By Faith" 43x in New Testament...19x in Hebrews 11

- Christian faith: conviction Biblical unseen God exists and assurance He will reward all who seek him. Hebrews 10:34b, 39, 11:1, 6

Object of our faith is invisible Biblical God.

- Believe God exists and is exactly who His Word reveals Him to be.
 - Hebrews Chap 1-10: Jesus deity/humanity, supremacy, sufficiency
- Faith is being certain of things not seen! Believing is seeing.
 - See invisible God truly exists through creation. Hebrews 11:3, Romans 1:20

Creation clearly points to a Maker. Some see Him, some don't.

- Most Greeks not believe world created but always existed.....Aristotle

Faith confident creation work of unseen God who made all from nothing.

- what seen made out of what not seen, out of nothing came everything.

Creation assists persevere in faith by looking back and to future with assurance.

- same God who spoke universe into existence said He has spoken another world into existence which awaits us. He is source of BOTH.

Content of Biblical faith: God promises to be gracious, generous rewarder to all who seek Him. Hebrews 10:34b-36, 11:1, 6

- Christian faith: convinced God's promises worth putting our hope in

- A trustworthy promise has 2 primary components:
 - Promising party has capacity to fulfill promise.
 - past record of fulfilling promises.....faithfulness
 - If recent car trouble, go from faith to HOPE.
- God has ability and desire to fulfill any promise He makes and He has a flawless record of fulfilling all His promises.
 - If Satan can't get you to doubt God's existence, try to get you to doubt God's goodness, generosity, desire to bless/reward.

God gracious, generous rewarder in future but also now! Hebrews 11:4-5

- Live "by faith" based upon promises for future...Hebrews 11 examples.
 - Live against own fallenness, world, natural senses based upon past and future promises haven't seen.

Foundation for Christian's faith: conviction (strongly convinced) Biblical unseen God exists and absolutely sure He will reward all who seek him.

- confident trust that God exists and is who He says and He can and will do what He promises He'll do. 1 Peter 1:8-9
 - nature of Biblical faith rooted in who God is and who we are in Jesus Christ.
 - Not great faith required as much as faith in a great God.

So go boldly in faith to God with confidence He is and that He will always graciously and generously reward you as you seek/trust Him.

