

Hebrew: The Object of our Faith
2024-03-10

Hebrews 11:6

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.

.... **Commend faith** of all in the room.... You sat down without even thinking. What if **one** chair was **weak**?

Faith automatic response of **human** spirit. **We exercise it throughout day.**

- **Problem:** we place **faith** in **wrong** things, **people**, system, false gods
 - **Biblical faith rooted in who God is and who we are in Jesus.**

Author, date (60-69 AD) of Hebrews mystery...only Holy Spirit authorship really matters.

- **Hebrews connects** the dots between the **Old Testament and New Testament**, it **focuses** on **faith** but **more importantly**, the **object of our faith, Jesus Christ.**

Hebrews considered 5th Gospel: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are **Jesus' earthly ministry**, **Hebrews is Jesus' heavenly, priestly ministry** to Christian.

Hebrews 4:14-16

- **Hebrews written to Jewish Christians to keep** from slipping **back** into **rites and legalism of Judaism.**
 - **They think they lost** things and heritage (**priests, sacrifices**) by **accepting Gospel.**
 - **Persevere** because they're **not "giving up"**, but **"receiving" better.**
- **Jesus fulfills and supersedes** all great **Old Testament pillars and promises.**
1:1-2a, Lk 24:44 *See outline at the end*.*

Nicknamed The Book of Faith....1 of 3 New Testament commentaries on Habakkuk 2:4. See info at end.**

- **Hebrews tell** us all **about faith**—what it **is**, where it's **from**, what it **rests on**, how to lay **hold of** it, how to **live it out** in everyday life. Hebrews 11:1

Faith in itself is meaningless and powerless.

- **Power of faith derived from object or person** that we put our **faith in.**

Quantity of faith is not important as object of faith is. Matthew 17:20

- **Faith increases** the **more** we **know** person and **see a pattern** that **warrants trust.**
 - **Nothing mysterious** about **Biblical faith....** It is simple **act of will.**
 - **Either believe in God** and His **promises** or **don't.**

Biblical faith is confident trust that **God is** who **He says**, and He **can** and will **do** what He **promises** He'll **do.** Hebrews 1:1-4

- **Faith is means** God determined for **Christians to obtain all** He makes **available** to us **because of Jesus' atonement.** Hebrews 11:6, Rom 8:18
 - **Faith anticipates future, acts in present, evaluates past** from **God's perspective revealed** in His **Word.** 2 Corinthians 4:17
- It's **awareness of invisible realities not perceived by the five senses.**

- **Being certain** of what you do **not see!** **Believing is seeing.**

Hebrews is about faith but more importantly, the **object** of our faith: **Jesus Christ.**

- Hebrews **speaks** of Jesus **more** than any **other epistle.** Hebrews 2:8, 17, 7:22, 9:15
- **Proclaims His character**, redemptive power, and **absolute supremacy.**
 - **Hebrews exalts superiority** of Jesus' person and work, prompting us to **draw nearer** to Him, **thus increasing** our faith and trust in Him!

Not great faith required as much as **faith** in a **great God.**

- **Believe God exists** and is **exactly who** His **Word reveals** Him to be.
 - **If faith weak is** nearly nonexistent—**ask the Lord** to **increase** your faith.

Faith is a gift from God: **Jesus is the founder** (beginning), **perfecter** (completer) of faith.

- God **increases faith** through **daily relationship** with Him and **acting on little belief.**
- **Faith also increased** when we **hear testimonies** of **other's faith.** Hebrews 12:1-2

Chapter 11 full of ordinary people and **did extraordinary things** through the **power of God** by faith.

- Your **faith is in the same God** who wants to **use you** to do **amazing things.**
 - **By faith put complete trust** in **Jesus' person and work**, and He will **generously reward** you as you **pursue your joy** in Him. Hebrews 10:23-24

***Outline of Hebrews:**

- 1:1-8:6 SUPERIORITY OF JESUS
 - 1:1-3 Better Than the Prophets
 - 1:4-2:18 Better Than Angels
 - 3:1-4:13 Better Than Moses
 - 4:16-8:6 Better Than Aaron and The Priesthood
- 8:7-10:18 SUPERIORITY OF THE NEW COVENANT
 - 8:7-13 Better Promises
 - 9:1-28 Better Sanctuary
 - 10:1-18 Better Sacrifice
- 10:19-13:25 EXHORTATIONS DRAWN FROM THIS SUPERIORITY
 - 10:19-39 Draw Near to God and Hold Fast
 - 11:1-12:29 Run the Race of Faith with Endurance
 - 13:1-25 Miscellaneous Exhortations

****Habakkuk 2:4b**

"but the righteous shall live by his faith."

Romans is about “the righteous” what it means to be justified.

Ephesians emphasizes “shall live” ... how to live as justified people.

Hebrews focus is “by...faith” shows how to lay hold of the life by which we are justified.