

Faith

By: Eric Whitaker

- I. Introduction: (Heb 11:1) “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”
 - a. Substance – Assurance
- II. We must have faith
 - a. (Heb 11:6) “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently **seek** him.”
 - i. Must have faith
 - ii. Must believe that God exists
 - iii. Must believe that He will reward those that obey Him
 - b. Biblical faith = Belief in His existence + Obedience
- III. The faith of righteous men – Our example
 - a. Abel
 - i. (Heb 11:4) “**By faith** Abel offered unto God a **more excellent** sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.”
 - ii. (Rom 10:17) “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
 - 1. Abel offered a better sacrifice by hearing and doing what God said
 - 2. By faith – doing things by God’s word
 - 3. Can not be ‘By faith’ Unless instructed by God
 - iii. (Gen 4:6-7) “And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? **If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?** and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.”
 - b. Noah
 - i. (Heb 11:7) “**By faith** Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.”
 - 1. Did Noah become heir of the righteousness by faith only?
 - 2. No
 - ii. True faith motivated Noah to “moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house” – He did this because God commanded him to and he believed God.
 - iii. This is how Noah Became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. – He obeyed God
 - c. Abraham

- i. (Heb 11:8) “By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.”
 - 1. main idea-By faith Abraham obeyed
 - 2. When God called he went

IV. God has called us

- a. (1 Peter 2:21-25) “For even hereunto were ye **called**: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree**, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.”
- b. If you are not a Christian, Jesus has given us a command. Do you have faith in Him?
 - i. (Mark 16:15-16) “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
 - 1. Jesus tells us to go and preach the gospel – death, burial, resurrection – and those that believe in this gospel that if they are baptized they shall be saved. If they don’t believe in the gospel they shall be damned.
- c. If you’re not a Christian, the apostles has given us a command. Do you have faith in the Word of God?
 - i. (Acts 2:37-38) “Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
 - 1. The multitude wanted to know how to be saved. What did Peter and the rest of the apostles say?
 - 2. Repent – Turn away from sin
 - 3. Be baptized – dipped in water
 - 4. For the remission of sins
- d. If you are a Christian, Peter has given us a command. Do you have faith?
 - i. (1 Peter 2:24) “That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness”
 - 1. Dead to sin-Turn away from sinning
 - 2. Live unto righteousness – To do righteousness

V. We must live by faith – That is Hearing God’s word and doing it