

FAITH, HOPE AND THE FUTURE

I. HEBREWS 11:1 – FAITH AND HOPE GO TOGETHER

The saints of old had hope for they believed God's promises for the future.
They had convictions, for they were convinced that what God said was true.

II. HEBREWS 11:2 – FAITH IS HOW WE PLEASE GOD AND GAIN HIS APPROVAL

III. HEBREWS 11:3 – BY FAITH WE BELIEVE GOD CREATED THE WORLD

IV. HEBREWS 11:4 – ABEL HAD FAITH IN GOD

Abel's faith was seen in that he was righteous, and that he obeyed God.

V. HEBREWS 11:5 – ENOCH'S FAITH IN GOD

Enoch's faith was seen in that he walked with God,
and that he was a preacher of righteousness. Jude 14-15

VI. HEBREWS 11:6 – FAITH DEFINED

A person comes into God's presence, believes He exists, believes He is good,
and believes that He wants to personally bless Him. The person believes that
the means of receiving God's blessing isn't by works but by faith. Faith means
we are believing God's promises, and obeying His commands.

VII. HEBREWS 11:7 – NOAH'S FAITH IN GOD

Noah's faith is seen in that God had made him righteous, and that he obeyed God
and built an ark, something that took close to 100 years to do. Ephesians 3:7

VIII. HEBREWS 11:8-19 – ABRAHAM'S FAITH IN GOD

- A. Abraham's faith was seen in that he believed God's promises, and journeyed to
the land God wanted to give him, even though he didn't know all of His plans.
- B. The promises God gave Abraham also related to his eternal future, a heavenly future.
- C. Having faith in God often means sacrifice, even great sacrifice. Luke 9:23-24
- D. Abraham's faith was tested many times, particularly with Isaac. Genesis 22:1-14
- E. Abraham's faith resulted in being made righteous. Romans 4:1-5, 13-25
- F. Faith is contrasted with works in that we are not blessed because of our works,
but because of God's grace, and specifically because of Christ's work for us.
- G. Abraham was a man of faith and hope, faith for the present and for the future.
He lived in the present in light of the future that God had for him.

IX. HEBREWS 11:20-22 – ISAAC, JACOB AND JOSEPH WERE MEN OF FAITH
These godly men believed God, and were all looking ahead to the future.

X. HEBREWS 11:23-29 – MOSES' FAITH IN GOD

- A. Moses' faith enabled him to live a life of sacrifice for God. Numbers 12:3
- B. Moses' faith enabled him to have a close walk with God. Exodus 33:11
- C. Moses' faith enabled him to have hope. Hebrews 11:26

XI. HEBREWS 11:30-38 – MORE EXAMPLES OF SAINTS WHO HAD FAITH IN GOD

- A. Some of these saints did great things by faith, meaning that God was powerfully and miraculously working with them, and fulfilling His purposes.
- B. Some of these saints' lives seemed to end in defeat, but they weren't defeats, for it was God's will, and His way of working and gaining the victory. 2 Corinthians 12:9
- C. The truth of the resurrection, of life after this life: having a better resurrection means believers will die and be raised again, never to die again, and that's because of the power of Christ's resurrection, and its effect on believers. For example, Abraham knew he would die, but would be raised again, and then be rewarded. Hebrews 11:5, 19, 35

XII. HEBREWS 11:39-40 - THE CONCLUSION

- A. The believers spoken of in Hebrews 11, along with all Old Testament believers, did not receive the promises God had made to them.
- B. The realization of promises made to church age believers will coincide with the realization of promises made to Old Testament believers. All believers from the Old Testament time and from the church age will be glorified when Jesus Christ raptures the church at the end of this age. Mark 13:27, 1 Thessalonians 4:17
- C. Promises made to Old Testament saints about being blessed by God are in conjunction with promises to church age believers, and will come true after they are glorified, when Christ begins His reign over this world. This will be during the coming kingdom ages.

THE HUMBLE WILL INHERIT THE LAND (Psalm 37:11). BLESSED ARE THE HUMBLE, FOR THEY WILL INHERIT THE EARTH (Matthew 5:5).