



CHRIST
REFORMED BAPTIST
CHURCH

Biblical Preaching & Reverent Worship

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Enduring Faith *Exemplified- Prt.1*

Heb.11:2-3

‘Study to show thyself approved unto God...’ – 2 Timothy 2:15
The importance of reading and learning God’s word is a vital part of
both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to
God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these
sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon
notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of
Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact

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INTRODUCTION

Today we will BEGIN to consider how Enduring Faith is Exemplified.

Roadmap of the New Section: Enduring Faith Defined (11:1) Exemplified (11:2-40), and finally Commanded (12:1-1).

HOW THEN ARE WE GOING TO CONSIDER THIS TEXT?

v.2 – The Report/Testimony of the Elders.

v.3 – Enduring Faith an Epistemological Foundation.

I. THE REPORT/TESTIMONY of the ELDERS

v.2 “*For by it the elders obtained a good report (testimony).*”

(a) WHO ARE THE ELDERS?

ELDERS - Strong's G4245 - πρεσβύτερος pres-boo'-ter-os
I. elder, of age, - the elder of two people - advanced in life, an elder, a senior.

(b) THEIR REPORT.

“*obtained a good report*” = “*theological passive phrase*”, Indicating that it is not just a witness of Scripture, but rather the personal witness of God in Scripture.

- The “good report” here OUGHT NOT to be understood chiefly as a high opinion given to them by their descendants, but rather the honorable record which God has given of them.

(c) OUR OWN REPORT.

Matt.25:21 “Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”

- Consider the basis of this praise:

That the servant simply uses whatever means God grants him in the active employment of advancing God’s purposes (revealed will) !

Eph.2:8-10 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

II. ENDURING FAITH / EPISTEMOLOGICAL FOUNDATION.

v.3 “Through faith **we understand** that the worlds (universe) were framed (created) by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear (are visible).”

UNDERSTAND - νοιέω νοιέō, noy-eh'-o – Strong’s G3539

1. to perceive with the mind, to understand, **to have understanding**

- What is Epistemology? The word itself is from Ancient Greek ἐπιστήμη (epistēmē) 'knowledge', and -ology), or the theory of knowledge.

Rom.1:19-21 Rom.“Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”

Darwin’s Black Box

Darwin's Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution (1996; second edition 2006) by Michael J. Behe,

Psalm 19:1 - “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the skies show forth his handy work”

Psalm 139:14 “...I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works...”

THE BASIS IF THIS CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING / EPISTEMOLOGY.

“...that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”

How is this the BASIS of our Epistemology?

(a) Its creator - Christ

Heb.1:2 “Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;”

John 1:3 “All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.”

Ps.33:6 “By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.”

(b) Its Purpose – Christ’s Glory

Rev.4:11 “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

Rom.11:36 “For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever.”

(c) Produces Encouragement / Confidence

Isa.40:26 “Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.”