Hebrews 11:5-7

- Abel, Enoch and Noah were before the flood.
- Three stages:
  - Abel commended as righteous (salvation by believing the promise.)
  - Enoch walked with God in life and was taken (taken before the judgment)
  - Noah understood the passing away of his age/world and the coming of the new age or a new world after the coming flood. (lived through judgment into the next age)

11:5 – "**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**

πίστις	Ἑνώχ	μετατίθημι	ὁ	μή	ὁράω	θάνατος	καί	οὐ	εὑρίσκω	διότι
by faith	Enoch	was removed		not	to see	death	and	not	was found	because

μετατίθημι	αὐτός	ὁ	θεός	πρό	γάρ	ὁ	μετάθεσις	μαρτυρέω
removed	him		God	before	for		removal	he has obtained witness

εὐαρεστέω		ὁ	θεός
to having been well pleasing			to God

Genesis 5:18, 21-24

The Septuagint says,

> "Enoch was **well-pleasing** to God after his begetting Mathusala . . . And Enoch was **well-pleasing** to God, and was not found, because God translated him."

The translators of the Septuagint simply interpreted the meaning of the phrase "walked with God". They correctly took this phrase to mean Enoch lived in a way that pleased God. This is attested to in Micah 6:8. Thus, the writer of Hebrews doesn't say Enoch "walked with God" but instead says, "εὐαρεστέω" or "well-pleasing"

The Septuagint also says in Genesis 4:24, "And Enoch was well-pleasing to God, and was not found, because God translated him."

1

Again, the focus is on the righteousness of a man, but this righteousness is credited to the man's faith.

The word "μετατίθημι" - *metatithemi* – means to transfer" and "to change". It is translated "removed" or "translated". This word is also used in Acts 7:16 – "From there they were underlined removed (carried over) to Shechem." Galatians 1:6 – "quickly deserting (removed from) Him who called you." Hebrews 7:12 – "For when the priesthood is changed…"

11:6 – "**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**.

5565 [e]	1161 [e]	4102 [e]	102 [e]	2100 [e]	4100 [e]	1063 [e]	1163 [e]	3588 [e]	4334 [e]	3588 [e]
chōris	de	pisteōs	adynaton	euarestēsai	pisteusai	gar	dei	ton	proserchomenon	tō
6 χωρὶς	δὲ	πίστεως ,	ἀδύνατον	εὐαρεστῆσαι .	πιστεῦσαι	γὰρ	δεῖ	τὸν	προσερχόμενον	τῷ
Without	now	faith	[it is] impossible	to please [Him]	To believe	for	it behooves	the one	drawing near	-
Prep	Conj	N-GFS	Adj-NNS	V-ANA	V-ANA	Conj	V-PIA-3S	Art-AMS	V-PPM/P-AMS	Art-DMS

2316 [e]	3754 [e]	1510 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	1567 [e]	846 [e]	3406 [e]	1096 [e]
Theō	hoti	estin	kai	tois	ekzētousin	auton	misthapodotēs	ginetai
Θεῷ ,	ὅτι	ἔστιν ,	καὶ	τοῖς	ἐκζητοῦσιν	αὐτὸν ,	μισθαποδότης	γίνεται .
to God	that	He exists	and [that]	to those	earnestly seeking out	Him	a rewarder	He becomes
N-DMS	Conj	V-PIA-3S	Conj	Art-DMP	V-PPA-DMP	PPro-AM3S	N-NMS	V-PIM/P-3S

χωρίς δέ πίστις ἀδύνατος εὐαρεστέω πιστεύω γάρ δεῖ ὁ προσέρχομαι
without but faith impossible well pleasing to believe for it the approaching

θεός ὅτι εἰμί καί ὁ ἐκζητέω αὐτός μισθαποδότης γίνομαι
to God that he is and the seeking out him a rewarder becomes

To live by faith is to be able to produce righteousness in life because of faith in your soul.
So, a person of faith must:
1. Believe that there is a God
2. Believe that God fulfills his promises

Once God has spoken his word (or, promises) then:
1. God's responsibility is to fulfill his word
2. Man's responsibility is to obey God's word

Anyone who:
- expects to "come to him" or "**approach God**" (represented by Enoch being taken by God)
- must be "**well-pleasing**" to God.
- To be "well-pleasing" you **must have faith**.
- To have faith you **must believe God is** and that **he keeps his word**.

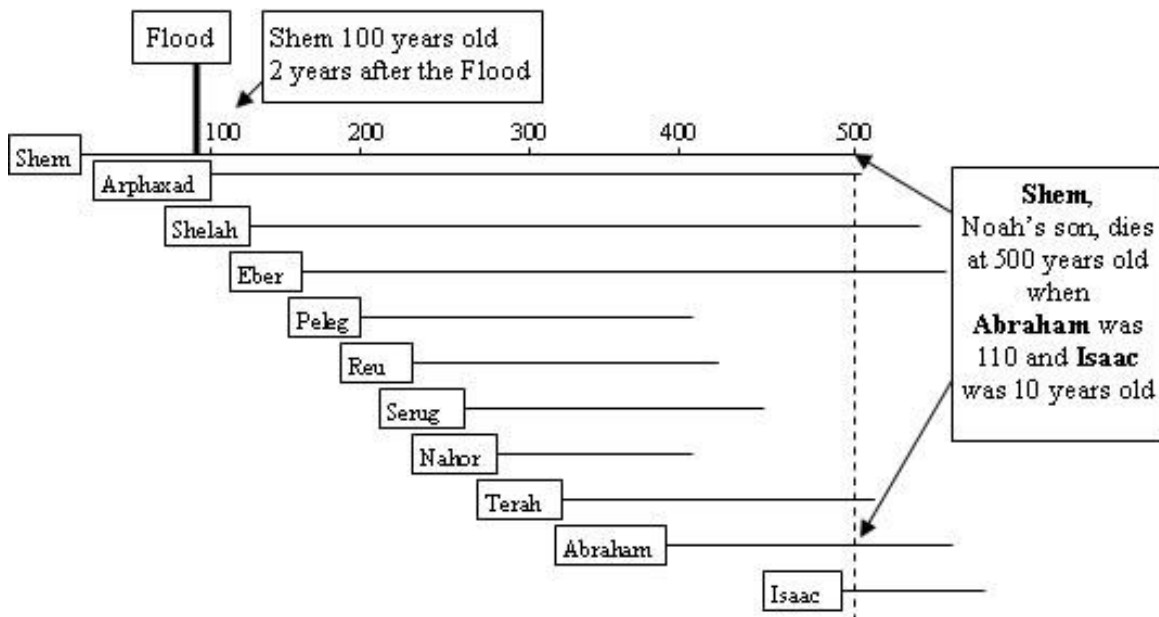You cannot trust that God will keep his word:
- If you do not believe God exists.
- If this is the case then you cannot have faith.
- Without faith you cannot live a righteous, "well-pleasing" life.
- If you are not "well-pleasing" to God you cannot and will not approach him.

Approaching God is important to the author of Hebrews.
The application here may be the readers of this letter need to learn how to approach God.
This has been mentioned in: 4:16; 7:25; 10:1, 22.

Age when son was born:	Father	Age when son was born:
130	Adam	130
105	Seth	105
90	Enosh	90
70	Kenan	70
65	Mahalalel	65
162	Jared	162
65	Enoch	65
969 at his death	Methuselah	187
	Lamech	182
	Noah	600 at the time of the flood (Gen.7:6)
TOTAL YEARS FROM Adam until Methuselah dies: **1,656 years**		*TOTAL YEARS FROM* Adam until the flood: **1,656 years**

11:7 –"**By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith**.

4102 [e]	5537 [e]			3575 [e]	4012 [e]	3588 [e]	3369 [e]	991 [e]		2125 [e]	
Pistei	chrēmatistheis			Nōe	peri	tōn	mēdepō	blepomenōn		eulabētheis	
7 Πίστει	χρηματισθεὶς			Νῶε	περὶ	τῶν	μηδέπω	βλεπομένων ,		εὐλαβηθεὶς ,	
By faith	having been divinely instructed			Noah	concerning	the things	not yet	seen		having been moved with fear	
N-DFS	V-APP-NMS			N-NMS	Prep	Art-GNP	Adv	V-PPM/P-GNP		V-APP-NMS	

2680 [e]		2787 [e]	1519 [e]	4991 [e]		3588 [e]	3624 [e]	846 [e]	1223 [e]	3739 [e]	2632 [e]	3588 [e]	2889 [e]	2532 [e]
kateskeuasen		kibōton	eis	sōtērian		tou	oikou	autou	di'	hēs	katekrinen	ton	kosmon	kai
κατεσκεύασεν		κιβωτὸν	εἰς	σωτηρίαν		τοῦ	οἴκου	αὐτοῦ ,	δι'	ἧς	κατέκρινεν	τὸν	κόσμον ,	καὶ
prepared		an ark	for	[the] salvation		of the	household	of him	by	which	he condemned	the	world	and
V-AIA-3S		N-AFS	Prep	N-AFS		Art-GMS	N-GMS	PPro-GM3S	Prep	RelPro-GFS	V-AIA-3S	Art-AMS	N-AMS	Conj

3588 [e]	2596 [e]	4102 [e]	1343 [e]		1096 [e]	2818 [e]
tēs	kata	pistin	dikaiosynēs		egeneto	klēronomos
τῆς	κατὰ	πίστιν	δικαιοσύνης ,		ἐγένετο	κληρονόμος .
of the	according to	faith	righteousness [that is]		he became	heir
Art-GFS	Prep	N-AFS	N-GFS		V-AIM-3S	N-NMS

πίστις   χρηματίζω   Νῶε   περί   ὁ   μηδέπω   βλέπω   εὐλαβέομαι   κατασκευάζω

κιβωτός   εἰς   σωτηρία   ὁ   οἶκος   αὐτός   διά   ὅς   κατακρίνω   ὁ   κόσμος

καί   ὁ   κατά   πίστις   δικαιοσύνη   γίνομαι   κληρονόμος

Noah is an example of faith in action.
When warned of the coming judgment Noah:
1. Believed in God
2. Believed God kept his word. In this case his promise to destroy the earth.

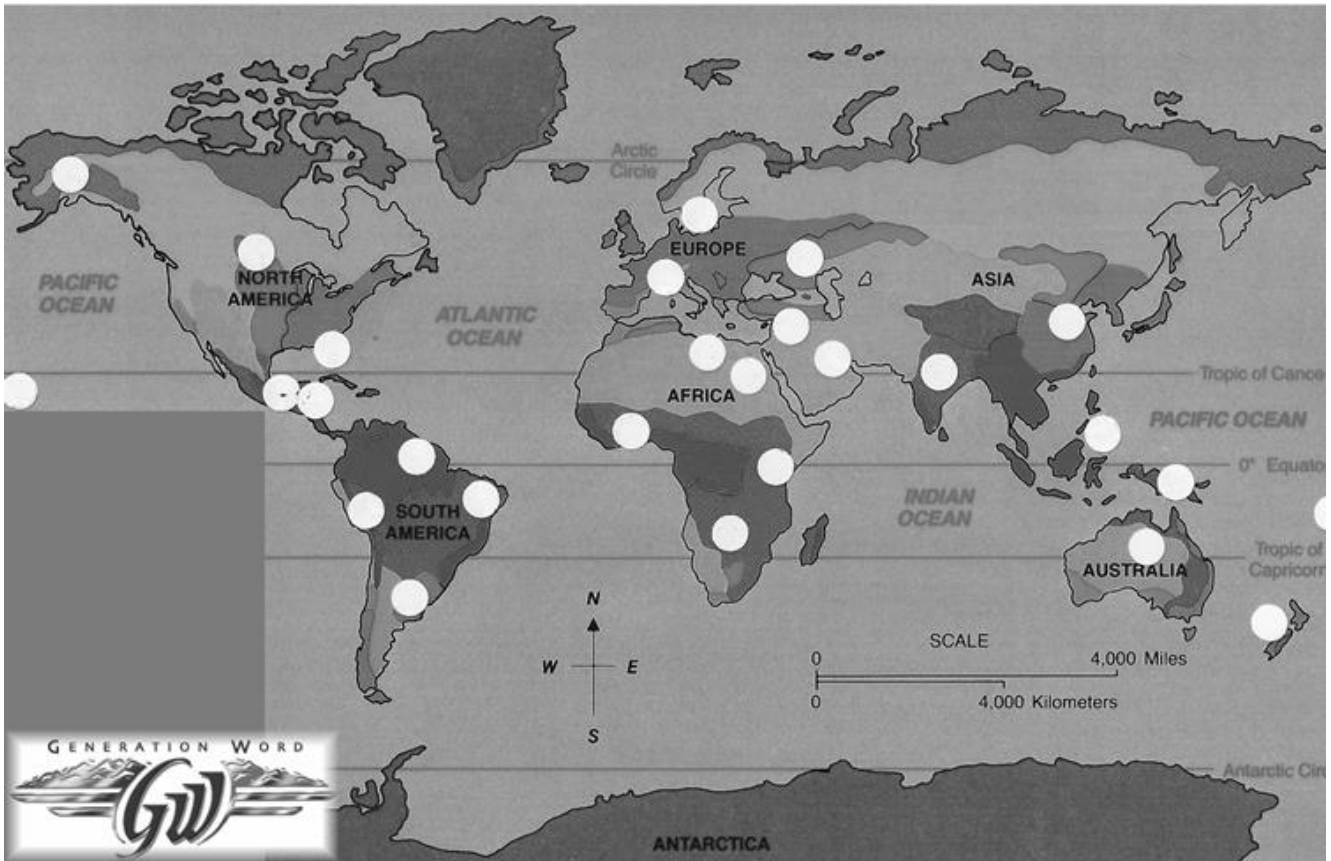This was all accomplished by faith. The result was:
1. the condemnation of his generation
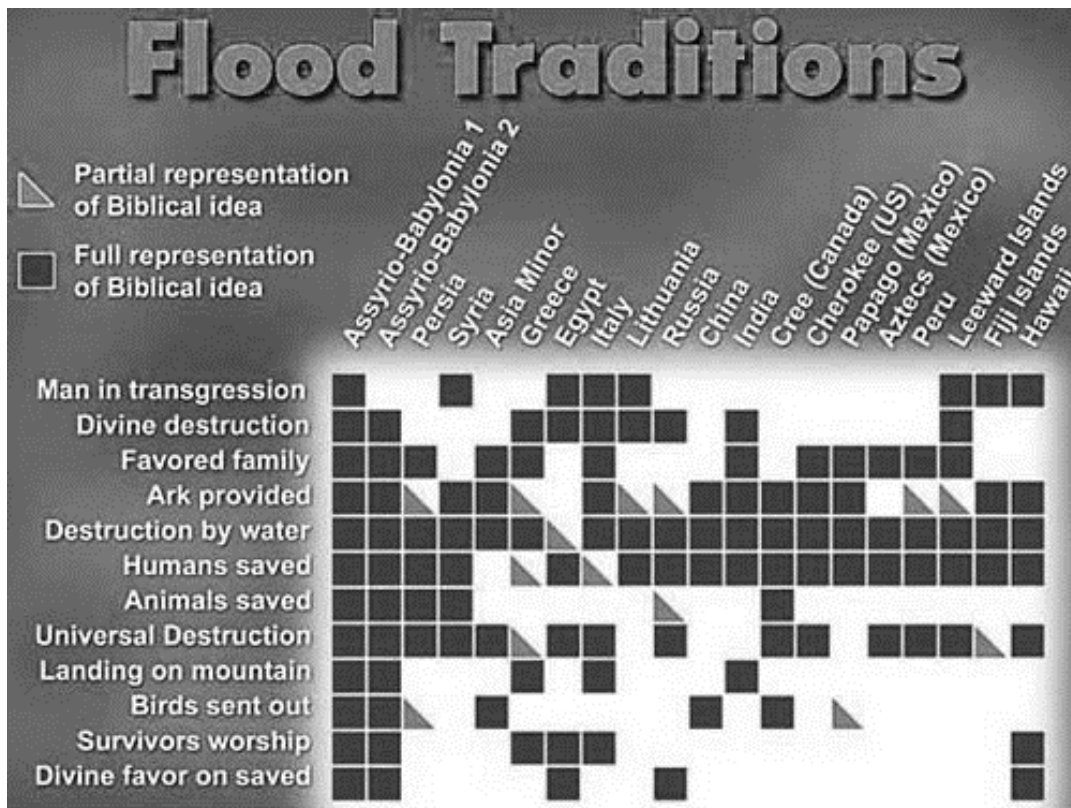2. became the heir of righteousness

Events NOT YET SEEN today:
1. 2 Peter 3:6
2. Isaiah 2:1-5
3. Ezekiel 40:1-4
4. Psalm 48:2 – "Beautiful in loftiness, the joy of all the earth, like the peaks of Zaphon is Mount Zion, the city of the great King."
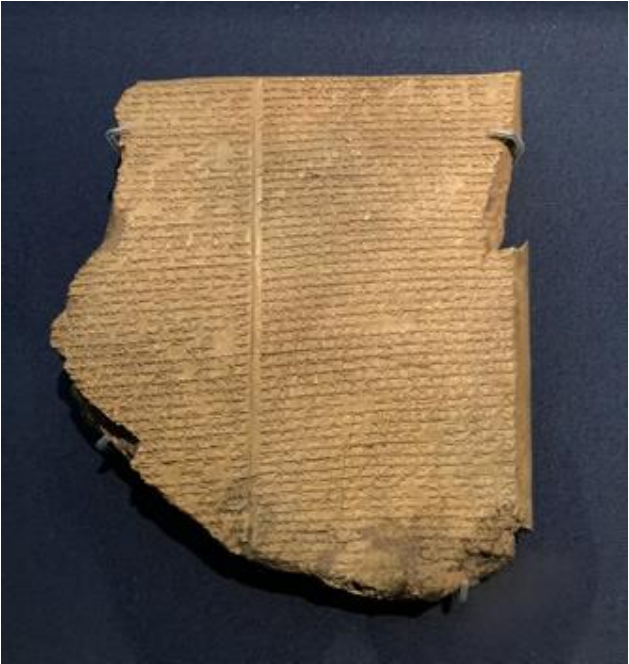5. Zechariah 14:3-11
   Faith has been described as:
1. Proof of the unseen reality (11:1)
2. Mental perception that the seen world exists because of the unseen world (11:3)
3. Basis for righteous actions (11:4)
4. Means of continuing after death (11:4)
5. Resulting in ability to approach God, indeed, being taken to God (11:5)
6. Necessary to please God (11:6)
7. Causes active and passive results (11:7)
   a. Active – built an ark
   b. Passive – condemned the world
   c. Passive – became heir of the righteousness

The map above shows the location of a few of the original flood legends that were native to the people from these areas. These flood accounts did not come from the Bible but were handed down through generations and probably date back to the actual event recorded accurately and in detail in the Bible.

Flood Table or Gilgamesh Table (British Museum)

The Gilgamesh Epic of the king of Uruk from around 2800 BC were written down around 2100 BC. The plaque above shows Gilgamesh standing in victory on the slain head of Humbaba which is recorded in the fifth tablet (OIM).