

FAITH THAT PLEASURES GOD

Hebrews 10:35-11:6

I. FOUNDATIONAL FAITH (11:1, 6)

A. Definition of Faith (11:1; 2 Cor 5:7)—believing in the reality of something that can't be seen

B. Essential Faith (11:6)—foundational to everything else

1. **God Exists** (11:3)—His claim as Creator

2. **God Rewards** (10:35-36, 11:2)—

a. **It is possible to please Him.** (Jer 29:13; Mat 7:7-11)

b. **He is worth pleasing.** (Ps 63:1, 3)

C. Saving Faith (10:38; Hab 2:4; Rom 3:28; Eph 2:8-10; Tit 1:16; Jam 2:18-20, 26)—

1. **It is not our good works that save us but Christ's work that saves us.** (Rom 3:28; Isa 64:6)

2. **Our good works are the result, not the cause of our salvation.** (Eph 2:8-10; Gal 2:20)

3. **The righteous life is a life of faith.** (Gal 2:20)

4. **Faith that does not produce good works is not saving faith.** ((Tit 1:16; Jam 2:18-20, 26)

II. LIVING FAITH (10:35-39)—

A. Confidence (10:23, 35)—sure, certain, solidly convinced, rely upon

1. **In the Truth of Christianity** (10:23)

a. **The Authority of Scripture**—OT prophecy of the Messiah

b. **The Message of the Gospel**—Fulfillment of prophecy in Christ

c. **The Certainty of Christ's Promise**—power, authority, credibility

2. **In the Return of Christ** (10:37; Isa 26:20; Hab 2:3-4)—Our confidence is anchored in the eternal perspective of history.

B. Endurance(10:36)—fortitude, strength, patience to stand firm and persevere in adversity

1. **We will experience tribulation in this world.** (Jn 16:33; 2 Tim 3:12)—you know what to expect

2. **The duration of trial is limited.** (10:37)—won't last forever

3. **The reward will be worth the trouble.** (2 Cor 4:16-18)—

C. Action (10:36)—Faith is observable; it is evidenced by action.

1. **Faith has implications for every aspect of life.**

2. **Faith determines loyalties and priorities.**

3. **Faith guides our decisions and course of action.**

III. EXAMPLES OF FAITH (Heb 11)—the faith of Abel and Enoch pleased God

A. Abel's Offering (11:4; Gen 4:1-12)—

1. **Abel's faith still speaks.**

2. **Faith is necessary to please God.**

3. **The unrighteous will persecute the righteous.** (Mat 5:10-12; 2 Tim 3:12; 1 Pet 4:12)

B. Enoch's Rapture (11:5; Gen 5:21-24)—

1. **Enoch “walked with God.”**—fellowship, friendship, like-mindedness; life of prioritized time invested in the relationship

2. **Enoch did not experience death.**—reward

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