

## Faith that Saves & Calls Us Home

Hebrews 11:7-16

I. **NOAH'S FAITH** (7; Gen 6-9)—a picture of salvation, believing and obeying God to escape destruction

A. **Informed His Understanding** (Gen 6:8-9)—He believed God's warning

1. Faith **influences our affections**.—what we love, desire, prioritize
2. Faith **produces godly fear**.—believes in God's judgment

B. **Compelled His Action** (11:6)—

1. **Reverent Righteous Life**—he walked with God
2. **Specific Obedience for Salvation**—did what God said to be saved

C. **Condemned the World** (2 Pet 2:5)—Faithful witness does not always produce converts

1. **By His Example**—demonstration of his faith, evidence of sincerity
  - a. **Not participating** in the behavior of the ungodly (Ps 1:1)
  - b. **Preparing** for the coming judgment
2. **By His Exhortation**—they were warned but refused to heed
  - a. **Living faith should provoke questions, start conversations**. (1 Pet 3:15)
  - b. **Don't expect to fit in with the ungodly world**. (Jam 4:4)

D. **Instructs Us** (Mat 24:37-39)

1. **Judgment is coming**. (Ps 75; Mat 12:41-42 & 24:37-39; Jn 5:22-29; Heb 10:27; 1 Pet 4:17; Jude 1:14-15).
2. **People of the world won't believe it**. (2 Pet 3:3-7; Jude 1:18)
3. **Warning of judgment requires action to avoid it**. (Mk 1:15; Jn 6:28, 29, 40; Act 4:12 & 16:31)
  - a. **Repent**—change direction, turn from worldliness and sin to God
  - b. **Believe in Christ**—follow Him and do what He says

II. **ABRAHAM'S FAITH** (8-13; Gen 12:1-8)—pursuing the promised inheritance

A. **God Initiated Relationship**.

1. **Revealed Himself to Abraham**
2. **Called Abraham to do something**
3. **Promised blessing to Abraham**

**B. Abraham Responded in Faith.** He believed God and acted on faith.

1. **Left home to follow God to a place he had never been**
2. **Lived as a Foreigner in the Promised Land**
  - a. **Lived in tents**—not permanent accommodations
  - b. **Waited on God’s timing**—not “living his best life now”

**C. Sarah’s Miraculous Conception** (11, 12)—

1. **God forgives our failures and records our success!**
2. **God’s perfect faithfulness is greater than our imperfect faith.**

**D. Abraham Died in Faith** (Jn 8:56-58)—having seen and greeted from afar the things that were promised

1. **Faith looks beyond this life.** (Job 19:26; Mk 12:26-27)
2. **All God’s promises are fulfilled in Christ.** (2 Cor 1:20)

**III. THE CITY OF GOD** (10, 13-16)—longing for home...**A. A Better Homeland** (Heb 10:32-34 & 11:16)—not where we came from but where we are going; *stop letting where you came from define you!*

1. **Heavenly Country** (1 Pet 1:4)—of God; imperishable, undefined and unending
2. **Not of this World** (Mat 5:5; Jn 18:36; 2 Pet 3:13; Rev 21:1)—not built by man or granted by authority of the present system

**B. A City with Foundations** (10)—solid joys and lasting treasures

1. **Faith provides perspective to value correctly.** (1 Jn 2:17)
2. **Faith gives us patience to wait.** (Heb 10:32-34)

**C. Prepared for us by God** (16)

1. **God is the Author and Builder.** (1 Cor 2:9; Mat 16:18)
2. **We are the Recipients.** (Jn 14:2-3)
  - a. **We must turn from the world and follow Jesus to get there.** (Mat 8:22 & 16:24; Jn 13:36)
  - b. **Home is where Jesus is.** (Ps 23:6 & 90:1)

**LISTEN TO “MY LAND” (Celtic Thunder)**

<https://youtu.be/VBW4bZTRE4M>