

What Faith Is...
Series: The Supremacy of Jesus
August 22, 2010 Pastor Bill Bump

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews is one of the most well-known chapters in the Bible.

DEFINITION OF FAITH

Hebrews 11:1, 2, 6 (NLT) What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see. God gave his approval to people in days of old because of their faith...So, you see, it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that there is a God and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

1. Faith begins with hope.

Throughout the Bible, the great enemy of faith is a complacent spirit, an attitude of satisfaction with the status quo.

2. Faith includes the conviction of things not seen.

It means we become aware that we are surrounded by an invisible spiritual kingdom.

3. Faith demands a belief that there is a God.

Conclusion: Without faith it is impossible to please God.

DEMONSTRATIONS OF FAITH

1. Abel

Hebrews 11:4 (NLT) It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. God accepted Abel's offering to show that he was a righteous man. And although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us because of his faith.

Abel demonstrates faith because he believed God and obeyed what God said.

2. Enoch

Hebrews 11:5 (NLT) It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—"suddenly he disappeared because God took him." But before he was taken up, he was approved as pleasing to God.

Enoch demonstrates faith because he walked with God.

3. Noah

Hebrews 11:7 (NLT) It was by faith that Noah build an ark to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about something that had never happened before. By his faith he condemned the rest of the world and was made right in God's sight.

Noah demonstrates faith by believing God was in control.

CONCLUSION

Faith is believing there is a dimension to life other than that which can be touched, tasted, seen or felt. There is also the spiritual kingdom of God.

God is still calling men and women to live by faith.