

Hebrews 11: Can I Trust God? Can God Trust Me?

Part 3: What will be said about You? (11:4-7)

Vignette: a brief description of a central point of a story, a person or an event. God now gives us our first three vignettes of *examples of trust*.

Each teaches us that *by our trust* we can leave the right kind of legacy for those who follow. In some size sphere of influence, *we all leave a legacy, for good or ill*.

Therefore, my dear friends, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the LORD, because you know that *everything you ever do for the LORD* is NEVER in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

The most important part of our legacy is the part still ahead of us. The *home stretch of a race* is always the most important part. In Christ the best is yet to come.

1. **ABEL:** the right approach to God = “*Abel offered the better sacrifice.*”

By his trust Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By his trust he was commended as a righteous man, when God gave a witness to his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead.

Hebrews 11:4 (Genesis 4:1-8; Hebrews 12:24)

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; He will crush your head and you will strike His heel...

Then the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, to cloth them.

Genesis 3:15, 21

Abel trusted this legacy. He came to God through the lamb that was slain. **This the Circle of GRACE versus the Circle of WORKS.**

One gives life and the other kills. Now to vignette #2:

2. **ENOCH:** the right relationship with God = “*Enoch walked with God...*”

By his trust Enoch was *taken from this life*, so that he did not experience death; he could *not be found because God had taken him away*. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

Hebrews 11:5

When Enoch had lived 65 years he *became the father of Methuselah*. And after he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked with God... then he was no more, *because God took him away*.

Genesis 5:21-23

A walk with God is a steady, deliberate journey in the same direction—toward the heart of God. Col. 2:6 says “just as you received Christ Jesus so walk in Him.”

For without faith [trust] it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him *must believe* that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6

God rewards those who sincerely SEEK Him—not those who FEEL Him. The Biblical answer to “where are You God?” is that He is right where He promised He would be when He said: “*I will never leave you or forsake you.*”

3. **NOAH:** the right obedience to God:

By faith Noah, when warned about *things not yet seen*, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. *By his trust he condemned the world* and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Hebrews 11:7; (see Genesis 6:9, 22; 2 Peter 2:5; 1 Peter 3:20)

APPLICATION:

How are you doing in each area? What needs to change?

- **Abel** = FAITH *rests on God's goodness* (our security is in Christ)
- **Enoch** = FAITH *walks with God* (a long, steady, daily journey of trust and seeking God's will)
- **Noah** = FAITH *persists in obeying God*, (even before there is visible evidence, even in the face of scorn and hostility.)

These are three keys of genuine trust for leaving a lasting legacy.