

The Big Deal About Faith

What Faith Is, What it Does, and Why it Matters

Hebrews 11:1-3

I. What is faith (v. 1)?

- A. Faith is the guarantee that gives confidence for the realization of a future promise (v. 1a).
- B. The guarantee is the evidence that convinces us to move toward that future (v. 1b).
- C. We possess a faith in Christ that gives us confidence for our future (Rom. 8:32; 2 Cor. 1:22, 5:5; Eph. 1:13-14).

II. What does faith do (vv. 2-3)?

- A. Living by faith is how we receive commendation from God (v. 2).
- B. Living by faith is how we see God's glory revealed in creation (v. 3).
 - 1. Faith gives us understanding that Creation is ordered by God's word (v. 3a).
 - 2. Because Creation is ordered by God, we commit to worship God and not the Creation (v. 3b; cf. Acts 7:39-43; Rom. 1:19-23).
- C. Faith is what allows us to enjoy the benefits of trusting God (Heb. 11:6; Jer. 29:11-13).

III. Why does faith matter?

- A. We must continue to respond to God's calling by faith.
- B. God gives us faith to pursue his promises during times of uncertainty.
 - 1. We are responsible for what he has revealed to us.
 - 2. We are responsible for what he has given to us.
 - 3. We can have confidence in God no matter what we must endure.
- C. God sees us and approves of us as we move toward His calling by faith.
- D. God wants us to see Him and trust Him through everything instead of turning to idols.