

*Hebrews 11:1 Faith that Sees the Unseen
May 24 2026 Calvary Chapel Titusville
Pastor Paul Andris*

Hebrews 11 is one of the most compelling passages in all of Scripture on the subject of faith. The immediate context reaches back into Hebrews 10, where the writer quotes Habakkuk: *Now the just shall live by faith; But if [anyone] draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him." (Hebrews 10:38 NKJV)*

That statement is also echoed in:

But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God [is] evident, for "the just shall live by faith." (Galatians 3:11 NKJV)

Faith is the atmosphere in which the Christian life breathes.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1 NKJV)

Faith is rooted in who God is, not in how we feel.

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24 NKJV)

Biblical faith also faces reality honestly.

while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen [are] temporary, but the things which are not seen [are] eternal. (2 Corinthians 4:18 NKJV)

Hebrews 11:1 shows faith in motion. *"The Substance of Things Hoped For"*

In the Bible, hope is not uncertainty. It is expectancy.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace (Ephesians 1:7 NKJV)

[Let your] conduct [be] without covetousness; [be] content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5 NKJV)

looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, (Titus 2:13 NKJV)

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. (1 John 3:2 NKJV)

Faith is the present grip on God's future grace.

He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. (Romans 4:20-21 NKJV)

The second phrase deepens the first: faith is *"the evidence of things not seen."*

For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. (2 Corinthians 5:7-8 NKJV)

Faith treats God's unseen promises as the most solid realities in life.

"God [is] not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? (Numbers 23:19 NKJV)

Faith is not confidence in confidence; faith is confidence in God.

Hebrews 11:1 compels believers to examine the content of their hope.

Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, (1 Peter 1:3-4 NKJV)

A living hope can sustain living saints because it is grounded in a living Savior.

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Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls-- Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. (Habakkuk 3:17-18 NKJV)

There is dangers with misdirected Hope.

"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (Matthew 6:31-33 NKJV)

Faith clings to what God has promised, not to what the heart merely prefers.

Beloved, I beg [you] as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, (1 Peter 2:11 NKJV)

The church should not root ultimate hope in a fading age.

Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ [who is] our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. (Colossians 3:2-4 NKJV)

Biblical faith lifts the eyes.

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy [to be compared] with the glory which shall be revealed in us. (Romans 8:18 NKJV)

Faith does not deny the weight of sorrow; it denies sorrow the final word.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV)

Faith obeys before outcomes are visible. Faith anchors the soul in trial.

This [hope] we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the [Presence] behind the veil, (Hebrews 6:19 NKJV)

Faith does not make Christ useful; faith makes Christ precious.

Hope in what He has promised.

Set the mind on things above.

Walk by faith, not by sight.

Not one word of God can fail.