

Faith:

Hebrews 11:1

“Faith is the *hypastasis* of things hoped for, the *elenchos* of things not seen.”

“Faith is the *assurance/confidence* of things hoped for, the *conviction* of things not seen.” (NIV, ESV, NASB)

“Faith is the *substance/reality* of things hoped for, the *evidence* of things not seen.” (KJV, CEV, NLT)

- Faith: Hebrews 11
 - faith is not a mental state that we have to force ourselves into
- Blind faith is unbiblical
- Hebrews 11:11-12
 - Does Sarah have absolute certainty? No
 - Does she have a reason to believe it? Yes

Faith

- 1 Begins with reason
 - 2 Faith is about actions and choices
 - 3 Christian faith begins with reason, and is completed by faithful action and obedience
- Hebrews 11:17-19
 - Abraham Reasons
 - Abraham didn't get the full realization on earth, but he did get a glimpse (Hebrews 11:13)
 - Through faith, we get a taste of what is to come.
 - Stool analogy
 - Evidence (testimony)
 - Reality/substance (supported and carried by a power other than my own)
 - We have a good reason to choose to stake our whole lives on Jesus.
 - He was a man in actual history.
 - He lived and taught these things.
 - He died on a cross
 - Did he rise from the grave?

There are hundreds of eye witness accounts that attest to these claims.

It happened at the center of one of the greatest cities of the ancient world.

- Should we poke and prod these reasons? Definitely (if you need to)
- Think it through—reasoned belief—action or choice—spirit empowerment
- <http://www.timmackie.com/science-and-faith/>
- Sharing Jesus:
I love music, theology, LOTR, Star Wars, DC comics, Physics, basketball, video games, TV shows, cars, hiking, sailing, etc...

We talk about what we are passionate about.

- If we have reasoned biblical Faith in God as our Savior, Healer, Empowerer, and King, Why do we rarely, if ever, talk about Him?
- I'm not saying that we should force evangelism or theological discussion into every conversation.
- If we truly Love Jesus, we'll want to know other people's opinion of him.
- Rodger Archer, "what do you think about Jesus"
- Not necessarily to correct it (because maybe we're in the wrong)

Charles Ellicott's commentary: "every genuine act of faith is the act of the whole man, not only his understanding, reason, beliefs, affections, will, or choices, but of all of them combined...And thus faith becomes the faculty in man through which the spiritual world exercises its sway over him, and thereby enables him to overcome the world of sin and death."