

Great Faith – A Crowd of Witnesses pt. 1

(Hebrews 11:1-4 nlt)

11 Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. ²Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation.

³By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

⁴It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.

- Faith is the substance of things hope for and through faith you earn a good reputation
- By faith we believe that God created the heaven and the earth
- Abel was a righteous man because he gave his best as an offering to God and God accepted it and not Cains

(Genesis 4:1-5 nlt)

4 Now Adam^[a] had sexual relations with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When she gave birth to Cain, she said, “With the Lord’s help, I have produced^[b] a man!”² Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel. When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground.³ When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord.⁴ Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift,⁵ but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.

- Cain treating the offering like it wasn’t important while Abel was intentional in his offering that he gave with honor
- Everything belongs to the Lord to begin with. We just have the privilege of being a steward of it.

(Psalms 24:1 nlt)

The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.

- The silver and the gold belong to God

(Haggai 2:6-9 nlt)

⁶“For this is what the Lord of Heaven’s Armies says: In just a little while I will again shake the heavens and the earth, the oceans and the dry land. ⁷I will shake all the nations, and the treasures of all the nations will be brought to this Temple. I will fill this place with glory, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. ⁸The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. ⁹The future glory of this Temple will be greater than its past glory, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. And in this place I will bring peace. I, the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, have spoken!”

- By faith We must honor the Lord with our possessions just like Abel did

(Proverbs 3:9-10 nlt)

⁹Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. ¹⁰Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

- Let’s go back to our text Hebrew 11 verse 5

(Hebrews 11:5-7 nlt)

⁵ It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—“he disappeared, because God took him.”^[a] For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God. ⁶ And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

⁷ It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith.

- Enoch was known as a person who pleased God, which means he was a man of faith. Scripture says he walked with God.
- Its impossible to please God without faith, so Enoch believed in God exists so much, that God rewarded him by taken him and never tasting death
- Noah built the Ark by faith when God warned about things that never happen before
- Just because it never happen before doesn't mean it can't happen especially if God said it

(Hebrews 11:8-16 nlt)

⁸ It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. ⁹ And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents. And so did Isaac and Jacob, who inherited the same promise. ¹⁰ Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God.

¹¹ It was by faith that even Sarah was able to have a child, though she was barren and was too old. She believed^[b] that God would keep his promise. ¹² And so a whole nation came from this one man who was as good as dead—a nation with so many people that, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore, there is no way to count them.

¹³ All these people died still believing what God had promised them. They did not receive what was promised, but they saw it all from a distance and welcomed it. They agreed that they were foreigners and nomads here on earth. ¹⁴ Obviously people who say such things are looking forward to a country they can call their own. ¹⁵ If they had longed for the country they came from, they could have gone back. ¹⁶ But they were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

- Where in this world but we're not of it
- we shouldn't worry about what he need by faith be believe that God will supply. If we seek the Kingdom of God and live righteously Hod will give us what we need

(Matthew 6:25-34 nlt)

²⁵ “That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? ²⁷ Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

²⁸ “And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, ²⁹ yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. ³⁰ And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

³¹ “So don't worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ ³² These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. ³³ Seek the Kingdom of God^[e] above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

³⁴ “So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.