

Hebrews 10:32-11:12

Hebrews 10:32-34

But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, ³³sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. ³⁴For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.

Hebrews 10:35-36

Therefore do not throw away your confidence [boldness], which has a great reward. ³⁶For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay;

Hebrews 10:38-39

³⁸but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him." ³⁹But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

The pattern of examples of faith in Hebrews 11:

- 1. "By faith"
- 2. The name of the person
- 3. The action by which their faith was expressed
- 4. The way their faith proved to be greater than the power of death

In Hebrews 11, faith is described as:

- 1. Confidence in God's goodness in the future
- 2. Recognizing God's loving presence with us spiritually right now
- 3. Acting like God loves us and is telling us the truth

Now faith is the <u>assurance</u>* of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

*hypostasis - the actual thing rather than something that merely seems to be real

For by it [faith] the people of old received their commendation.

By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Where did everything come from?

- **1.** The Gaia Hypothesis The physical universe is eternal, selfexistent all there is, and it is interconnected in a way that produces life.
- 2. The Pantheist View There is a kind of god that is eternal and self-existent that is made up of everything there is, but that god is not creative, conscious, or personal in any way.
- **3.** The Theistic View There is an eternally existent, transcendent creator who exists beyond the physical universe and who brought the physical universe into existence.

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of the

STEPHEN C. MEYER

THREE SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES

BEHIND THE UNIVERSE

HYPOTHESIS

By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.

By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. ⁶And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.

Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.