

**Attention:**

God spoke the Word and the world came into existence (**Heb. 11:3**). The Lord created the universe in seven 24 hour days. If not, how would plants become pollinated without animals, and how would the bees multiply if they weren't male and female. **Trees (day 3)** that required an agent to pollinate them would have died if the days were thousands or billions of years apart because these worker **bees (day 5)** would not have been present. They only live 4 to 6 weeks.

Evolutionists believe in a Big Bang Theory, while biblical Christians believe, simply, in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Evolutionists believe about 13.8 billion years ago, the observable universe was in an extraordinarily hot and dense state. Space then began expanding. As the universe expanded, it cooled, allowing particles to form, followed by atoms, stars, galaxies, and eventually planets.

**Need:**

**This is a reminder that our faith is dependent upon God as we seek His will, that is, surrender to His plan. The Lord creates something out of nothing. When you feel like you have wasted your life on things and time, Jesus will use your waste and convert it into a wow!** The essence of faith begins with the incredible existence of God and the acknowledgement of His deity: before faith believes what God can do, faith first believes that God is. **Hebrews 11:3** reminds us that what is visible did not create itself—it was brought into existence by the invisible God. Faith, therefore, is not believing in something without evidence; it is trusting the God who existed before everything we can see, believing His Word before we see His work, and standing confidently on His character when circumstances give us no reason to hope. Remember to testify, ‘It was God!’

**Background:**

Hebrews was written around A.D. 64. No one is certain who the author was. The writer knew a lot about Jewish customs and the temple. The temple was destroyed in A.D. 70 by the Romans. The author was very accustomed to the Jewish writings and customs, while the readers had a familiar history. The author was able to be specific about their spiritual conditions and their past. The vast majority of the audience were most likely as the title of the book, Hebrews. There were mounting pressures from their Hebrew counterparts that were unbelieving, to return to their ancestral faith, involving the sacrificial system, and forsaking their new lifestyle of Christianity. If they were to do so, life would envelop into a dark wilderness of spiritual abandonment. **This letter was an encouragement to Hebrew Christians not to turn back from God into Judaism.** It is believed to be a message from God by His Son.

This chapter opens with the honor roll of faith of the believers who lived in Israel's history. **The book speaks of those who lived by faith**, making sacrifices that separated them unto God. It begins with the definition of faith and touches on the fact that the worlds (cosmos) were framed together by it from the hand of God. The Scripture teaches, “By faith Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying.” **His life was known by those who knew him as a man who sought after God.** Enoch's life was so pleasing toward the will of God that he was shielded from death. The writer reminds his listeners that it is impossible to do God's will apart from faith.

## 1. Faith Doesn't Start with What You See (v. 1-2).

- a. Faith is what made the people of old resilient.
- b. There are moments in life when you cannot explain your victories as if you did it.
  - i. It wasn't luck; it wasn't good timing; you weren't smart enough, etc.
- c. Philip needed clarity to see that Jesus was God:
  - i. *"Philip said to Him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.'" (John 14:8–10).*
  - ii. Magic is just a work of the hands, but it tricks the eyes—eyes can't be trusted.
- d. If you could see or understand everything, you wouldn't need faith.
  - i. Faith operates between what God promised and what you can presently see.
  - ii. *"The other disciples therefore said to him, 'We have seen the Lord.' So he said to them, 'Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.'"* (John 20:25, NKJV).

## 2. God Creates Something From Nothing (v. 3-4).

- a. Abel proved he trusted God by giving the firstborn of his flock (**Gen. 4:4**).
- b. Faith is trusting God even when you cannot see how Jesus will do it.
  - i. *Martha said to Jesus, "Lord if you would have been here my brother would not have died." (John 11:21).*
- c. Uranus rotates at 98°, tilted on its side but stays in orbit.
  - i. Your life may seem out of position, but God is customizing you into His plan.
  - ii. Venus and Uranus spin (clockwise) in a backward (retrograde) direction, while the earth spins in a (counterclockwise) forward direction.
- d. Abel gave an offering to the Lord of **'Even If,'** demonstrating his righteousness.
  - i. Optimism says, **"Things will probably get better."** Faith says: **"Even if things don't get better, God is still God."**

## 3. Because God is, You Can Believe That He Can (v. 5-6).

- a. When you come before God, believe that it is already done.
- b. Faith is demonstrated even in impossible times.
  - i. *Peter said, if it be you Lord, command me to come to you on the water. Matthew 14:28.*
- c. When you know God is God, like Abel, you give Him your best.
- d. As you seek God, He will reward you openly.
  - i. *"But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." (Matthew 6:6, NKJV).*