

Part 11 – They Followed God

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

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

- Knowing that nothing we do can produce anything worthwhile.
- Knowing that faith is the key to the supernatural power of the Almighty.
- Knowing that faith, real faith produces some action in the life of the believer for the glory of the Object of faith.
- As we go through the Hall of Faith and look at the images set before us
 - We want to truly see what their faith produced with the knowledge that the creation cannot create
 - only the Creator is truly producing anything.

God is not giving them glory for anything other than trusting Him as He produced unbelievable things.

Hebrews 11:29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry *land*: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

- What a proclamation it must have been...
 - when eminent death was looming
 - and no escape was to be had
 - and “they” (the children of Israel) heard Moses say,
 - “Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord”!
- How paradigm shifting of all perspectives of Who God is it must have been as the Red Sea parted and gave them salvation.
- By faith “they” saw the salvation of Jehovah!
 - While it was obvious that there were little to no options for them
 - what if “they” had not stood still?
 - How many times in my life do I feel like all the options are gone and my world is about to end,

- yet I choose to try to run from the problem,
- or I decide to fight in my own strength?
- How often has my only option be to stand still and simply let God be God?
- By faith means that even in the absolute terror of the situation
 - that we trust God to be miraculous as only He can do the miraculous.
 - How many times have I missed out on “passing on dry land” because I opted to move and dispense with Grace?

Hebrews 11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

- I love these two illustrations of corporate faith!
- By Faith “they” crossed the Red Sea on dry land...
- Then after over 40 years of faithlessness “they” received another set of instructions that didn’t make any sense.
 - First, “they” were commanded to “stand still” and see the Lord’s Salvation.
 - This time “they” were told to march around the great walled city 13 times.

- Talk about works produced from faith in what God Says
- I'm afraid that I too often want God to perform everything the same way...
 - you know keep the surprises to a minimum.
 - After all, it's easier to trust God when things just, well stay the same.
 - It's easier to "have faith" when I can say, "Oh, I've been through this before, this is how God is going to handle this."
 - Sadly, that's not the type of faith that I'm supposed to be living by.
 - Faith, that produces good (that word is derived from God) works built with lasting materials on the foundation of Christ,
 - does not require status quo in order to stay the course of following the Spirit.
 - The situation and circumstances matter not as that the Savior is and always will be Lord and Master
 - and my faith is to be in Him regardless of how He chooses to move or not move.
 - Whether I'm to "stand still" or to "compass the city" will only be known...
 - if I'm willing to let His Word direct.

- Faith comes from hearing God's Word, so without God's Word, there can be no faith.
- There can be no production expedient for His kingdom.
- There can be no pleasing of my Heavenly Father.