

BY FAITH

Text: Heb. 11:1-4, 6

- Four essential truths about faith:

I. THE _____ OF FAITH (vs. 1)

A. Faith sees the _____.

- “The evidence of things not seen”:
 - “Evidence” = _____.
 - “Things not seen” = invisible things (such as God, heaven).
 - Faith sees the invisible as though it were visible. It provides the solid evidence for things we cannot see with our _____ eyes.
- #### B. Faith sees the _____ God has promised.
- “The substance of things hoped for”:
 - “Things hoped for” = God’s _____ of an eternal inheritance in the new creation.
 - “Substance” = substantial nature or _____; “that which stands under,” something that may not seem real on the surface but in fact is.

II. THE _____ AND FOUNDATION OF FAITH (vs. 3)

A. The illustration of faith

- Our belief in the Genesis account of _____.
- “Understand” = to see or perceive with eyes of understanding.
- Framing of the worlds = creation of the physical _____.
- 2 ways in which the visible came from the invisible:
 - The visible reality was created by an invisible _____ God (Rom. 1:20).
 - Every effect must have a greater _____.
 - The universe couldn’t create itself.
 - Complex _____ demands a powerful, intelligent Designer.
 - The visible universe was created by God out of _____ by the power of His Word.
 - The material universe cannot be _____.

B. The foundation of faith (Rom. 10:17).

- By faith, we believe God’s account of creation in His _____ because He was there and we weren’t.

II. THE _____ OF FAITH (vs. 6)

- “Without faith it is _____ to please Him [God]”
 - The only thing about us that makes God smile is faith.

- Faith is not the result of finding God; it’s how you _____ your search.
- “Please” = to be well-pleasing to God, in contrast to those in whom He finds no pleasure (10:38).

- Three truths about genuine faith:

A. The action of faith:

- _____ to God (descriptive of faith).
- God has made many wonderful promises to those who come (Matt. 11:28-30; John 7:37-38, 6:35, 6:37; Rev. 22:17, Heb. 7:25).
- Eternal life is available, satisfying, and free; but if you want it, you will have to come to Christ (John 5:39-40).

B. The motivation of faith:

- You must believe that He _____ (exists).
- You must believe that He will _____ your diligent search.

C. The _____ of faith

- To find the One you seek. He rewards the believing seeker with the gift of Himself.
- If you will believe in God and believe that God wants to be found by you; and will seek Him with a true heart in faith, you will _____ Him and know Him to be so much more than you ever expected.
 - Truth is not just a body of facts, it’s a _____ (Christ).
 - Truth is also like a _____. And the light is also a Person (the Light of the World).
 - Your response to the light and truth of Christ is of greatest importance.

IV. THE _____ OF FAITH (vs. 2, 4)

- “By it” = by faith
- “The elders” = the Old Testament _____ of faith mentioned in this chapter and others like them.
- “Obtained a good report” = to bear _____ or testify.
- Example (vs. 4): God testified that Abel was a righteous man when He said He had accepted his offering. By faith, Abel approached God the right way and found Him; and his right _____ revealed his genuine faith.
- Genuine faith is not just a “saying” faith but a “_____” faith.