

## WHEN FAITH IS VISIBLE

### Hebrews 11:1-7

**Introduction:** We travel on public transportation, we dine in public restaurants, we visit doctors, we take prescribed medications. Every day in many ways we exercise acts of faith. So, just what is faith? What is faith that the Bible speaks of?

#### I. FAITH IS ASSURANCE - FAITH IS PROOF

1. Reapply the introduction of general faith, how trust affects us all.
2. Biblical Faith: The object, not fact is relevant.
  - faith is response to persuasion (Satan tempted Eve).
  - become assured, convinced.
  - rooted in past, present, realized in the future.
3. The first step in saving faith (v3) is to believe that God created the world.
  - There are countless theories on how the world came to be - discuss some of them.
  - Faith that God is.
  - Faith in God's power to create out of nothing.
  - Faith in God's care and activity in His creation.
  - The fundamental STEP in Faith.
  - It is very foolish to NOT believe in God, however most do not.

#### II. ABEL'S FAITH CAME AS A NATURAL RESPONSE TO GOD'S AUTHORITY

1. Discuss the Genesis account of Cain and Abel and their sacrifices.
2. Deeper gratitude is expressed in a better offering. Also animal sacrifice was ordered by God for sins and other sacrifices for lesser important offerings.
3. The attitude of the heart was revealed by the offering and the gratitude to God was measured.
4. What about our offerings, our response and gratitude to God. If our heart's true condition is truly revealed by our response, what is our true condition?
  - Our faith in God is measured as Cain and Abel's.
5. The faith of Abel has lived through the ages, will yours?

#### III. ENOCH'S FAITH BROUGHT HIM FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

1. V6 describes why Enoch was able to fellowship with God.
2. Discuss Enoch's life (Genesis 5).

3. Discuss the essential fact that Faith is necessary to fellowship with God, for salvation, for walk with God, for the Christian life.
  - One cannot please God without faith.
4. Discuss "diligent", persistence, seeking, a more than once a week encounter with God.
5. Discuss the reason why so many Christians are so weak, so far from God and are so unfaithful.
6. Discuss how God rewards faithfulness.

#### **IV. NOAH'S FAITH WAS IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S COMMANDS**

1. Discuss Noah's day, God's command to him, Noah's obedience.
2. Discuss how it was not Noah's preaching that brought condemnation to wickedness but his faithful obedience.
3. Discuss how Noah respected and feared God's power, deliberately, willingly obeying God's Words.
4. Discuss the wickedness in our own time, our own town, city, area.
  - God needs His people here to be obedient, faithful to His Word, for righteousness always condemns sin.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Visible faith is seen in the lives of Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, etc.
2. All men/women of faith mentioned in the Bible were counted as righteous.
3. Is your faith visible? Are you saved? Do you walk your life according to God's Word?
4. Will you be rewarded for you faith someday when you stand before the Lord Jesus Christ?