

FAITH

- I. What Faith is not.
- A. Not a feeling or emotional experience.
 - B. Not just what we think is reasonable.
 - C. Not something that is beyond all logic.
 - D. Not a blind leap.
 - E. Not an unquestioned acceptance of what preacher says.
- II. What Faith is. (2 part definition from scripture)
- A. Substance of things hoped for. Heb 11:6
 - 1. Things that God's word promises that are still in the future.
 - 2. An example would be the resurrection or heaven.
 - B. Evidence of things not seen. Heb 11:6
 - 1. Includes things in past, present and future.
 - 2. We have never seen angels, God or heaven but we believe in them.
 - 3. Conviction of the reality of things we have never seen.
 - C. A serious belief in things that we have never seen or experienced.
 - 1. Some things we believe in we do experience. ex. God's goodness
 - 2. Some things we believe in we have not experienced. ex. heaven
- III. Faith leads on to obey God.
- A. Abel obeyed God in sacrifice. Heb 11:4
 - B. Enoch pleased God. Heb 11:5
 - C. Abraham. Heb 11:8
 - D. See Hebrews 11
- IV. Cannot please God without Faith.
- A. Impossible to do so. Heb 11:6
 - B. Must believe God exists and rewards diligent seekers of Him. Heb 11:6
- V. How do we obtain Faith?
- A. By hearing God's word. Rom 10:17
 - B. God's word is truth. Jn 17:17
 - C. God's word is the gospel. Rom 1:16
 - D. God's word is designed to penetrate good and honest hearts. Mk 4:20
- VI. Biblical Faith leads to action.
- A. Repentance. Lk 13:3
 - B. Confession. Acts 8
 - C. Baptism. Mk 16:16
 - D. Faithful living.
 - E. Correct worship.
- VII. Biblical Faith is not an intellectual exercise.
- A. Requires action.
 - B. Requires coming to God. Heb 11:6
 - C. Requires diligent searching. Heb 11:6
 - D. All of Hebrews 11 did something. Abel offered, Enoch walked, etc.
- VIII. Faith's role in salvation.
- A. Is only the first step.
 - B. Faith alone does not save us. Jas 2:20-24