

Faith

HEBREWS 11: 1-3

The Righteous Man Shall Live By Faith

- ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “But the righteous man shall live by faith.” (Romans 1:16-17)
- ¹¹ Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, “The righteous man shall live by faith.” (Galatians 3:11)

Hebrews 10: 38-39

- BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH;
AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.
- ³⁹ But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.
- Habakkuk 2:4 b
 - “But the righteous will live by his faith.”

The Righteous Man Shall Live By Faith

- What is faith?

Sola Fide

- One of the 5 Solas of the Protestant Reformation
- *Sola Fide*, by faith alone.
- *Sola Scriptura*, by Scripture alone.
- *Solus Christus*, through Christ alone.
- *Sola Gratia*, by grace alone.
- *Soli Deo Gloria*, glory to God alone.

Faith

- ¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the men of old gained approval.
- ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

Keys to Faith

- Three key words in the first verse:
 - ¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the men of old gained approval. (NASB)

Three Key Words

- Three key words in the first verse:
 - 11 Now faith is the assurance or substance (Hypostasis) of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the men of old gained approval.
- *Hypōstasis* (two meanings)
 - 1. substance or essence - (NIV, NKJV) objective meaning
 - 2. assurance – (RSV, NASB) subjective meaning

The Substance of Things Hoped For

- The word hypostasis has appeared twice already in the book. In 1:3
- ³ And He is the radiance of His glory and **the exact representation (*hypostasis*)** of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,”
- This is the **objective sense** of the hypostasis
- “Now faith is the **substance (or essence)** of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony.” (NKJV) (NIV)
- The “title deed” to the things hoped for

The Assurance of Things Hoped For

- The second use of hypostasis is in Hebrews 3:14
- ¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance (hypostasis) firm until the end,
- Subjective sense of the hypostasis (your internal report to yourself)
- ¹¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the men of old gained approval. (RSV) (NASB)

Hoped For

- 11 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the men of old gained approval."
- "Hoped for" = *ělpizō* – "expected"
- Romans 8:24 provides guidance:
- "For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees?"

Conviction

- “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the **conviction** of things not seen. ² For by it the men of old gained approval.”
- *Ělěgehŏ* – conviction (NASB) (RSV)
- This, like hypostasis, has a subjective and an objective meaning.
- “Conviction” is the subjective meaning
- The inner “understanding” of things not seen

Evidence

- “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.” (NKJV)
- *Ēlēgehō or elegchos*, by this meaning is a form of knowledge or a form of proof
- Also a form of “refutation of error”
- Or proof with conviction “reproof.”
- II Tim. 3:16 “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof (elegchos), for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

Evidence

- “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.” (NKJV)
- Physical eyesight produces conviction or evidence of visible things
- And faith is the sensory mechanism which enables human beings to see the invisible order
- This conviction of things not seen embraces things which are invisible because they belong to the spiritual order and things which are invisible

Things Not Seen

- What are the things not seen?

Things Not Seen

- What are the things not seen?
- The spiritual realm.
- ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Things Not Seen

- What are the things not seen?
- The future
- I Cor. 15 the glorification of our bodies
- The places or mansion that God has prepared for you

Things Not Seen

- What are the things not seen?
- The past
- The creation of the world from Genesis

Things Not Seen

- What are the things not seen?
- Gods ways
- The higher ways of God when the human perspective is impossible
- Meribah (water in the desert)
- Kadesh Barnia (the spies in the land)