

Precept Upon Precept-Hebrews **Lessons on Faith, Lesson 22**

1. Faith trusts what it has heard but has not seen.
 - Hebrews 11:1-2: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen for by it the men of old gained approval.”
 - George Müller: “It is the very time for faith to work, when sight ceases.”
2. Faith does not underestimate the power of God’s Word.
 - Hebrews 11:3: “For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”
 - Genesis 1:1: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”
 - Hebrews 1:3: “And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation 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.”
 - Luke 1:34-37: “But Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; for that reason also the holy Child will be called the Son of God. And behold, even your relative Elizabeth herself has conceived a son in her old age, and she who was called infertile is now in her sixth month. For nothing will be impossible with God.””
 - Psalm 33:6-9: “By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their lights. He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He puts the depths in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood firm.”
 - Luke 1:45: “And blessed is *she* who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord.”
3. Faith attains salvation through sacrifice not works.
 - Hebrews 11:4: “By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he was attested to be righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks.”
 - Hebrews 11:6: “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists, and that He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him.”
4. Faith never sees death, separation from God.
 - Hebrews 11:5: “By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; and he was not found because God took him up; for before he was taken up, he was attested to have been pleasing to God.”
 - John 11:24-26: “Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?””
 - Faith = pistis, To believe = pisteuo
 - I John 3:14: “We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death.”
5. Faith pleases God.

- Hebrews 11:6: “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists, and that He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him.”
 - Are you walking by faith or by sight?
6. Faith prepares.
 - Hebrews 11:7: “By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”
 7. Faith obeys.
 - Hebrews 11:8: “By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he left, not knowing where he was going.”
 - Faith obeys in the light of what it hears.
 8. Faith lives as an alien.
 - Hebrews 11:9-10: “By faith he lived as a stranger in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.”
 9. Faith receives ability.
 - Hebrews 11:11-12: “By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. Therefore even from one man, and one who was as good as dead at that, there were born descendants who were just as the stars of heaven in number, and as the innumerable grains of sand along the seashore.”
 - Corrie Ten Boom story as an example.
 10. Faith lives as a pilgrim and as a stranger.
 - Hebrews 11:13-16: “All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen and welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. And indeed if they had been thinking of that country which they left, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.”
 - II Corinthians 4:18: “So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”
 11. Faith passed the test.
 - Hebrews 11:17-31: “By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and the one who had received the promises was offering up his only son...”