

## Faith in God: A Definable Attribute of Human Character

### Hebrews Chapter 11

*Paul shows us that faith in God is a definable attribute of the human character. It has evidence and substance. It is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. God is pleased when faith is used to believe Him, and displeased when it is not.*

*Our approach should be to believe because the word of God says so; the Holy Spirit with us, and sometimes through other believers also being witness and showing the way. But one must want to know and search after the truth of God of Creation and His Christ.*

*Anyone that rejects the true and living God shall be rejected of Him. And there is only one; not many as some have concluded!*

*To borrow a common phrase, one must “put all their eggs in the same basket”. But there shall be no lasting benefit when it is the wrong basket; therefore choose wisely!*

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

For by it (*faith*) the elders (*ancestors*) obtained a good report (*about things not seen, and anchors for promises from God until the time of due manifestations, or prophetic fulfillment*).

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts (*animal sacrifices, which God commanded*): and by it (*Abel’s sacrificial offering*) he (*Abel*) being dead yet speaketh.

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God (*in that he believed*).

But without faith *it is* impossible to please (*God*): for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he (*Noah*) condemned the world (*in that he/ Noah believed God*), and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

By faith he (*Abraham*) sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him (*God*) faithful who had promised (*that she would bare a son for Abraham*).

Therefore sprang there even of one (*Abraham*), and him as good as dead (*being beyond the age for fathering a child*), (*so many offspring in due time*) as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded (*convinced*) of *them*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they

were strangers and pilgrims on the earth (*but had an eternal abode in due time as promised with God*).

For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

And truly, if they had been mindful of (*or reminded of*) that *country* from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have (*or might have wanted to*) returned.

But now they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God (*because they believed*): for he hath prepared for them a city.

By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*,

Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

Accounting that God *was* able to raise *him* (*Isaac*) up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure (*Genesis Chapter 22*).

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, *leaning* upon the top of his staff.

By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three (**3**) months of his parents, because they saw *he was* a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he (*Moses*) had respect unto the recompence (*payment*) of the reward.

By faith he (*Moses*) forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he (*Moses*) endured, as seeing him (*God*) who is invisible.

Through faith he (*Moses*) kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he (*the death angel*) that destroyed the firstborn should touch them (*of Israel*).

By faith they (*Israel*) passed through the Red sea as by dry *land*: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven (**7**) days.

By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and *of* Barak, and *of* Samson, and *of* Jephthae; *of* David also, and Samuel, and *of* the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens (*to the covenant of God*).

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

And others had trial of *cruel* mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth.

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise (*but they kept their focus on the things hoped for, because of the promise(s) from God*): God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Hebrews 11:1 through 11:40

## Hebrews Chapter 12

*Our examples are from witnessed encounters with God!*

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses (*in the previous Chapter (11) that walked by faith*), let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For consider him (*Jesus*) that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds (*because of those that oppose you*).

Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin (*as Jesus did*).

Hebrews 12:1 through 12:4