

Hebrews 11

Chapter 11 of 13 · 40 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Faith Defined

¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

² For by it the elders obtained a good report.

³ 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.

⁴ 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: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

⁵ 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.

⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

⁷ 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 condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

The Faith of the Patriarchs

⁸ 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.

⁹ By faith he 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:

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

11 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 faithful who had promised.

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

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

15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

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

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

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

19 Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

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

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

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

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

- 24** By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;
- 25** Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;
- 26** Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.
- 27** By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.
- 28** Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.
- 29** By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.
- 30** By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.
- 31** By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.
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The Triumph of Faith

- 32** 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:
- 33** Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
- 34** 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.
- 35** Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

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

37 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;

38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Believe — πιστεύω (Pisteuo)

To believe, trust, have faith

The Greek **pisteuo** (πιστεύω) means to believe or trust—active reliance upon Christ. 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish' (John 3:16).

Blood — αἷμα (Haima)

Blood

The Greek **haima** (αἷμα) denotes blood. Christ's blood 'cleanseth us from all sin' (1 John 1:7), securing 'eternal redemption' (Hebrews 9:12) through His once-for-all sacrifice. Believers have been 'purchased with his own blood' (Acts 20:28).

Confess — ὁμολογέω (Homologeō)

To confess, acknowledge, agree

The Greek **homologeō** (ὁμολογέω) means to say the same thing—agreeing with God about sin or truth. 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins' (1 John 1:9).

Faith — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Prophet — προφήτης (Prophētēs)

Prophet

The Greek **prophētēs** (προφήτης) denotes a prophet—one who speaks forth God's message. Jesus was recognized as 'a prophet mighty in deed and word' (Luke 24:19), fulfilling and surpassing the prophetic office.

Resurrection — ἀνάστασις (Anastasis)

Resurrection, rising

The Greek **anastasis** (ἀνάστασις) means resurrection—rising from death to life. Christ's resurrection is the 'firstfruits' (1 Corinthians 15:20), guaranteeing believers' future bodily resurrection and victory over death.

Righteous — δίκαιος (Dikaios)

Righteous, just

The Greek **dikaios** (δίκαιος) means righteous or just—conforming to God's standard. Christ's righteousness is imputed to believers through faith (Romans 4:5), making them legally righteous before God.

Sin — ἁμαρτία (Hamartia)

Sin, missing the mark

The Greek **hamartia** (ἁμαρτία) means sin—missing the target of God's perfection. 'All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23), requiring Christ's atoning sacrifice.

CROSS REFERENCES

Hebrews 11:1 **Faith:** Hebrews 6:12; 10:22; 10:39; 11:7; 11:27; Psalms 27:13; 1 Corinthians 13:13; 2 Corinthians 5:7. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 4:18. **Hope:** Psalms 42:11

Hebrews 11:2 **Good:** Hebrews 11:39. **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 11:4

Hebrews 11:3

Word: Psalms 33:6; 2 Peter 3:5. **Creation:** Hebrews 1:2; Isaiah 40:26; Jeremiah 10:11; John 1:3; Acts 14:15; 17:24; Revelation 4:11. **Faith:** Romans 4:17

Hebrews 11:4 **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 9:22; 12:24; Genesis 4:8; 4:10; 4:15; Jude 1:11.

Righteousness: Matthew 23:35. **Sacrifice:** Leviticus 9:24; Proverbs 15:8. **Witness:** Hebrews 12:1

Hebrews 11:5 **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 2:11; Psalms 89:48; 1 John 3:22; Jude 1:14. **Faith:** Hebrews 11:6

Hebrews 11:6 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 119:10; Proverbs 8:17; John 14:6. **References God:** Hebrews 3:12; 7:25; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Matthew 6:33; Luke 12:31. **Faith:** Psalms 73:28; Romans 10:14

Hebrews 11:7 **References God:** 1 Peter 3:20. **Faith:** Romans 3:22; 4:13; Galatians 5:5. **Righteousness:** Ezekiel 14:14; 14:20. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 7:23; Proverbs 27:12; Matthew 3:7; Luke 17:26

Hebrews 11:8 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 12:7; 17:8; 22:18; Isaiah 41:2; Romans 6:17; 1 Peter 1:22. **Faith:** Hebrews 11:33; Romans 1:5; 10:16. **References Abraham:** Isaiah 51:2

Hebrews 11:9 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 12:8; 13:3; 13:18; 18:9; 35:27. **Covenant:** Hebrews 6:17

Hebrews 11:10 **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 13:14; Isaiah 14:32; John 14:2; Philippians 3:20. **References God:** Hebrews 3:4; 12:22; 12:28; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Revelation 21:2

Hebrews 11:11 **Faith:** Hebrews 10:23. **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:36

Hebrews 11:12 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 15:5; 22:17; 26:4; Nehemiah 9:23; Isaiah 10:22; 48:19; Jeremiah 33:22; Hosea 1:10; Revelation 20:8. **Good:** Genesis 32:12

Hebrews 11:13 **Faith:** Hebrews 11:27; 11:39. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 23:4; Job 19:25; Psalms 39:12; John 8:56; Romans 8:24; Ephesians 2:19; 1 Peter 1:17; 2:11

Hebrews 11:16 **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 2:11; 11:14; 13:14; Matthew 25:34; John 14:2; Philippians 3:20; 2 Timothy 4:18. **References God:** Hebrews 11:10; 12:22; Exodus 3:6

Hebrews 11:17 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 22:16; Deuteronomy 8:2; 2 Chronicles 32:31; Proverbs 17:3; Zechariah 13:9; 2 Corinthians 8:12; James 5:11; 1 Peter 4:12; Revelation 3:10. **Covenant:** Hebrews 7:6

Hebrews 11:18 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 17:19; 21:12; Romans 9:7

Hebrews 11:19

Parallel theme: Genesis 22:13; Matthew 9:28; Romans 5:14; Ephesians 3:20

Hebrews 11:22 **References Israel:** Exodus 13:19; Joshua 24:32. **Parallel theme:** Acts 7:16

Hebrews 11:23 **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 13:6; Exodus 1:16; 1:22; Psalms 118:6; Isaiah 41:10; 41:14; 51:12; Matthew 10:28. **References Moses:** Acts 7:20. **Word:** Isaiah 51:7

Hebrews 11:25 **References God:** Psalms 84:10; James 1:20; 1 Peter 2:10. **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 11:37; Job 20:5; 2 Corinthians 5:17; James 5:5; Revelation 18:7. **Sin:** Job 36:21

Hebrews 11:26 **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 2:2; 10:35; 11:6; Isaiah 51:7; Matthew 5:12; Luke 14:14; 2 Corinthians 6:10; Revelation 3:18. **References Christ:** 2 Corinthians 12:10; 1 Peter 4:14

Hebrews 11:27 **Faith:** Hebrews 11:1; 11:13; 1 Peter 1:8. **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 10:32; Exodus 11:8; 12:11; 2 Corinthians 4:18; James 5:11. **References Egypt:** Exodus 4:19. **Kingdom:** 1 Timothy 1:17

Hebrews 11:28 **Blood:** Hebrews 9:19; 12:24; 1 Peter 1:2

Hebrews 11:29 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 78:13. **References Egypt:** Joshua 2:10

Hebrews 11:31 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 1:5; James 2:25

Hebrews 11:32 **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 1:20; 12:11; 16:1; Romans 4:1; 7:7. **References David:** 1 Samuel 16:13. **Prophecy:** Acts 3:24; 10:43; 13:20; 2 Peter 1:21

Hebrews 11:33

Covenant: Hebrews 10:36; Galatians 3:16. **Faith:** Hebrews 11:17. **Kingdom:** Psalms 144:10; 1 Peter 5:8. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 91:13; 2 Timothy 4:17

Hebrews 11:34 **Word:** Psalms 144:10. **Parallel theme:** Judges 15:8; 1 Kings 19:3; 2 Kings 6:32

Hebrews 11:35

Resurrection: Acts 23:6; 24:15; Philippians 3:11. **Parallel theme:** Acts 9:41; 22:29

Hebrews 11:36 **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 16:10; 30:10; 36:16; Jeremiah 20:2; 20:7. **Kingdom:** Genesis 39:20

Hebrews 11:37

Word: 1 Kings 19:10; 2 Chronicles 24:21; Jeremiah 26:23. **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 1:8

Hebrews 11:38 **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 22:1; 1 Kings 18:4; 19:9; Isaiah 57:1

Hebrews 11:39 **Faith:** Hebrews 11:13. **Good:** Hebrews 11:2. **Parallel theme:** 1 Peter 1:12

Hebrews 11:40

Parallel theme: Hebrews 8:6; 9:23; Revelation 6:11. **Creation:** Hebrews 5:9; 7:19

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