

## Launching out on Faith- Faith Defined

### Introduction:

1. We are going to be looking at Hebrews 11 and different characters to see where their faith took them.
2. We are first going to take a look at the context leading up to Chapter 11 and why we are having this discussion at all

### Discussion:

#### **I. Faith's Context**

##### A. Context of the book of Hebrews (Christ is Better and superior).

1. He is superior to the prophets (1:1-4).
2. He is superior to the angels (1:4-2:18).
3. He is superior to Moses (3).
4. Superior to Joshua (4).
5. Superior to Aaron, priesthood, covenant, atonement, tabernacle (4-10).

##### B. Immediate Context

###### 1. Hebrews 10:11-25

- a. Since we have the sacrifice of Jesus which is perfect and only had to be done once, we can have confidence to enter the holy place (heaven) by the blood of Jesus.
- b. Because of this we need to hold fast our confession without wavering, stimulate one another to love and good deeds, and not forsake the assembling of ourselves.

###### 2. Hebrews 10:26-39

- a. If we go on sinning willfully, there no longer remains a sacrifice. If there was a punishment under the Law of Moses, how much more will be the punishment if we insult the Spirit of grace?
- b. Since they had persevered through persecution already, they should not let those who are trying to bring them back to Judaism prevail. They need to have endurance and do the will of God, so that they can receive what was promised. If they were going to shrink back, God would have nothing to do with them, faith is what preserves the soul.

#### **II. Faith's Definition**

##### A. Assurance of things hoped for

1. Assurance (*hypostasis*)- the state of certainty, confidence of what will actually happen
2. Hope- to look forward with confidence to that which is good and beneficial (Heb. 6:19).

##### B. Conviction of things not seen

1. Conviction (*elenchus*)- an instant of formally being found guilty of a criminal offense in a court of law.
2. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 5:7

##### C. Obedient Faith is the only faith that matters.

1. James 2:14-ff
2. Ephesians 2:8-10; Romans 1:5; 16:24

#### **III. Faith's Outcome**

##### A. It pleases God

1. No matter the affliction that our faith may bring (11:32-38).
2. They gained approval through their faith (11:2; 39-40).

##### B. God has prepared a city for the faithful

1. John 14:1-ff
2. Hebrews 11:13-16

##### C. It results in Salvation

1. 1 Peter 1:3-9; James 1:12
2. Hebrews 12:22-24

### Conclusion:

1. Since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us...run the race with endurance (Hebrews 12:1-2).
2. Those whose faith is obedient and active are those who can go to the throne room of God in boldness.