

The Book of Hebrews Speaks to Christian Men about Living with Integrity and Honesty in Today's World.

Week Five

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Date:

Introduction:

Honesty – Truthfulness, Not deceptive or fraudulent; genuine, Equitable; fair, Sincere; frank: Of good repute; respectable. Virtuous; chaste.

Integrity – Steadfast adherence to a strict moral or ethical code. Moral soundness, The state of being unimpaired.

Author: Unknown (likely Paul) Timing: 65-70AD Audience: Near converted Jews

The book of Hebrews was written to reconcile OT Law with NT Grace for Messianic Jews and Gospel-exposed Judaism-practicing non-believers. The superior covenant from God via his Son and Grace is proclaimed. Christian Men today struggle with the true meaning of Salvation which is to draw us closer to God through the Holy Spirits chastening. This study focuses on a higher level of Integrity & Honesty implied by Grace and sanctification. Living a pure life...

Chapters 1 thru 3 of Hebrews establishes the character of the Son of God, "Jesus Christ" and what happens to those who do not heed God's intentions for humanity. Under Law believers tend to have a carnal rule-based perspective of their faith. This promoted a life focused on avoiding wrath or punishment and did not work. Under Grace we see the character of a "believing" man turning more spiritual and altruistic with a goal to be Christ-like. Chapters 4 thru 6 describe Grace's promise of eternal life in heaven, an advanced doctrine of perfection or grace and Christ as the ultimate high priest. Chapters 7 and 8 continue to show Christ is the perfect and faultless high priest of believers.

Chapters 9 and 10 describe the true tabernacle, heaven, and the role of sacrifices in Law vs Grace. Chapter 11 is referred to as the "Hall of Faith" chapter, where Faith is defined and exemplified as the central characteristic of the believer under the Covenant of Grace.

Chapter 11

11:1 Now faith is the substance [grounds, basis, foundation, support] of things hoped for [salvation, heaven, eternal life], the evidence of things not seen. [God]

11:2 For by it the elders obtained a good report. [are acknowledged by God here]

1. a) Where else in scripture is faith defined? Rom 8:24, 25. b) Relate faith to Honest & Integrity.

11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen [the world] were not made of things which do appear. [God created the universe from the void]


2. How does faith help us understand God's Word? 1 Cor 1:18, 2:14, 2 Cor 4:18, 5:17

11:4 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. [is still spoken of, praised or commended]

3. a) What was Abel's act of faith? Gen 4:4. b) Why was it better than Cain's sacrifice? Prov 15:8.
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11:5 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

4. a) Who was Enoch? Gen 5:24 b) Who was his Son? c) Why is the Son significant? Gen 5:21-24, 27 d) How long does God say Man will live? Gen 6:3
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11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he [us] that cometh to God must believe that he [God] is [exists], and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

5. What traits will we have if Faith is the basis of our relationship with God? Phi 1:27, Phi 4:8, 2Th 2:13 [Hint: What have we been talking about for all these weeks?]
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11:7 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.

6. a) Should faith create fear in us? Heb 10:31 b) How can faith "condemn?" Acts 5:1-5 (Ananias), 2 Sam 6:3, 6-7 (Uzzah and the Ark), and Gen 19:15-17, 26 (Lot's wife)
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11:8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place [Palestine, Cannan] which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

11:9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles [tents] with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: [no deeded land ownership except for a burial place]

11:10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. [No earthly place contained the totality of the promise to him by God.]

7. a) What journey is this? Gen 11:31 b) Was Faith needed? Gen 12:1-4

11:11 Through faith also Sarah 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.

8. a) Who was Sarah? Gen 17:18-19 b) How old was she when who was born? Gen 17:17

11:12 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.

9. a) Who did the Israelite nation spring from? Exo 32:13 b) Why was he considered as good as dead? Rom 4:18-19

11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them [promises]*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

10. What does this say of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Sarah? 1 Ch 29:15, 1 Pet 2:11

11:14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

11:15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that *country* from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

11:16 But now they desire a better *country*, that is, a heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

11. a) Why could they not return? b) They came to a strange country in search of what?

11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*,

11:18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

11:19 Accounting that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure. [God would raise Isaac to build Israel]

12. a) Describe this location Gen 22:2, 2Ch 3:1. b) Was Isaac his only son? Gen 16:15
c) Describe Abraham's faith. Gen 22:9-12

11:20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

13. How was Jacob (that supplants, undermines, the heel) and then Esau blessed? Gen 27:27-40

11:21 By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshiped, *leaning* upon the top of his staff. [Bed's head, top of something]

14. a) What was Jacob's other name? Gen 32:28, 35:10 b) Who were Joseph's sons? Gen 46:20

11:22 By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

15. a) Departing from where? Jos 24:32 b) What faith did Joseph show? Gen 50:24-25, Exo 13:19

11:23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents [Exo 2:2], because they saw *he was* a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment [Exo 1:22].

11:24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; [Exo 2:10 – In Egypt til forty & Acts 7:22 all wisdom of Egyptians.]

11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; [Exo 5:1]

16. a) Where do you think Moses faith came from before the Miracles? b) What was his reward? Mat 17:1-3

11:26 Esteeming the reproach [disgrace/shame] of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense [repay] of the reward.
11:27 By faith he [Moses] forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible [God not Egyptian gods].
11:28 Through faith he kept the [first] passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.
11:29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry *land*: which the Egyptians attempting to do were drowned.

17. Why would Moses have regard for the shame/disgrace of Christ? Isa 51:7, 2 Cor 12:10

11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.
11:31 By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

18. a) Who was Rahab? Jos 2:1 b) Who were the spies?

11:32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and *of* Barak, and *of* Samson, and *of* Jephthah; *of* David also, and Samuel, and *of* the prophets:
11:33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
11:34 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

19. Who was Gideon Jdg 7:7, 20, Barak Jdg 4:16, Jephthah Jdg 11:33 and Samuel 1 Sam 1:20?

11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:
11:36 And others had trial of *cruel* mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:
11:37 They were stoned [Zechariah], they were sawn asunder [Isaiah], were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

20. a) What are you willing to endure for your faith? Isa 52:14 b) What about Isaiah?

11:38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth.

11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

21. a) Shall our faith create happiness, joy? Luk 10:23-24, Phi 4:7 b) Where, in faith, do these things come from? 1 Pet 1:12

11:40 God having provided some better **thing** [Christ/Word/Grace] for us, that they without us [non-believers] should not be made perfect [saved, sanctified/pure/Christ-like].

22. a) What is the better thing? Heb 5:9, 7:19, 7:22, 8:6, 9:23, b) Describe the Gospel Dispensations.

Revisit 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

23. a) What things do you hope for? b) What unseen things in your life demonstrate faith?

Summary:

Chapters 11 of Hebrews, The Hall of Faith defines faith and takes us through a great portion of the old testament to show Grace and Faith were present even then and describes them also most blessed by God. That through Faith we become what God wants, Christ-like, pure, honest, with integrity beyond reproach; providing service to man with no expectation of reward on earth but to seek the heavenly reward. We are called to treat man and therefore God with pure intent of righteousness.

(2Pe 1:4-8) Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5) And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 6) And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 7) And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 8) For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you for attending,

Pat Turner