

**The Book of Hebrews
Continue in the Faith That Pleases God (Pt 1)
Hebrews 11:1-19 (page 843)**

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Frank Mascaro

Observation #1: Our attention is directed to those examples of faith that occurred b e f o r e or a p a r t from the law

Observation #2: Suffering and d e a t h are prominent in chapter 11

Observation #3: Chapter 11 does n o t present f a i t h as a m a g i c a l c u r e for suffering or death.

The Definition of Faith (Heb 11:1-3)

Faith is:

- the a s s u r a n c e of things h o p e d for
(v 1; Rom 8:22-25; 1 Peter 1:3-9)
 - *faith* = a confident trust that God is able to fulfill His promise(s)
 - *sure, assurance* = s u b s t a n c e, essence, or nature
 - *hope* = the e x p e c t a t i o n of desire
- the c e r t a i n t y of what is not s e e n
(v 1b-2; 2 Cor 4:17-18; 5:6-8)
 - *certainty* = c o n v i c t i o n or proof
 - *commended* = to t e s t i f y, to witness

(continued on inside)

- the outcome of belief that begins with the recognition that God is the creator of all that is (v 3; Gen 1-2; Psalm 33:6-9; Col 2:8)
 - That what is visible came from Him who is invisible
 - The same faith that explains our present existence is also the foundation for our future hope

Faith exemplified before the Flood (Heb 11:4-7)

- The testimony of Abel - the Worship of Faith (v 4; Gen 4:1-16; Matt 23:35; 1 John 3:12)
- The testimony of Enoch - the Walk of Faith (v 5-6; Gen 5:19-24; 1 Thess 4:13-18)
- The testimony of Noah - the Obedience of Faith (v 7; Gen 6-9; Matt 24:36-39; 2 Peter 2:5)

Faith exemplified by the Patriarchs

(Heb 11:8-19; Gal 3:7, 29; Heb 6:13-15)

- The testimony of Abraham - the Life of Faith (vs 8-19)

Abraham's life reveals that faith....

 - is a journey - we are separated from the world (v 8; Gen 12:1-9)
 - requires patience - it waits for God to work (vs 9-10; Gen 23:7-20; Eph 3:20)
 - overcomes obstacles - it believes God for the impossible (vs 11-12; Gen 15:3-6; 16:1; 17:15-21; 21:2)
 - is certain - it focuses on God's faithfulness (vs 13-16; Deut 3:23-28)
 - is proven - in the sacrifice of obedience (vs 17-19; Gen 22:1-19)