

True Faith

Hebrews 11:1- “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”(NKJV). It is a verse that many know well, most can quote it, but do we fully appreciate what God is showing us in this powerful verse? It does more than just define faith for us; it shows us the function of faith in our lives. The Hebrew writer skillfully placed this discussion of faith in his letter in just the right place to encourage, warn and help his listeners endure what was before them. We can benefit from this persuasive verse, as well, convincing us to stand strong in faith.

I. Why we need True Faith (understanding the context of Hebrews)

- a. It helps us deal with the difficulties in our lives (Heb.10:36; 12:1-7, 12)
- b. It guides us to depend on the supremacy of Christ (Hebrews, chapters 1-9)
- c. True Faith enables us to endure – so as to receive the promises

II. What is True Faith

- a. “Substance of things hoped for”
 - i. Our faith becomes our standing ground
 - ii. Our hope is only as strong as our Faith
- b. “Evidence of things not seen”
 - i. Helps us develop the proper conviction
 - ii. Helps us to act on belief without hesitation
- c. These things also help us understand the depth of Hebrews 11:6

III. What True Faith does

- a. Gives us solid ground (Heb.10:35-11:11)
- b. It has God’s approval (Heb.11:2; 8-10)
- c. Believes what is hard (Heb. 11:11-12)
- d. Performs the difficult duties (Heb. 11:17)
- e. Real Faith endures (Heb. 11:32-39)

God is glorified when we follow His plan and succeed. He has done so much to build our faith in Him and has given us every reason for confidence and hope. As we consider the beautifully executed plan of Christ and salvation to redeem mankind, may we remember that Jesus went before us to prepare the way. Having true faith in what He’s done and who He is will drive us to greater service and deeper conviction. It will ultimately lead us to our reward in Christ.