

# Sermon Notes – July 11, 2021

## Review

- The writer to the Hebrew believers has revealed Christ in all His glory, and now calls us to active, costly, persevering faith!
- Last week we heard yet another warning about the danger of neglecting or rejecting Christ. We are called to “Remember!”

## Today’s text: READ Hebrews 11:1-7

Today’s text continues the powerful thought from 10:30 (We are “of those who have faith” – people of faith are MY people!). This opening paragraph of “The Hall of Faith” begins a retelling of a long story of faith. It stretches back for centuries and includes men & women of diverse cultures and settings, examples of success and failure, stories of deliverance and stories that ended in victorious death (READ 11:32-40). This group is called a “great cloud of witnesses” and we are called to follow their examples of faith.

## The Bedrock of Biblical Faith Is Our Creator God (1-3)

- ⇒ Faith is more than a \_\_\_\_\_. It is more than “having a positive mental attitude.” Faith is the confident assurance that there is more to reality than what you can see with your physical eyes – beginning with God Himself. Biblical faith has \_\_\_\_\_ & focus.
- ⇒ Example #1 is believing that God is, and that He is the Creator & Sustainer of all that is. God created the universe \_\_\_\_\_. God created out of nothing (Latin = “ex nihilo”). The universe, when it was created, had apparent \_\_\_\_\_. See Psalm 33:6-12
- ⇒ Believing that God is the Creator of all is NOT a secondary issue; it is fundamental to biblical Christianity.

## Biblical Faith Means Doing Right When Others Don’t (4)

- ⇒ The writer to the Hebrews clearly believes in the historicity of the book of Genesis – real people & real events, not fables.
- ⇒ Genesis 4:1-16 tells the story of Cain & Abel. Abel & his offering are accepted by God. Cain is bitterly jealous and becomes the first murderer.

Why Does God Care So Much That We Trust Him?  
Hebrews 11:1-7 | Pastor Jay Mosser

- ⇒ From the story, it appears that both Abel AND his specific offering are pleasing to God. Abel offers a “\_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice” (NAS -- a comparative).
- ⇒ Younger brother Abel does right, and his shed blood “still speaks.” (12:24)

## Biblical Faith Pleases God (2,5-6)

- ⇒ Enoch is “taken up” – caught away – “raptured,” if you will, escaping death itself because he is pleasing to God. (Genesis 5:18-24; Jude 14-15)
- ⇒ Enoch, the father of Methuselah, lives in a wicked, pre-flood time, and as a righteous man, he proclaims coming judgment.
- ⇒ Enoch is an example of verse 6 – he believes that God is real, and that it is \_\_\_\_\_ to be a true follower of the God of the Bible. This kind of faith pleases God (2).

## Biblical Faith Embraces The “Unseen” (7)

- ⇒ Once again, we find another ancient figure and a literal event – Noah & a \_\_\_\_\_ flood. Noah’s story is told in Genesis 6-8. Anthropologists have recorded “flood narratives” from all around the world, along with fossil beds that give ample evidence of a worldwide catastrophe involving death & rapid burial. The Grand Canyon? Formed by the flood of Noah!
- ⇒ Noah takes \_\_\_\_\_ to build a massive boat in his backyard for an event that has no historical precedent (“events as yet unseen”). He simply believes what God says. He is called a “preacher of righteousness” (II Peter 2:5).
- ⇒ Interestingly, there is only \_\_\_\_\_ on the ark, and the ark is the only means of surviving God’s judgment. The door is wide open to all – until the day that God closes the door.

## Responding to God’s Word

- ⇒ God is honored – respected! – when we believe Him. In the days of Noah, very few believed God’s warning of judgment. Do you believe that a day of even greater judgment is coming?
- ⇒ The most important act of trusting God, is to trust Jesus Christ as your Savior from sin, and become a follower of Him today!

Worship Next Sunday: July 18, 2021  
“God’s Response To Radical Acts Of Faith”  
(Hebrews 11:8-16) Pastor Jay Mosser