



## What Is Faith?

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Hebrews 11:1-3

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### What we have learned so far in our study ...

- The Theme of the Book - Jesus is "Better" ...
- The Outline of the Book of Hebrews ...
  - A Better Person: Jesus (1-6)**
  - A Better Priesthood: Jesus (7-10)**
  - A Better Principle: Faith (11-13)**
    - The examples of faith (11)
    - The endurance of faith (12:1-13)
    - Exhortation: A warning against disobeying the Word (12:14-19)
    - The evidences of faith (13)

### What we are going to learn today in our study ...

Hebrews 11:1-3

"The Saints' Hall of Fame" — "The Heroes of Faith" — "The Honor Roll of the Old Testament Saints" — "The Westminster Abbey of Scripture" — "The Faith Chapter"

The Connection - How does chapter 11 relate to chapters 10 & 12?

Cf. 10:36-39 with 12:1 ... The **BOOKENDS** of Hebrews 11

10:36 "For you have need of **endurance**"

12:1 "... let us run with **endurance** the race that is set before us."

The Concept - What is faith?

## LESSON - What Is Faith? 11:1-3

### I. THE FEATURES OF FAITH — Faith Described vs.1-3

The Definition "faith is ....."

Several ways to define something

- You can define something OBJECTIVELY — This is what it LOOKS like.
- You can define something SUBJECTIVELY — This is what it FEELS like.
- You can define something FUNCTIONALLY — This is what it ACTS like.

Hebrews 11 is not a FACTUAL definition, but a FUNCTIONAL description.

The Description - 4 features

"The assurance of things hoped for..." Is the ATTITUDE of faith.

"the conviction of things not seen...." Is the ACTIONS of faith.

"for by it the men of old gained approval..." Is the APPROVAL of faith.

"by faith we understand that the worlds....." Is the ACCEPTANCE of faith.

### II. THE FAMILY OF FAITH — Faith Displayed vs. 4-40

First, remember that these people were not included because their record was UNBLEMISHED, but because they were forgiven.

Secondly, these individuals are mentioned in spite of the fact that they left tasks UNFINISHED; they are not mentioned because they finished every task, but because Christ has completed everything.

**Today's Growth Point — How does this passage apply to you and your GCG?**