



Hebrews Chapter 11b Faith.. What It Is And What It's Not

Last week as we looked at the first few verses of chapter 11 of the book of Hebrews, and we saw some pretty profound things just in the first few sentences of the 11th chapter. And we spoke about how “Faith” is the assurance of things hoped for... not things that we already have. And we spoke about the clear truth of God's word concerning salvation, and the clear true fact is that we have not yet obtained salvation... but that salvation has been pledged to us by our Father in Heaven through his only begotten Son Yahshua Hamashiach, Jesus our Messiah.. and we walked through the scriptures to verify this over and over again.

We have been sealed by his Ruach Hakodesh... his Holy Spirit that dwells with in us is that seal that we have been given... that pledge... that promise of everlasting life if we indeed do pick up our crosses and follow after him, and endure to the end.

Today we'll speak even more about the true biblical understanding of “Faith” and exactly what the biblical definition of “Faith” truly is.. as we hear Paul break it down for us as he uses the Prophet's, Apostles, and the followers of God who all knew what “Faith” was.. as examples that define “Faith”.

We also saw how God created the Heavens and the Earth clear back in Genesis chapter two.. and we became comfortable with the fact that God “spoke” things into creation.. in other words just as the scriptures tell us... God “spoke”.. and so it was so. And we spoke about our Messiah always being in the “Logos” of God... in the unfolding plan of God... and it had always been planned by our Father in Heaven.. that one day he would create for himself out of the body of David and the house of Israel... a Son.. a prophet.. a king for his people.. a mediator between men and God... the man... Yahshua Hamashiach... Jesus the Messiah. And just as Paul tells us in Hebrews 11:3.. the things that we now see... were made from things unseen. And even science has caught up to the truth of what Paul wrote in the book of Hebrews. Today we know full well that everything around us is made of trillions of little atoms, that are all glued together by what are called “gluons”.

There's an interesting article that was put out back in July of 2000 that you can find on the internet and we've posted the web address to this article here in the comment box below this Youtube video and also in our free downloadable PDF file for this lesson... and it's entitled: *“The Glue That Holds The World Together”* by Robert Kunzig. And I just want to take you to

that article for just a moment because it really does once again point to the truth of the Bible and exactly what Paul is trying to tell us in Hebrews 11 verse 3... so lets go to that article and I just want to read the first paragraph for you. (GO TO: <http://discovermagazine.com/2000/jul/featgluons>)

The Glue That Holds the World Together
FROM THE JULY 2000 ISSUE

The Glue That Holds the World Together

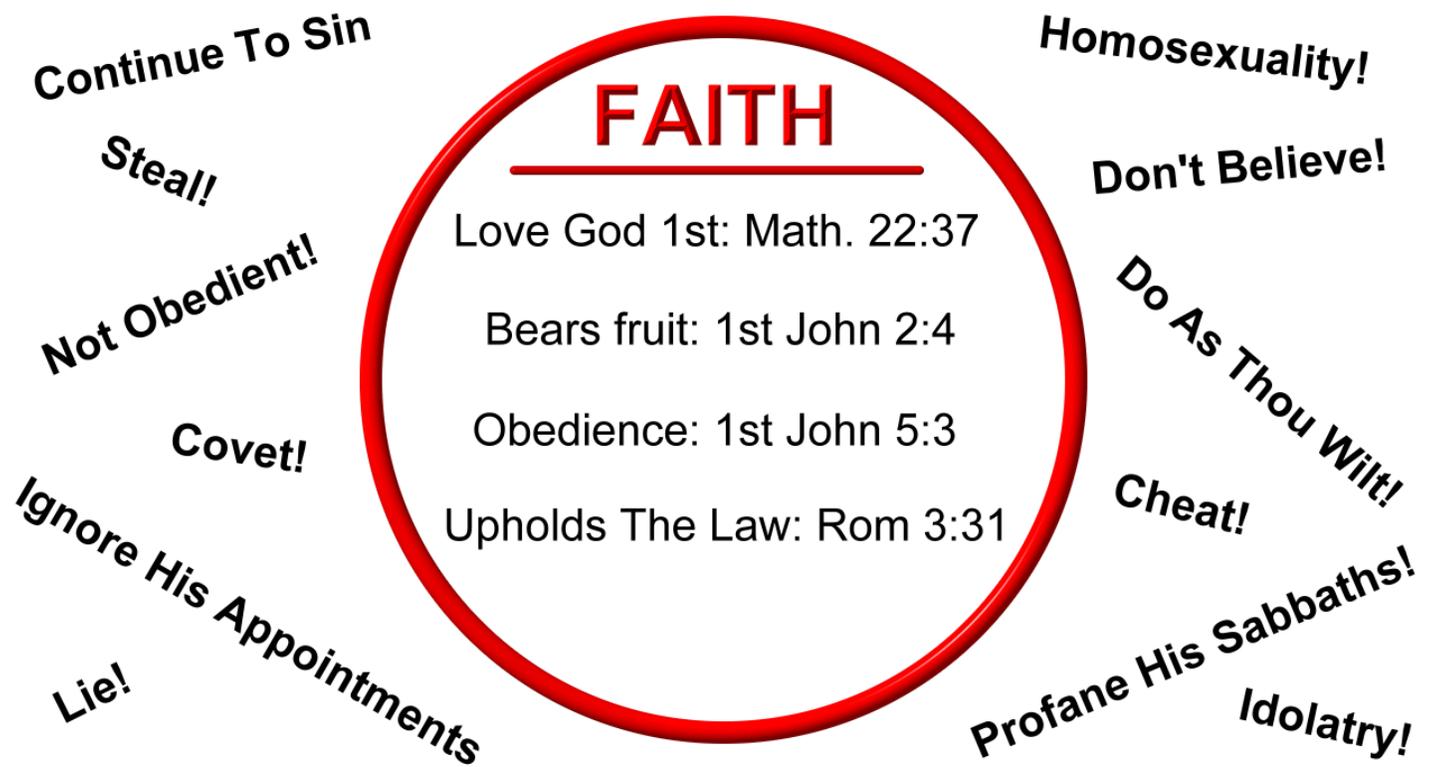
The more we learn about subatomic particles called gluons, the more the universe seems to be made of nothing at all

By Robert Kunzig | Saturday, July 01, 2000
RELATED TAGS: **SUBATOMIC PARTICLES**

“You do not know what stuff is, you who hold it in your hands. Atoms? Yes, stuff is made of atoms. And every atom is a nucleus orbited by electrons. Every nucleus is built of protons. Every proton is - but there you reach the end of the line. Inside the proton lies the deep, unsettling truth: Stuff is made of nothing, or almost nothing, held together by glue, lots of glue. Physicists first began to suspect this in 1973. Lately it has been proved by experiment.”

Once again... science has caught up with the Bible.. not the other way around. So it should be clear to us that even the scientific world now understands Hebrews 11:3, and what Paul is trying to tell us when he says that what is seen.. is not made out of things that are visible.

So with that rather profound understanding... we move into the topic of “Faith”.. and exactly what “Faith” is.. and what it's not, so before we begin from Hebrews chapter 11 verse 4... I'd like to once again bring this graphic to your attention. SHOW GRAPHIC



Now... I want to also say this... if you want someone to explain to you what “Faith” is... just ask brother James from “4 Points Tech” in the chat room, and he can explain it to you.. and I know that he can explain it to you because this very diagram that explains what faith is... is what he uses for his icon. Instead of putting his own picture up... he put this diagram.. so that people would know and understand what faith truly is. And so our brother James already has a good handle on what faith is and brother James did this long before this particular teaching.. so I think it's safe to say that brother James knows the true meaning of faith, and he understands it well.

But moving forward.. it's profoundly important that we drill down into the biblical definition of the word “Faith” and what it is and.. what it is not. Once again everything in the nucleus of this diagram is what faith is. Everything outside of this diagram is what faith is not.

If we have “Faith” and we truly believe in him... then we can not help but to love him, and once again according to the biblical definition of the love of God found in 1st John 5:3... we're told that the love of God is that we keep his commandments, and that his commandments are not burdensome to us. Our own Messiah told us very clearly in John 14:15 that if we loved him we would keep his commandments... and just for the record... the commandments of Yahshua Jesus our Messiah... are God the Fathers commandments. They are the same commandments. And just to verify that.. lets turn to Matthew 5:17-20:

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have

not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Mat 5:18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Mat 5:19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Our Messiah was abundantly clear my friends... he did not come to abolish the law of his Father or his Father's prophets. And not the crossing of a "T" or the dotting of an "i" will pass from the law until heaven and earth pass away, and all things are accomplished... and just so we're clear on when that happens... let us turn to Revelation 21:1

Rev 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

So don't let them lie to you.. and don't let them tell you that the word "fulfill" means done away with... it does not! The word "fulfill" is the Greek word "Pleroo" and it's also found in Matthew 3:13-15:

Mat 3:13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.

Mat 3:14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

Mat 3:15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.

So if the word "Fulfill" which comes from the Greek word "Pleroo" means abolished as so many of the lost so proudly proclaim... then all righteousness is abolished according to our Messiah in Matthew 3:15. Jesus and John abolished all righteousness... does that seem even remotely right to you my friends? That Yahshua would abolish all righteousness? I think not. Lets also turn to John 7:16-18

Joh 7:16 So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me.

Joh 7:17 If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority.

Joh 7:18 The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood.

Let me ask you my friends... does it sound to you like our Messiah came to preach and teach his own commandments... or his Father's commandments? Is Yahshua Jesus telling us here that his teaching is not his own... or his own? Is he telling us that he came on his own accord... or is he telling us that he was sent by his Father? Is he telling us that he's seeking his own glory... or the

glory of his Father? Is Yahshua telling us here in John 7:16 through 18 that he came to change his Fathers holy sanctified 7th day Sabbath that he said would be a sign between him and his people for all generations forever? Is Yahshua telling us here in John 7:16-18 that he came to celebrate his own birthday, and to trample on his Fathers Passover... the very day that Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John all agree that our Messiah died on? Is Yahshua telling us here in John 7:16-18 that he came to glorify himself as God and to take the place of God, and to grant us all license to live in sin because no matter what we're once saved always saved?

Think my friends... think. Read the text for yourself and stop listening to those who have twisted the scriptures to their own destruction, and who have perverted the grace of our God into sensuality, and who deny our only lord and master Yahshua Hamashiach Jesus the Messiah. People who the book of Jude tells us were long ago designated for this condemnation. Lets turn to John 12:49:

Joh 12:49 For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.

Joh 12:50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me."

No my friends... our Messiah did not come to preach and teach anything other than his Fathers commandments, nor did he come seeking his own glory but his Fathers. So don't let them lie to you and tell you otherwise or you too will be designated for the condemnation of those who teach and preach another Jesus, another Gospel, and another Spirit... who Paul clearly tells us are accursed in Galatians 1:8

Gal 1:8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

And so now let us turn back to the 11th chapter of the book of Hebrews and lets re-read verses 4 through 40:

*Heb 11:4 **By faith** Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.*

*Heb 11:5 **By faith** Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.*

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

*Heb 11:7 **By faith** Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.*

*Heb 11:8 **By faith** Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to*

receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Heb 11:9 **By faith** he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.

Heb 11:10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Heb 11:11 **By faith** Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.

Heb 11:12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

Heb 11:14 For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

Heb 11:15 If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return.

Heb 11:16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

Heb 11:17 **By faith** Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son,

Heb 11:18 of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named."

Heb 11:19 He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Heb 11:20 **By faith** Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.

Heb 11:21 **By faith** Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.

Heb 11:22 **By faith** Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelite's and gave directions concerning his bones.

Heb 11:23 **By faith** Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

Heb 11:24 **By faith** Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

Heb 11:25 choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

Heb 11:26 He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

Heb 11:27 **By faith** he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

Heb 11:28 **By faith** he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

Heb 11:29 **By faith** the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned.

Heb 11:30 **By faith** the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days.

*Heb 11:31 **By faith** Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.*

Heb 11:32 And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—

Heb 11:33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Heb 11:34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

Heb 11:35 Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life.

Heb 11:36 Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.

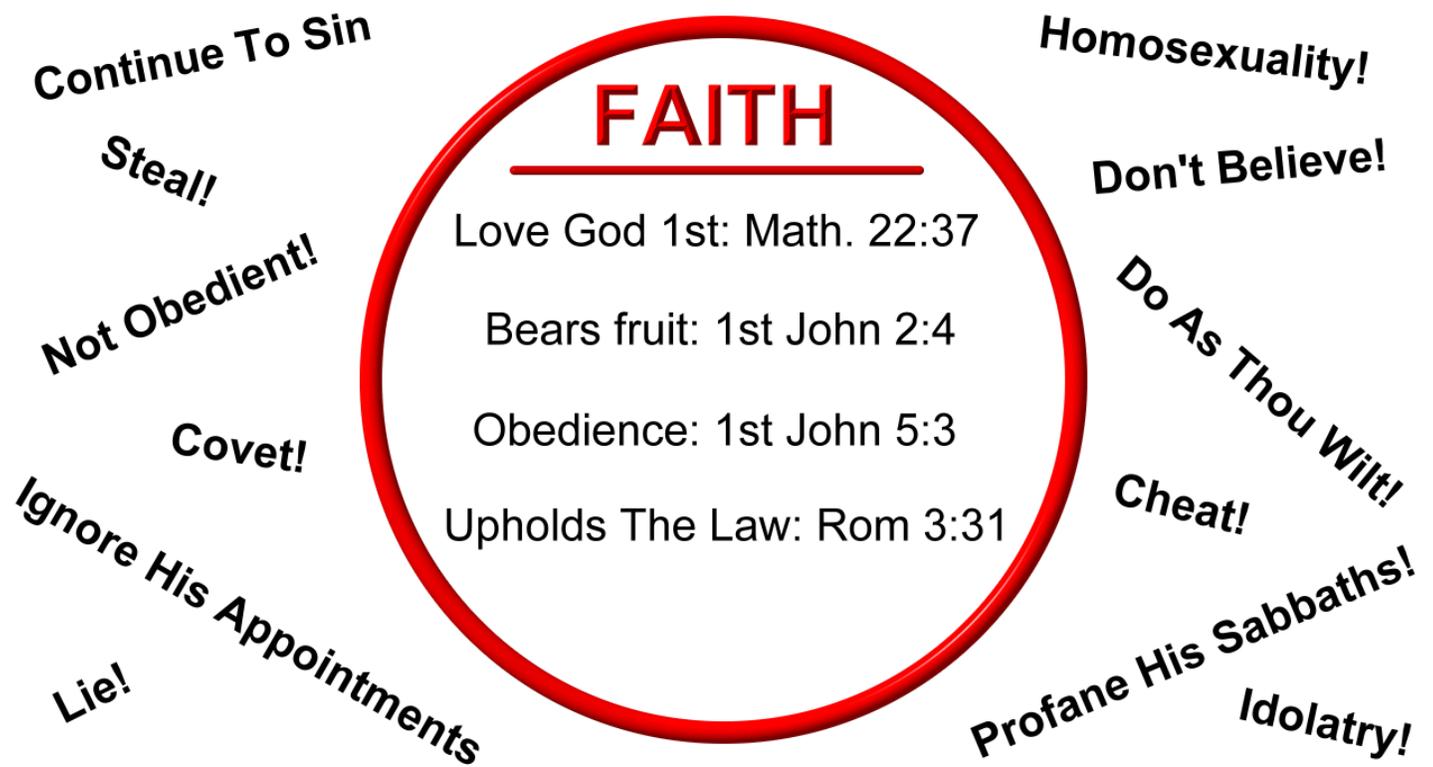
Heb 11:37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated—

Heb 11:38 of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

Heb 11:39 And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised,

Heb 11:40 since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

At least 17 times here in chapter 11 we find the words “By Faith”... and what do all of these little mini stories that Paul reminds us of all have in common?... Faith. Now lets go back and lets take another look at our diagram that defines faith for us according to the scriptures.. and lets see if it matches what we find in Paul's recollection of Abel, and Enoch, and Noah, and Abraham and Sarah, and Issac, and Jacob, and Joseph, and Moses and Rahab, and Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, and of David and Samuel and the prophets. (SHOW FAITH DIAGRAM HERE)



In order for Abel to offer up a more acceptable sacrifice than his brother Cain... Abel had to first have faith that God existed did he not? Of course he did... but what else came with that faith that God existed? Did works not come with that faith? Did the sacrifice of Abel come about on it's own? Or did Abel work to make it happen? And what about the love of God that Abel had in his heart? Abel had to have loved God in order to go through all the trouble of putting that sacrifice together from the very best of his flock and offering it up to God. Did Able bear fruit when he made that sacrifice to God? You know that he did.. it was by his works that he showed his love for God. Was Able obedient to the things of God? Of course he was... this is why he made the sacrifice to his God in the first place.. to do.. what is good and righteous in the eyes of God. Did Able uphold the law of God? Yes... once again the scriptures are clear concerning the fact that the law preceded Moses my friends. Why was Abel sacrificing to God in the first place? He was keeping the law! We must remember what the biblical definition of Sin is according to the Bible! Lets turn to 1st John 3:4:

1Jn 3:4 Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

The King James Version even says it better:

1Jn 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

How could Cain his brother have sinned by murdering Abel with out the law? How could Adam

and Eve have sinned in the garden with out the law? Why were Cain and Abel offering up sacrifices in the first place with out the law? So yes my friends... the law of God existed long before God had came down and thundered his laws with his own voice to his people in Exodus chapters 19 and 20.

So once again “faith” is an action word. “Faith” does not mean that we turn back to our sin, and turn back to our old ways, and the ways of the world. “Faith” does not mean that we sit on our hands and that we no longer need works. “Faith” means that we understand the obedience of faith and what it means to love God, and to do his will, and not our own, and we'll see even more of that as we move forward here in chapter 11.

Lets move on to the taking of Enoch in verses 5 and 6. God took Enoch... Enoch did not die. Why? Because it is said that Enoch pleased God. Enoch knew what “faith” was all about and because Enoch pleased God he took him and showed him secret things, so that the world would know more about Heaven and earth, and some of what lies beyond what we can see, feel, touch, taste, and smell.

And I understand that there is a wide gap and even a casim between those who believe in the book of Enoch and those who do not.. but I also know that the early church during Yahshua Jesus time knew the book of Enoch well, and I also know that it was widely accepted as scripture before the church age, and I also know that the Ethiopian church... who was not tainted by the Roman Catholic church like the Roman world was... still includes the book of Enoch in their Biblical Canon to this very day.

The book of Enoch is quoted from in today's modern day Bible by the Apostles themselves in places like Jude in verses 13 and 14.. and it was even quoted from by Yahshua Jesus himself several times.. and yet so many will try to exclude the book of Enoch from today's biblical cannon, but I tell you the truth my friends. The book of Enoch was always part of what the Jews believed and held dear up until the modern church age when it was all together removed by the councils of Catholicism.

Enoch was Noah's grandfather, and we're first introduced to Enoch in Genesis chapter 5. Hebrews chapter 11 once again gives credence to the book of Enoch as do the Apostles and our Messiah himself. Consider these scriptures that come directly from the mouth of our Messiah, and lets compare them to the book of Enoch that came before our Messiah:

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. (Mat 5:5)

The elect shall possess light, joy and peace, and they shall inherit the earth. (Enoch 5:7 {6:9})

the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the son (John 5:22).

And he sat on the throne of his glory, and the sum of judgment was given unto the Son of Man(Enoch 69:27

Mat 19:29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life.

those who will inherit eternal life (Enoch 40:9)

"Wo unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation. (Luke 6:24)

Woe to you who are rich, for in your riches have you trusted; but from your riches you shall be removed. Enoch 94:8

Ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (Mat. 19:28)

I will place each of them on a throne of glory (Enoch 108:12 {105:26})

Woe unto that man through whom the Son of man is betrayed! It had been good for that man if he had not been born. (Mat. 26:24)

Where will the habitation of sinners be . . . who have rejected the Lord of spirits. It would have been better for them, had they never been born. Enoch 38:2

And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' (Luke 16:26)

Then I asked regarding it, and regarding all the hollow places: "Why is one separated from the other? And he answered me and said unto me: These three have been made that the spirits of the dead might be separated Enoch 22: 8-9

In my Father's house are many mansions (John 14:2)

In that day shall the Elect One sit upon a throne of glory, and shall choose their conditions and countless habitations. (Enoch 45:3 {45:3})

that ye may be called the children of light (John 12:36)

the good from the generation of light (Enoch 108:11 {105: 25})

the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. (John 4:14)

all the thirsty drank, and were filled with wisdom, having their habitation with the righteous, the elect, and the holy. (Enoch 48:1 {48:1})

1st Enoch has been authenticated as existing and in wide use before the church age (most scholars now date it at about 200 BC). Multiple copies of the book of Enoch were discovered in 1948 in the Dead Sea Scrolls of Cumron, so there is no doubt today that The Book of Enoch was one of the most widely accepted and revered books of Jewish culture and doctrine in the century leading up to Jesus' birth.

Now we could go on and on and on about the historical authenticity of Enoch, and we could talk about all the places in our modern day Bibles where Enoch is quoted from, but that's another lesson in itself, but let us rest assured... that the author of the book of Hebrews.. was obviously well acquainted with Enoch and the fact that God took him from the earth, and once again.. the very reason why God took him was because of his faith, and we're told in Hebrews 11:5.. that "By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death".

Once again my friends "faith" is an action word. Faith has works, in fact James the very brother of our Messiah explains this to us very plainly in James 2:17:

Jas 2:17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

And what about Noah in verse 7:

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Once again we see that "faith" is an action word... Noah had to act, and had to have the obedience of "faith" in order to do the work required to build the Ark. Lets move on to Abraham in verses 8 through 10:

Heb 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Heb 11:9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.

Heb 11:10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God

Now... I want us to pause here for just a moment and also understand how James the brother of our Messiah defines faith... and what he says about the faith of Abraham... we can find that in James 2:15-24:

Jas 2:15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food,

Jas 2:16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

Jas 2:17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Jas 2:18 But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Jas 2:19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

Jas 2:20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

Jas 2:21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?

Jas 2:22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works;

Jas 2:23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"—and he was called a friend of God.

Jas 2:24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Notice what James says in verse 19... he says even the demons believe... so does this mean that even the demons are getting into the kingdom of Heaven just because they believe? NO... of course not... because they do not have the obedience of faith that has been delivered unto men through the Ruach Hakodesh of God. Without the obedience of faith... you have no faith... once again... faith with out works... is dead.

Once again my friends... it is “faith” that fuels our works in keeping Gods commandments... which is the very love of God according to 1st John 5:3. We do as our Father in Heaven commands us to do.. not to be saved... but because we are saved. It is because of what his only begotten Son had done at that cross that helps us to understand the very love of our Father in Heaven and his only begotten Son.

It's because of what he did at that cross that we have his law written on our hearts and in our minds, and it's because of what he did at that cross... that we have that blessed hope of what was promised to those who pick up their crosses and follow him, and endure to the end. And it's because of that pledge that he's given us that we walk in his ways and that we have the obedience of faith that Paul speaks of in Romans 1:5 And I want us to understand that the coming of our Messiah was not to abolish the law of his Father just as he tells us in Matthew 5:17... but the coming of our Messiah was to once again bring about the obedience of “faith”. Lets read what Paul tells us very clearly in Romans 16:25-27:

Rom 16:25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

Rom 16:26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—

Rom 16:27 to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

You see the coming of our Messiah was not to make new laws, or new holiday's, or new appointments, or a new Sabbath day. The coming of our Messiah was to establish a New Covenant that would abolish the death penalty for breaking the law, and re-establish God's authority on earth and would once again.. bring about the “obedience of faith” that is required to receive his pledge of salvation to all who would pick up their crosses and follow him, and who

would endure to the end.

To restore the obedience of faith is what our Messiah came for... so that once again the relationship between man and his creator could once again be re-established, and the bride could once again be restored to her groom, and we can only be a part of this if we have... the obedience of faith.

Through out all of these mini stories and recollections found in the 11th chapter of the book of Hebrews the obedience of faith rings true and clear, as a vital part of our promised salvation, and it is essential that we all understand the obedience of faith if we intend to pick up our crosses and follow him to the end.

It's important that we understand that nothing moves with out faith. Nothing happens with out faith... nothing matters with out faith. It is through the obedience of faith that all things are made possible. It's through the obedience of faith that even if we are stricken... even if we are slaughtered for his name sake... even if we loose our lives here on this earth... we will be victorious. It's through the obedience of faith that we put on the full armor of God, and know how to use the spiritual weapons that he's given us to win the spiritual war that we fight. It's through the obedience of faith that he knows exactly who loves him.. and who does not.

Through out all of the lives of all of the people mentioned in the 11th chapter of the book of Hebrews, and through out all of the circumstances, and trials, and tribulations of all of the people mentioned through out the history of our people... runs the common thread... of the obedience of faith. And so too in our time in the here and now... we too... are required to have the obedience of faith and know and understand that faith with out works is dead. There is no such thing as faith with out works my friends. And anyone who tells you any different... is simply a liar... and the truth is not in him. For it is indeed the love of God, that we keep his commandments and his commandments are not a burden to us.

Lets finish up with Hebrews 11:35-40:

Heb 11:35 Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life.

Heb 11:36 Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.

Heb 11:37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated—

Heb 11:38 of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

Heb 11:39 And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised,

Heb 11:40 since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

I want us to understand my friends that these people... these brothers and sisters of ours who have suffered these things are waiting for us. Just as we're told in verse 40.. *"God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect."* Even they will not be made perfect with out us my friends. To this very day the prophets who were slain by the hands of the wicked wait for us, and it will not be until the resurrection that we as one body will all truly be... saved. Consider what we find in Revelation 6:9-11:

Rev 6:9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne.

Rev 6:10 They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

Rev 6:11 Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

That day is coming my friends. That day that we will all be given new glorified bodies.. not like these earthly bodies... but new bodies that will not die, and will not get sick, and death will indeed be swallowed up, and he will indeed wipe away every tear, and this my friends... is not the end... but only the beginning.