

Faith: The Foundation for Hope

by Wayne Goff

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” - Hebrews 11:1 NAS95.

Faith in God – *trust, obedience, confidence* – is what sustains and encourages us in this life, especially when temptations and trials come our way. It is through the trials of life that we solidify our faith and prove its mettle. *“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 1:6-7).*

Faith gives meaning to principles of **righteousness** and **godliness** even though the world’s view seems more practical today. It takes a lot of conviction and courage to stand up against the world’s precepts and platitudes. Can you do it?

Hebrews 11:6 tells us *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”* Each one of us must come to the absolute conviction that (1) God exists and (2) that He rewards our faith.

We believe that God is **Creator** and the **Purpose** for all things in the universe. That is the foundation of our lives, and affects everything we think, say and do. *“By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible” (Hebrews 11:3).*

We believe in the **Resurrection** of Jesus Christ, and have the same hope for our own resurrection one day. That affects the way we live. *“By which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you— unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,” (1 Corinthians 15:2-4).*

We believe in the resurrection unto eternal life – heaven – which is eternal, immortal, and presently invisible – but absolutely real! *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,” 1 Peter 1:3-4.*

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