

## FAITH IS

TEXT:	Hebrews 11
KEY VERSE:	Hebrews 11:1

*Hebrews 11:1*

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

Faith is present tense. It is **now**! It is what is happening to you today, where you are, what you are doing right this minute! Glory to God! It is not tomorrow, or someday, or when I get out of prison! Hallelujah! Faith is right now. Are you getting this? Where you sit right this minute, on a prison bunk, or on your living room sofa, or in your car, **faith is**.

The same power that parted the Red Sea, the same power that said, "Light be!", is at your disposal wherever you are. Whatever circumstance you are facing, **faith it**. Whatever sickness you are encountering, **faith it**. Whatever money you need, **faith it**. **Faith is!**

## "The substance."

It is not wishful thinking. It is not, "I hope so." It is substance. It is as real - no it is more real - then something you can touch with your hands. Faith is substance. Look at Mark Chapter 11, 22 through 24.

*Mark 11:22-24*

*And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore, I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*

"Have faith in God", literally means, "Have the faith **of** God". It means have the kind of faith God has. It means have the kind of faith, Romans 4:17 says, "calls things that be not as though they are." Have the kind of faith that looks at the situation that is impossible, and says, "God said do it, so I'm gonna do it." Have the kind of faith that sees beyond razor wire and prison walls, and believes what God said you are going to do. Then have the kind of faith that begins getting ready to do it. Have the kind of faith that starts doing it now, because "faith is."

## "Of things hoped for."

When God talks about hope, he is not meaning **wish**. "I just hope everything turns out alright." That is not what God means. Hope, in the word of God, is a confident, assured vision of what is expected. Here is what hope is: You tell your kids that they are going to Six Flags, they immediately run to their room and start getting their stuff ready. That is hope. You said it. They believe it. So, they start living it. Jesus said that unless we have faith like little children, we will not enter the Kingdom of God. So, when God tells you something, just believe it. It is not a confident feeling; it is a decision. I cannot tell you all the times I have said, "I **choose** to believe God", and I have watched God do exactly what he said! Many times, I did not feel "faithy". That does not matter! It is what you choose to believe that brings you into the Kingdom of God. It is when you decide that the circumstances do not matter, what God says matters, that miracles begin to happen. When you give God's words the benefit of the doubt, and simply choose to believe it no matter how you feel, it will come to pass.

## "The evidence of things not seen."

Evidence. Do I need to say more? God said, "Your faith is the evidence of the things you don't see."

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*2 Corinthians 4:18*

*While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

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Do you see that? God says that the things that you can see are temporary, but the things that you cannot see are real. So, your faith is not temporary, it is real. It is something you can touch in the spiritual world. And God says that the things you cannot see are eternal, they are spiritual. Get this: The spiritual controls the physical, **not** the other way around! What is decided in the spiritual world will change what is happening in the physical world. That is why Paul said, "if you walk in the spirit, you won't do the things that the physical wants to do." it is because the spirit will control the physical.

Where you place your faith determines where you place your circumstances.

Jesus taught his disciples to pray, "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." He was teaching them to call the spiritual reality of heaven to become the physical reality of earth. He was teaching them to literally bring God's Kingdom here. So, what does God's Kingdom say about your situation? First, go to the Book about God's Kingdom, and find out. 2nd, declare, "God's Kingdom is coming into this situation! Things are about to change, up in here! What this book says is what is going to happen, not what I see!"

*(Are you running around your cell shouting yet? If you don't speak in tongues, this might be a good place to start!)*

*I am not saying this out of hype. I am telling you what I have seen God do!* Do not be normal! Do the abnormal! Do not walk in the physical! Live in the Kingdom! The Kingdom is spiritual, and it changes the physical! Glory be to God!

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*1 Corinthians 2:1-5*

*And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. **And my speech and my preaching was***

*not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

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Now watch this:

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*Hebrews 11:2*

*For by it the elders obtained a good report.*

*Hebrews 11:39-40*

*And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that **they without us should not be made perfect.***

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Do you see what God's saying right there? Without us, all those Giants of faith are incomplete. This chapter of the Bible has not been finished; it must have **you** in it! Woo! glory to God! The story ain't written without you!

You are going to receive a good report from God by what you do in faith.

That is not a challenge.

That is not a threat.

That is a statement of faith!

I believe, and I receive, and I see, **because the word says so**, you are going to do mighty things by your faith!

Go get a good report!

"Lord Jesus,

I pray the power of your word over every person that reads this text. Holy Spirit of God teach this to the heart of everyone that reads it. Write it in their spirit. Cause us to walk in it. You said we have the mind of Christ, so we receive that. We receive revelation of the truth that the natural man cannot receive because it is spiritually discerned. So, we receive it by faith. We have it as substance. And we call the Kingdom of God into effect in this place, in this situation, right now, in the name of the mighty Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Amen."